

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate House

Comm: FAV 04/16/2009

The Committee on Governmental Oversight and Accountability (Dean) recommended the following:

Senate Substitute for Amendment (841212) (with title amendment)

Delete lines 675 - 698

and insert:

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- (b) The limitations on receiving a retirement benefit while reemployed by an employer participating in a state-administered retirement system are:
- 1. For persons who retire under this chapter on or after January 1, 2010, or for DROP participation ending on or after January 1, 2010:

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a. Except as provided in sub-subparagraphs b. and d., a retiree may not receive a retirement benefit if the retiree is receiving a salary or wages from reemployment with an employer participating in the Florida Retirement System after the date of retirement. However, a DROP participant may continue employment and receive a salary during the period of participation in DROP, as provided in subsection (13). Any retiree employed in violation of this subparagraph, and any agency that employs or appoints such person without notifying the Division of Retirement to suspend retirement benefits are jointly and severally liable for any retirement benefits paid during reemployment. Any benefits received by a retiree while reemployed must be repaid to the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund, and his or her benefits remain suspended until repayment is made.

b. A district school board may reemploy a retiree, after he or she has met the definition of termination in s. 121.021(39), as a substitute or hourly teacher, an education paraprofessional transportation assistant, bus driver, or food service worker for up to 780 hours per year. A retiree reemployed for more than 780 hours per year must give notice in writing on forms prescribed by the Division of Retirement to the employer or employers and to the division within 30 days before the date he or she will exceed the 780-hour limitation, and his or her retirement benefits will be suspended in the month the reemployed retiree works 780 or more hours and for the balance of a 12-month limitation period. Any retiree employed in violation of this sub-subparagraph and any agency that employs or appoints such person without notifying the division to suspend retirement

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benefits is jointly and severally liable for any benefits paid during the reemployment limitation period. Any retirement benefits received by a retiree while reemployed during the reemployment limitation period must be repaid to the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund. The retirement benefits of a retiree who violates this limitation remain suspended until repayment is made. Benefits suspended apply toward repayment of benefits received in violation of the reemployment limitation.

- c. Except as provided in sub-subparagraph b., there are no exceptions to the reemployment limitations in sub-subparagraph a. and the exceptions in subparagraphs (b) 3. and 4. do not apply.
- d. A retiree may be reemployed with an employer participating in the Florida Retirement System if his or her spouse was also an retiree of an employer that participated in the Florida Retirement System and upon the spouse's death there is no continuing benefit paid to the survivor.
- e. The employment of a retiree or DROP participant of a state-administered retirement system does not affect the average final compensation or years of creditable service of the retiree or DROP participant. The employer must pay retirement contributions in an amount equal to the unfunded actuarial liability portion of the employer contribution which would be required for members of the Florida Retirement System.
- f. This subparagraph regarding reemployment after retirement applies to DROP participants effective upon termination from employment and the end of DROP participation.

========== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =============



And the title is amended as follows: Delete lines 13 - 23 and insert:

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121.091, F.S.; revising and clarifying provisions relating to retirement benefits; providing that persons employed by an employer participating in the state-retirement system after a certain date may not receive retirement benefits and a salary or wages; providing an exception; deleting a restriction on the reemployment of certain personnel by the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind; authorizing developmental research school and charter schools to reemploy certain retirees under specified conditions; extending the period of time that instructional personnel employed by a developmental research school may participate in the Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP); providing applicability; clarifying that DROP participation