By Senator Posey

24-627-05

A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to the Florida Retirement 3 System; amending s. 121.091, F.S.; prescribing 4 conditions for the reemployment of a retired 5 member of the system as a law enforcement 6 officer, correctional officer, or correctional 7 probation officer; providing an effective date. 8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 9 10 Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (9) of section 11 12 121.091, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 13 121.091 Benefits payable under the system.--Benefits may not be paid under this section unless the member has 14 terminated employment as provided in s. 121.021(39)(a) or 15 begun participation in the Deferred Retirement Option Program 16 as provided in subsection (13), and a proper application has been filed in the manner prescribed by the department. The 18 department may cancel an application for retirement benefits 19 when the member or beneficiary fails to timely provide the 20 21 information and documents required by this chapter and the 22 department's rules. The department shall adopt rules 23 establishing procedures for application for retirement benefits and for the cancellation of such application when the 2.4 required information or documents are not received. 25 (9) EMPLOYMENT AFTER RETIREMENT; LIMITATION. --26 27 (b)1. Any person who is retired under this chapter, 2.8 except under the disability retirement provisions of subsection (4), may be reemployed by any private or public 29 employer after retirement and receive retirement benefits and 30 compensation from his or her employer without any limitations,

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except that a person may not receive both a salary from reemployment with any agency participating in the Florida Retirement System and retirement benefits under this chapter for a period of 12 months immediately subsequent to the date of retirement. However, a DROP participant shall continue employment and receive a salary during the period of participation in the Deferred Retirement Option Program, as provided in subsection (13).

2. Any person to whom the limitation in subparagraph 1. applies who violates such reemployment limitation and who is reemployed with any agency participating in the Florida Retirement System before completion of the 12-month limitation period shall give timely notice of this fact in writing to the employer and to the division and shall have his or her retirement benefits suspended for the balance of the 12-month limitation period. Any person employed in violation of this paragraph and any employing agency which knowingly employs or appoints such person without notifying the Division of Retirement to suspend retirement benefits shall be jointly and severally liable for reimbursement to the retirement trust fund of any benefits paid during the reemployment limitation period. To avoid liability, such employing agency shall have a written statement from the retiree that he or she is not retired from a state-administered retirement system. Any retirement benefits received while reemployed during this reemployment limitation period shall be repaid to the retirement trust fund, and retirement benefits shall remain suspended until such repayment has been made. Benefits suspended beyond the reemployment limitation shall apply toward repayment of benefits received in violation of the reemployment limitation.

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- 3. A district school board may reemploy a retired member as a substitute or hourly teacher, education paraprofessional, transportation assistant, bus driver, or food service worker on a noncontractual basis after he or she has been retired for 1 calendar month, in accordance with s. 121.021(39). A district school board may reemploy a retired member as instructional personnel, as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a), on an annual contractual basis after he or she has been retired for 1 calendar month, in accordance with s. 121.021(39). Any other retired member who is reemployed within 1 calendar month after retirement shall void his or her application for retirement benefits. District school boards reemploying such teachers, education paraprofessionals, transportation assistants, bus drivers, or food service workers are subject to the retirement contribution required by subparagraph 7.
- 4. A community college board of trustees may reemploy a retired member as an adjunct instructor, that is, an instructor who is noncontractual and part-time, or as a participant in a phased retirement program within the Florida Community College System, after he or she has been retired for 1 calendar month, in accordance with s. 121.021(39). Any retired member who is reemployed within 1 calendar month after retirement shall void his or her application for retirement benefits. Boards of trustees reemploying such instructors are subject to the retirement contribution required in subparagraph 7. A retired member may be reemployed as an adjunct instructor for no more than 780 hours during the first 12 months of retirement. Any retired member reemployed for more than 780 hours during the first 12 months of retirement shall give timely notice in writing to the employer and to the

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division of the date he or she will exceed the limitation. 2 The division shall suspend his or her retirement benefits for the remainder of the first 12 months of retirement. Any 3 person employed in violation of this subparagraph and any 4 5 employing agency which knowingly employs or appoints such person without notifying the Division of Retirement to suspend retirement benefits shall be jointly and severally liable for 8 reimbursement to the retirement trust fund of any benefits paid during the reemployment limitation period. To avoid 9 liability, such employing agency shall have a written 10 statement from the retiree that he or she is not retired from 11 12 a state-administered retirement system. Any retirement 13 benefits received by a retired member while reemployed in excess of 780 hours during the first 12 months of retirement 14 shall be repaid to the Retirement System Trust Fund, and 15 retirement benefits shall remain suspended until repayment is 16 17 made. Benefits suspended beyond the end of the retired 18 member's first 12 months of retirement shall apply toward repayment of benefits received in violation of the 780-hour 19 reemployment limitation. 20

