

SENATE BILL 121

By Briggs

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-36-821 and Title 49, relative to retired teachers.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-36-821, is amended by adding the following language as a new subsection (c):

(1) An LEA may employ a retired member who does not meet the requirements of subdivision (a)(1) at the time the LEA seeks to employ the retired member, if:

(A) The retired member had been licensed or certified to teach in this state for a minimum of twenty (20) years at the time of retirement;

(B) The retired member meets all the requirements of subsection (a), except for subdivision (a)(1);

(C) The Tennessee consolidated retirement system verifies the retired member's date of retirement;

(D) The department of education verifies that the retired member was licensed or certified to teach in this state on the day of retirement;

(E) The LEA in which the retired member was employed immediately prior to retirement certifies that the retired member was in good standing upon retirement; and

(F) Each LEA in which the retired member has taught since retirement certifies that the retired member was in good standing on the member's last day of employment with the LEA.

(2) The retired member shall be issued a retired teacher license to be licensed or certified to teach in this state for twenty (20) years from the date of retirement or until the retired member reaches seventy-five (75) years of age, whichever occurs first.

(3) If a retired member returns to service in a position covered by the Tennessee consolidated retirement system and the retired member's employment is not in accordance with this section, then the retired member shall hold a teacher's professional license or certificate as may be required in title 49, chapter 5.

(4) A retired member employed as teacher under this section shall not be covered by liability insurance under the Educator Protection Act of 2015, codified at title 9, chapter 8, part 2, but shall be responsible for purchasing any liability insurance the retired member desires to carry.

(5) This subsection (c) shall apply only to retired members who retired after June 30, 2011.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 2, 2017, the public welfare requiring it.