

State of Arkansas
92nd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2019

A Bill

SENATE BILL 229

By: Senator J. Dismang

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO ALLOW EMPLOYEES OF PUBLIC WATER AUTHORITIES
TO BECOME MEMBERS OF THE ARKANSAS PUBLIC EMPLOYEES'
RETIREMENT SYSTEM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO ALLOW EMPLOYEES OF PUBLIC WATER
AUTHORITIES TO BECOME MEMBERS OF THE
ARKANSAS PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT
SYSTEM.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 4-35-204, concerning the board of directors of a public water authority, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

(h)(1) The board of directors of a public water authority may elect by majority vote to:

(A) Participate in the Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System; and

(B) Allow full-time employees of a public water authority to become members of the Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System.

(2) The public water authority shall pay the contributions required by the Board of Trustees of the Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System in accordance with § 24-4-101 et seq.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 24-4-101(27), concerning the definition of "nonstate employees" and other definitions applicable to the Arkansas Public



Employees' Retirement System, is amended to read as follows:

(27) "Nonstate employees" means county employees, municipal employees, rural waterworks facilities board employees, regional airport authority employees, public facilities board employees, regional solid waste management board employees, joint county and municipal sanitation authority employees, regional water distribution board employees, the employees of economic development districts recognized as planning and development districts under § 14-166-202, school employees, public water authority employees, and the employees of the Intergovernmental Juvenile Detention Council;

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 24-4-101(29), concerning the definition of "participating public employer" and other definitions applicable to the Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System, is amended to read as follows:

(29) "Participating public employer" means:

(A) Any county, municipality, rural waterworks facilities board, regional airport authority, public facilities board, regional solid waste management board, joint county and municipal sanitation authority, suburban improvement district under § 14-92-502, public water authority, or regional water distribution board in the state whose employees are included in the membership of the Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System;

(B) The employees of the Intergovernmental Juvenile Detention Council of the Tenth Judicial District who are included in the membership of the Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System; or

(C) A public rehabilitative services corporation or local unit of government as provided for in § 24-4-746;

SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 24-4-101, concerning definitions applicable to the Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

(46) "Public water authority" means a public water authority created under the Water Authority Act, § 4-35-101 et seq., that has elected by a majority vote of its board of directors to participate in the Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System.

APPROVED: 3/13/19