DIGEST

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HB 39 Engrossed

2024 Regular Session

McCormick

Abstract: Provides for reemployment of retired bus drivers in the La. School Employees' Retirement System (LSERS).

<u>Present law</u> provides relative to the reemployment of retirees of LSERS in positions covered by the system. For most employees, <u>present law</u> provides an earnings limitation of 50% of the retiree's average compensation; retirement benefits in the amount of earnings beyond that limit are repaid or suspended.

<u>Present law</u> provides an exception for a retired bus driver who is reemployed as a full-time bus driver. For such retirees, benefits are suspended for the first 12 months after retirement but are not suspended or reduced after that. <u>Proposed law</u> makes <u>present law</u> also applicable to a retiree who returns to work as a part-time bus operator. <u>Proposed law</u> reduces the period of benefit suspension for full- or part-time bus operators who retired on or before June 30, 2024.

Proposed law changes terminology from "bus driver" to "bus operator".

<u>Present law</u> requires the superintendent of an employer who employs a retiree as a full-time bus driver to certify to the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education that a shortage of qualified bus drivers exists in the school district. <u>Proposed law</u> repeals <u>present law</u>.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires that any cost of proposed law be funded with additional employer contributions in compliance with Art. X, Sec. 29(F) of the state constitution.

(Amends R.S. 11:1006(D) and 1007(A)(1); Repeals R.S. 11:1007(C)(3))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

- 1. Make six month benefit suspension period applicable only to bus operators who retired on or before June 30, 2024.
- 2. Make technical changes.