

2025 -- H 5972

LC001486

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

A N A C T

RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- RETIREMENT SYSTEM --
CONTRIBUTIONS AND BENEFITS

Introduced By: Representative Robert E. Craven

Date Introduced: February 28, 2025

Referred To: House Finance

(Judiciary)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 36-10-36 of the General Laws in Chapter 36-10 entitled "Retirement System — Contributions and Benefits" is hereby amended to read as follows:

36-10-36. Post-retirement employment.

(a) On and after July 7, 1994, no member who has retired under the provisions of title 16, 36, or 45 may be employed or reemployed by any state agency or department unless any and all retirement benefits to which the member may be entitled by virtue of the provisions of title 16, 36, or 45 are suspended for the duration of any employment or reemployment. No additional service credits shall be granted for any post-retirement employment or reemployment and no deductions shall be taken from an individual's salary for retirement contribution. Notice of any such post-retirement employment or reemployment shall be sent monthly to the retirement board by the employing agency or department and by the retired member.

(b) Any member who has retired under the provisions of title 16, 36, or 45 may be employed or reemployed by any municipality within the state that has accepted the provisions of chapter 21 of title 45 and participates in the municipal employees' retirement system for a period of not more than seventy-five (75) working days or one hundred fifty (150) half days with half-day pay in any one calendar year without any forfeiture or reduction of any retirement benefits and allowances the member is receiving, or may receive, as a retired member. Pension payments shall be suspended whenever this period is exceeded. No additional contributions shall be taken, and no

1 additional service credits shall be granted, for this service. Notice of this employment or
2 reemployment shall be sent monthly to the retirement board by the employer and by the retired
3 member.

4 (c) Any member who has retired under the provisions of title 16, 36, or 45 may be employed
5 or reemployed by any municipality within the state that has not accepted the provisions of chapter
6 21 of title 45 and that does not participate in the municipal employees' retirement system.

7 (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section:

8 (1) Any retired member of the system shall be permitted to serve as an elected mayor, the
9 town administrator, the city administrator, the town manager, the city manager, the chief
10 administrative officer, or the chief executive officer of any city or town, city or town council
11 member, school committee member, or unpaid member of any part-time state board or commission
12 or member of any part-time municipal board or commission, and shall continue to be eligible for,
13 and receive, the retirement allowance for service other than that as a mayor, administrator, council
14 member, school committee member, or member of any state board or commission or member of
15 any part-time municipal board or commission; provided, however, that no additional service credits
16 shall be granted for any service under this subsection;

17 (2) Any retired member, who retired from service at any state college, university, state
18 school, or who retired from service as a teacher under the provisions of title 16, or who retired from
19 service under title 36 or title 45, may be employed or reemployed, on a part-time basis, by any state
20 college, university, or state school for the purpose of providing classroom instruction, academic
21 advising of students, and/or coaching. Compensation shall be provided at a level not to exceed the
22 salary provided to other faculty members employed under a collective bargaining agreement at the
23 institution. In no event shall "part-time" mean gross pay of more than twenty-five thousand dollars
24 (\$25,000) in any one calendar year. Any retired member who provides such instruction or service
25 shall do so without forfeiture or reduction of any retirement benefit or allowance; provided,
26 however, that no additional service credits shall be granted for any service under this subsection;

27 (3) Any retired member who retired from service as a teacher under the provisions of title
28 16, or as a state employee who, while an active state employee, was certified to teach driver
29 education by the department of elementary and secondary education or by the board of governors
30 for higher education, may be employed or reemployed, on a part-time basis, by the department of
31 elementary and secondary education or by the board of governors of higher education for the
32 purpose of providing classroom instruction in driver education courses in accordance with § 31-
33 10-19 and/or motorcycle driver education courses in accordance with § 31-10.1-1.1. In no event
34 shall "part-time" mean gross pay of more than fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) in any one

1 calendar year. Any retired teacher who provides that instruction shall do so without forfeiture or
2 reduction of any retirement benefit or allowance the retired teacher is receiving as a retired teacher;
3 provided, however, that no additional service credits shall be granted for any service under this
4 subsection;