5. The State University System may reemploy a retired member as an adjunct faculty member or as a participant in a phased retirement program within the State University System after the retired member has been retired for 1 calendar month, in accordance with s. 121.021(39). Any retired member who is reemployed within 1 calendar month after retirement shall void his or her application for retirement benefits. The State University System is subject to the retired contribution required in subparagraph 7., as appropriate. A retired member may be reemployed as an adjunct faculty member or a participant in a phased retirement program for no more

than 780 hours during the first 12 months of his or her retirement. Any retired member reemployed for more than 780 hours during the first 12 months of retirement shall give 3 timely notice in writing to the employer and to the division 4 of the date he or she will exceed the limitation. The 5 division shall suspend his or her retirement benefits for the 7 remainder of the first 12 months of retirement. Any person 8 employed in violation of this subparagraph and any employing 9 agency which knowingly employs or appoints such person without notifying the Division of Retirement to suspend retirement 10 benefits shall be jointly and severally liable for 11 12 reimbursement to the retirement trust fund of any benefits 13 paid during the reemployment limitation period. To avoid liability, such employing agency shall have a written 14 statement from the retiree that he or she is not retired from 15 a state-administered retirement system. Any retirement 16 17 benefits received by a retired member while reemployed in excess of 780 hours during the first 12 months of retirement 18 shall be repaid to the Retirement System Trust Fund, and 19 retirement benefits shall remain suspended until repayment is 20 21 made. Benefits suspended beyond the end of the retired 22 member's first 12 months of retirement shall apply toward 23 repayment of benefits received in violation of the 780-hour reemployment limitation. 2.4 6. The Board of Trustees of the Florida School for the 25 Deaf and the Blind may reemploy a retired member as a 26 27 substitute teacher, substitute residential instructor, or 2.8 substitute nurse on a noncontractual basis after he or she has been retired for 1 calendar month, in accordance with s. 29

121.021(39). Any retired member who is reemployed within 1

calendar month after retirement shall void his or her

application for retirement benefits. The Board of Trustees of 2 the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind reemploying such teachers, residential instructors, or nurses is subject to the 3 retirement contribution required by subparagraph 7. 4 Reemployment of a retired member as a substitute teacher, 5 substitute residential instructor, or substitute nurse is 7 limited to 780 hours during the first 12 months of his or her 8 retirement. Any retired member reemployed for more than 780 hours during the first 12 months of retirement shall give 9 timely notice in writing to the employer and to the division 10 of the date he or she will exceed the limitation. The division 11 12 shall suspend his or her retirement benefits for the remainder 13 of the first 12 months of retirement. Any person employed in violation of this subparagraph and any employing agency which 14 knowingly employs or appoints such person without notifying 15 the Division of Retirement to suspend retirement benefits 16 17 shall be jointly and severally liable for reimbursement to the retirement trust fund of any benefits paid during the 18 reemployment limitation period. To avoid liability, such 19 employing agency shall have a written statement from the 20 21 retiree that he or she is not retired from a 22 state-administered retirement system. Any retirement benefits 23 received by a retired member while reemployed in excess of 780 hours during the first 12 months of retirement shall be repaid 2.4 to the Retirement System Trust Fund, and his or her retirement 25 26 benefits shall remain suspended until payment is made. 27 Benefits suspended beyond the end of the retired member's first 12 months of retirement shall apply toward repayment of benefits received in violation of the 780-hour reemployment 29 30 limitation.

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- 7. The employment by an employer of any retiree or DROP participant of any state-administered retirement system shall have no effect on the average final compensation or years of creditable service of the retiree or DROP participant. Prior to July 1, 1991, upon employment of any person, other than an elected officer as provided in s. 121.053, who has been retired under any state-administered retirement program, the employer shall pay retirement contributions in an amount equal to the unfunded actuarial liability portion of the employer contribution which would be required for regular members of the Florida Retirement System. Effective July 1, 1991, contributions shall be made as provided in s. 121.122 for retirees with renewed membership or subsection (13) with respect to DROP participants.
- 8. Any person who has previously retired and who is holding an elective public office or an appointment to an elective public office eligible for the Elected Officers' Class on or after July 1, 1990, shall be enrolled in the Florida Retirement System as provided in s. 121.053(1)(b) or, if holding an elective public office that does not qualify for the Elected Officers' Class on or after July 1, 1991, shall be enrolled in the Florida Retirement System as provided in s. 121.122, and shall continue to receive retirement benefits as well as compensation for the elected officer's service for as long as he or she remains in elective office. However, any retired member who served in an elective office prior to July 1, 1990, suspended his or her retirement benefit, and had his or her Florida Retirement System membership reinstated shall, upon retirement from such office, have his or her retirement benefit recalculated to include the additional service and compensation earned.

