DIGEST

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HB 701 Original	2018 Regular Session	Jackson
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Abstract: Requires membership in the La. State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS) for certain persons employed by or under contract with the La. Public Defender Bd. (board) or a district indigent defender program that does not have an agreement in place to provide membership in the Parochial Employees' Retirement System of La. (PERS) as of June 30, 2018.

<u>Present law</u> requires the board to employ an executive staff and employ or contract with a district public defender for each district indigent defender program. Allows the board to employ or contract with regional directors. Further allows each district indigent defender program to employ district personnel or contract for services.

<u>Present law</u> requires a person employed by a district indigent defender program who works at least twenty-eight hours a week to become a member of PERS, if the PERS board of trustees approves a plan submitted by the program for extending the benefits provided by PERS to employees of the program (plan). <u>Present law</u> requires the PERS board of trustees to accept plans that meet certain criteria.

<u>Present law</u> requires employees of any state board to become a member of LASERS as a condition of their employment. Makes independent contractors ineligible for membership in LASERS.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that each attorney employed by the board shall become a member of LASERS. Requires an attorney employed by a district indigent defender program not covered by a PERS plan in effect on June 30, 2018, to become a member of LASERS. Further requires any attorney under contract with the board or a district indigent defender program to become a member of LASERS.

Effective July 1, 2018.

(Amends R.S. 11:413(6); Adds R.S. 11:411(10))