

HCS SB 127 -- MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND HIGHWAY
PATROL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Currently, a uniformed member of the State Highway Patrol may purchase up to four years of his or her prior creditable service as a nonfederal, full-time public employee if he or she is not receiving or eligible to receive credits or benefits from any other public plan for the service being purchased. This bill allows any member of the Missouri Department of Transportation and Highway Patrol Employees' Retirement System (MPERS) to purchase the service. Any MPERS member who is entitled to a deferred annuity will not be eligible to purchase any service.

The purchase of this service must be completed prior to retirement or termination of employment. If a member who purchased service dies prior to his or her retirement, the surviving spouse can receive a refund of the purchase amount if he or she is not eligible for survivor benefits.

Currently, the retired employees of the Department of Transportation together with the civilian or uniformed highway patrol select one member to the board of trustees of MPERS. The bill adds one new member to the board by allowing each group to elect one board member.