5 (4) Any retired member who retired from service as a registered nurse may be employed
6 or reemployed, on a per-diem basis, for the purpose of providing professional nursing care and/or
7 services at a state-operated facility in Rhode Island, including employment as a faculty member of
8 a nursing program at a state-operated college or university. In no event shall “part-time” mean gross
9 pay of more than a period of seventy-five (75) working days or one hundred fifty (150) half days
10 with half pay in any one calendar year. Any retired nurse who provides such care and/or services
11 shall do so without forfeiture or reduction of any retirement benefit or allowance the retired nurse
12 is receiving as a retired nurse; provided, however, that no additional service credits shall be granted
13 for any service under this subsection. Pension payments shall be suspended whenever this period
14 is exceeded. No additional contributions shall be taken and no additional service credits shall be
15 granted for this service. Notice of this employment or reemployment shall be sent monthly to the
16 retirement board by the employer and by the retired member;

17 (5) Any retired member who, at the time of passage of this section, serves as a general
18 magistrate within the family court and thereafter retires from judicial service, may be employed or
19 reemployed by the family court to perform such services as a general magistrate of the family court
20 as the chief judge of the family court shall prescribe without any forfeiture or reduction of any
21 retirement benefits and allowances that the member is receiving or may receive. For any such
22 services or assignments performed after retirement, the general magistrate shall receive no
23 compensation whatsoever, either monetary or in kind. No additional contributions shall be taken
24 and no additional service credits shall be granted for this service;

25 (6) Any retired district court clerk/magistrate or magistrate of the district court who shall
26 subsequently be assigned to perform service in accordance with § 8-8-8.1 or § 8-8-16.2(e), may be
27 employed or reemployed by the district court to perform such services as a magistrate as the chief
28 judge of the district court shall prescribe without any forfeiture or reduction of any retirement
29 benefits and allowance that they are receiving or may receive. For any such services or assignment
30 performed after retirement, the district court clerk/magistrate or magistrate shall receive, in addition
31 to their retirement pension, the difference in pay and fringe benefits between their retirement
32 pension, and that of a sitting magistrate of the district court with comparable state service time. No
33 additional contributions shall be taken and no additional service credits shall be granted for this
34 service; ~~and~~

1 (7) Any retired member of the system shall be permitted to serve as a municipal employee
2 without any forfeiture or reduction of any retirement benefits and allowances that the member is
3 receiving or may receive; provided, that said member shall be appointed by and serves at the
4 pleasure of the highest elected chief executive officer, as defined in § 45-9-2, in any city or town
5 subject to the provisions of chapter 9 of title 45 entitled "Budget Commissions" relating to the
6 appointment of a fiscal overseer, budget commission, receiver, and/or financial advisor. Provided
7 further, that no additional service credits shall be granted for any service under this subsection; and

8 (8) Any retired member who retired from service as a Rhode Island supreme court certified
9 or qualified court interpreter may be employed or re-employed, on a per-diem basis, for the purpose
10 of providing court interpretation services within the Rhode Island unified judicial system. In no
11 event shall gross pay exceed more than a period of seventy-five (75) working days or one hundred
12 fifty (150) half days with half pay in any one calendar year. Any retired certified or qualified court
13 interpreter providing such services shall do so without forfeiture or reduction of any retirement
14 benefit or allowance the retired court interpreter is receiving as a retired court interpreter; provided
15 however, that no additional service credits shall be granted for any service under this subsection.
16 Pension payments shall be suspended whenever this period is exceeded. No additional contributions
17 shall be taken, and no additional service credits shall be granted for this service. Notice of this
18 employment or re-employment shall be sent monthly to the retirement board by the employer and
19 by the retired member.

20 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- RETIREMENT SYSTEM --
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1 This act would allow retired state employees who worked for the unified judicial system
2 as certified or qualified court interpreters to be employed or reemployed for a limited period in a
3 given year to provide court interpretation services within the Rhode Island unified judicial system
4 without forfeiture or reduction of their retirement benefits.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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