

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 14

BY REPRESENTATIVE CARPENTER

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

RETIREMENT/FIREFIGHTERS: Prohibits certain employees from rejoining the
Firefighters' Retirement System and Municipal Police Employees' Retirement
System

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 11:157(A) and (C) and to enact R.S. 11:157(D), relative to
3 membership in the Firefighters' Retirement System and the Municipal Police
4 Employees' Retirement System; to provide relative to rejoining the system and the
5 purchase of service credit under certain circumstances; to provide for membership
6 verification; and to provide for related matters.

7 Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published
8 as provided by Article X, Section 29(C) of the Constitution
9 of Louisiana.

10 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

11 Section 1. R.S. 11:157(A) and (C) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.
12 11:157(D) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

13 §157. Firefighters' Retirement System; Municipal Police Employees' Retirement
14 System; optional membership; refund of employee contributions; irrevocable
15 election; reenrollment; membership verification information

16 A. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, any employee
17 as defined in R.S. 11:2213 or 2252 who is employed by any ~~municipality, parish, or~~
18 ~~fire protection district of this state~~ employer as defined in R.S. 11:2213 or 2252
19 which has its employees covered under the federal Social Security program and

1 which has not previously and specifically excluded its police officers or firefighters
2 from coverage under this federal program; may elect not to be or elect not to become
3 a member of ~~either the applicable~~ retirement system. Any ~~member of either~~
4 ~~retirement system~~ employee who elects not to be a member of the applicable
5 retirement system shall be refunded his employee contributions which have been
6 received by the system, without interest for the period for which he contributed to
7 the system.

8 * * *

9 C.(1) Any ~~member~~ employee who elects not to become a member of ~~either~~
10 the applicable retirement system set forth in Subsection A of this Section shall,
11 before such election can become valid, execute and file with the retirement system
12 an affidavit stating that his election not to be a member is of his own free will and
13 is his own voluntary act and deed.

14 (2) Any ~~member~~ employee who files such an affidavit shall not be eligible
15 to rejoin the system while he is employed by the same ~~municipality, parish, or fire~~
16 ~~protection district unless he repays his previously refunded employee contributions,~~
17 ~~within sixty days of reenrollment in the system, in one lump sum, plus interest at the~~
18 ~~board-approved actuarial valuation rate in effect at the time of such repayment,~~
19 ~~calculated from the date of the refund until the date of repayment.~~ employer or by
20 any other employer whose employees are covered under the federal Social Security
21 program. An employee who returns to work with any other employer whose
22 employees are not covered under the federal Social Security program may not
23 purchase credit for service for the period of time that he elected not to be a member
24 pursuant to Subsection A of this Section.

25 D. For purposes of membership verification, the Department of Public Safety
26 and Corrections may provide the Firefighters' Retirement System and the Municipal
27 Police Employees' Retirement System with the name, address, and social security
28 number of each recipient of state supplemental pay.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 14 Reengrossed

2019 Regular Session

Carpenter

Abstract: Prohibits persons who withdraw from the Firefighters' Retirement System (FRS) or the Municipal Police Employees' Retirement System (MPERS) from rejoining the system.

Present law authorizes anyone who is employed by a parish, municipality, or fire protection district whose employees are also covered under the federal Social Security program to choose not to become a member of MPERS or FRS as applicable.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law requires a member who wishes to rejoin the system while employed by the same parish, municipality, or fire protection district to repay his refunded employee contributions with interest. Proposed law prohibits a person from rejoining FRS or MPERS while he is employed by the same employer or any other employer whose employees are covered under the federal Social Security program.

Proposed law further provides that an employee who chose not to be a member and who returns to work for an employer whose employees are not covered under the federal Social Security program may join or rejoin the system but may not purchase service credit for the period of time that he chose not to be a member.

Proposed law authorizes the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections, for purposes of membership verification, to provide FRS and MPERS with the name, address, and social security number of each recipient of state supplemental pay.

(Amends R.S. 11:157(A) and (C); Adds R.S. 11:157(D))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Retirement to the original bill:

1. Make technical corrections.
2. Authorize the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections to provide FRS and MPERS with the address of each recipient of state supplemental pay.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Specify that the purpose for which Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections may provide state supplemental pay information is membership verification.