GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2003

H D

HOUSE DRH70044-LL-3A* (12/20)

Short Title: Modify Retired Teacher Option. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Glazier.

Referred to:

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A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO MODIFY AND MAKE PERMANENT THE OPTION FOR RETIRED TEACHERS TO RETURN TO THE CLASSROOM WITHOUT LOSS OF RETIREMENT BENEFITS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 135-3(8)c. reads as rewritten:

7 Should a beneficiary who retired on an early or service retirement allowance under this Chapter be reemployed, or 8 otherwise engaged to perform services, by an employer 9 participating in the Retirement System on a part-time, 10 temporary, interim, or on a fee-for-service basis, whether 11 contractual or otherwise, and if such beneficiary earns an 12 amount during the 12-month period immediately following the 13 effective date of retirement or in any calendar year which 14 exceeds fifty percent (50%) of the reported compensation, 15 excluding terminal payments, during the 12 months of service 16 preceding the effective date of retirement, or twenty thousand 17 dollars (\$20,000), whichever is greater, as hereinafter indexed, 18 then the retirement allowance shall be suspended as of the first 19 day of the month following the month in which the 20 reemployment earnings exceed the amount above, for the 21 balance of the calendar year. The retirement allowance of the 22 beneficiary shall be reinstated as of January 1 of each year 23 following suspension. The amount that may be earned before 24 suspension shall be increased on January 1 of each year by the 25 ratio of the Consumer Price Index to the Index one year earlier, 26 calculated to the nearest tenth of a percent (1/10 of 1%). 27

The computation of postretirement earnings of a beneficiary under this sub-subdivision, G.S. 135-3(8)c., who has been retired at least six two months and has not been employed in any capacity, except as a substitute teacher or a part-time tutor, with a public school for at least six two months immediately preceding the effective date of reemployment, shall not include earnings while the beneficiary is employed to teach on a substitute, interim, or permanent basis in a public school. The Department of Public Instruction shall certify to the Retirement System that a beneficiary is employed to teach by a local school administrative unit under the provisions of this sub-subdivision and as a retired teacher as the term is defined under the provisions of G.S. 115C-325(a)(5a).

Beneficiaries employed under this sub-subdivision are not entitled to any benefits otherwise provided under this Chapter as a result of this period of employment."

SECTION 2. G.S. 115C-325(a)(5a) reads as rewritten:

"(5a) "Retired teacher" means a beneficiary of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System of North Carolina who has been retired at least sixtwo months, has not been employed in any capacity, other than as a substitute teacher or a part-time tutor, with a local board of education for at least sixtwo months, immediately preceding the effective date of reemployment, is determined by a local board of education to have had satisfactory performance during the last year of employment by a local board of education, and who is employed to teach as provided in G.S. 135-3(8)c. A retired teacher shall be treated the same as a probationary teacher except that (i) a retired teacher is not eligible for career status and (ii) the performance of a retired teacher who had attained career status prior to retirement shall be evaluated in accordance with a local board of education's policies and procedures applicable to career teachers."

SECTION 3. Subsection (d) of Section 28.24 of S.L. 1998-212, as rewritten by Section 28.10 of S.L. 2002-126, reads as rewritten:

- "(d) This section becomes effective January 1, 1999, and expires June 30, 2004. <u>1999.</u>"
- **SECTION 4.** The introductory language of Section 67 of S.L. 1998-217, as rewritten by Section 28.10 of S.L. 2002-126, reads as rewritten:

"SECTION 67. Effective January 1, 1999, through June 30, 2004, G.S. 135-3(8)c., as rewritten by Section 28.24(a) of S.L. 1998-212 reads as rewritten:"

SECTION 5. Subsection (b) of Section 67.1 of S.L. 1998-217, as rewritten by Section 28.10 of S.L. 2002-126, reads as rewritten:

"(b) This section becomes effective January 1, 1999, and expires June 30, 2004. 1999."

SECTION 6. Subsection (c) of Section 32.25 of S.L. 2001-424, as rewritten by Section 28.10 of S.L. 2002-126, reads as rewritten:

"SECTION 32.25.(c) This section becomes effective July 1, 2001, and expires June 30, 2004. 2001."

SECTION 7. This act becomes effective July 1, 2003.