

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
91st General Assembly
Regular Session, 2017

As Engrossed: S1/25/17 S2/28/17
A Bill

SENATE BILL 163

By: Senator B. Sample
By: Representative Warren

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE CURRENT MEMBERS OF THE ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM WITH A *ONE-TIME* OPTION TO PURCHASE MILITARY SERVICE CREDIT WITHOUT INTEREST; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO PROVIDE CURRENT MEMBERS OF THE ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM WITH A *ONE-TIME* OPTION TO PURCHASE MILITARY SERVICE CREDIT WITHOUT INTEREST; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

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

SECTION 1. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE CODIFIED. Purchase credit for military service.

(a) A member of the Arkansas State Highway Employees' Retirement System may purchase creditable service in the retirement system, without interest, for a period not to exceed five (5) years for active service by the member in the United States Armed Forces if the member:

(1) Has five (5) years of actual service in the system as of August 20, 2015; and

(2) Shows that he or she relied upon the ten-year service time requirement before applying to purchase military service credit under this



section.

(b) The purchase of military service credit under this section shall be made in the form of a cash payment or automatic payroll deductions for a period not to exceed three (3) years.

(c)(1) A member shall elect to purchase military service credit under this section within sixty (60) days after the effective date of this act.

(2) If a member elects to purchase military service credit under this section, the member shall either pay his or her cash payment in full or enroll in automatic payroll deductions within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this act.

SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that as a result of an error relating to the adoption of the 1997 amendment to Arkansas Code § 24-2-502, some current members of the Arkansas State Highway Employees' Retirement System relied on a ten-year service time requirement rather than the amended five-year service time requirement when they purchased credited service for service they provided in the United States Armed Forces; and that legislation is needed to allow the system to immediately reimburse the members who overpaid interest and are experiencing hardships. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

(1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

(2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill; or

(3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.

/s/B. Sample