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- 9. Any person who is holding an elective public office which is covered by the Florida Retirement System and who is concurrently employed in nonelected covered employment may elect to retire while continuing employment in the elective public office, provided that he or she shall be required to terminate his or her nonelected covered employment. Any person who exercises this election shall receive his or her retirement benefits in addition to the compensation of the elective office without regard to the time limitations otherwise provided in this subsection. No person who seeks to exercise the provisions of this subparagraph, as the same existed prior to May 3, 1984, shall be deemed to be retired under those provisions, unless such person is eligible to retire under the provisions of this subparagraph, as amended by chapter 84-11, Laws of Florida.
- 10. The limitations of this paragraph apply to reemployment in any capacity with an "employer" as defined in s. 121.021(10), irrespective of the category of funds from which the person is compensated.
- 11. An employing agency may reemploy a retired member as a firefighter or paramedic after the retired member has been retired for 1 calendar month, in accordance with s.

 121.021(39). Any retired member who is reemployed within 1 calendar month after retirement shall void his or her application for retirement benefits. The employing agency reemploying such firefighter or paramedic is subject to the retired contribution required in subparagraph 8. Reemployment of a retired firefighter or paramedic is limited to no more than 780 hours during the first 12 months of his or her retirement. Any retired member reemployed for more than 780 hours during the first 12 months of retirement shall give

timely notice in writing to the employer and to the division 2 of the date he or she will exceed the limitation. The division shall suspend his or her retirement benefits for the remainder 3 of the first 12 months of retirement. Any person employed in 4 violation of this subparagraph and any employing agency which 5 6 knowingly employs or appoints such person without notifying 7 the Division of Retirement to suspend retirement benefits 8 shall be jointly and severally liable for reimbursement to the 9 Retirement System Trust Fund of any benefits paid during the 10 reemployment limitation period. To avoid liability, such employing agency shall have a written statement from the 11 12 retiree that he or she is not retired from a 13 state-administered retirement system. Any retirement benefits received by a retired member while reemployed in excess of 780 14 hours during the first 12 months of retirement shall be repaid 15 to the Retirement System Trust Fund, and retirement benefits 16 shall remain suspended until repayment is made. Benefits 18 suspended beyond the end of the retired member's first 12 months of retirement shall apply toward repayment of benefits 19 received in violation of the 780-hour reemployment limitation. 20 21 12. An employing agency may reemploy a retired member 22 as a law enforcement officer, correctional officer, or 23 correctional probation officer only in a part-time capacity after the member has been retired 1 calendar month, in 2.4 accordance with s. 121.021(39). Any retired member who is 2.5 reemployed within 1 calendar month after retirement shall void 26 27 his or her application for retirement benefits. The employing 2.8 agency reemploying such law enforcement officer, correctional officer, or correctional probation officer is subject to the 29 retired contributions required in subparagraph 7. Reemployment 30 of a law enforcement officer, correctional officer, or

correctional probation officer is limited to no more than 780 2 hours during the first 12 months of his or her retirement. Any retired member reemployed for more than 780 hours during the 3 4 first 12 months of retirement shall give timely notice in writing to the employer and to the division of the date he or 5 she will exceed the limitation. The division shall suspend his 6 7 or her retirement benefits for the remainder of the first 12 8 months of retirement. A person employed in violation of this subparagraph and an employing agency that knowingly employs or 9 10 appoints such person without notifying the Division of Retirement to suspend retirement benefits are jointly and 11 12 severally liable for reimbursement to the Retirement System 13 Trust Fund of any benefits paid during the reemployment limitation period. To avoid liability, such employing agency 14 shall have a written statement from the retiree that he or she 15 is not retired from a state-administered retirement system. 16 Any retirement benefits received by a retired member while reemployed in excess of 780 hours during the first 12 months 18 of retirement shall be repaid to the Retirement System Trust 19 Fund, and retirement benefits shall remain suspended until 2.0 21 repayment is made. Benefits suspended beyond the end of the retired member's first 12 months of retirement shall apply 2.2 23 toward repayment of benefits received in violation of the 780-hour reemployment limitation. This subparagraph does not 2.4 preclude an employing agency from reemploying a retired member 2.5 full time after the member's first 12 months of retirement. 2.6 27 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005. 2.8 29 30

********* SENATE SUMMARY Provides that a retired member of the Florida Retirement System may be reemployed as a law enforcement officer, correctional officer, or correctional probation officer after the first calendar month of retirement part time only. Prescribes a limit of 780 hours on the amount of such employment during the first year of retirement and provides for suspension of benefits if the limit is exceeded.