

CCS SCS HCS HB 1 -- STATE EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

This bill changes the laws regarding state employee retirement systems. In its main provisions, the bill:

(1) Specifies that any person who first becomes a state employee on or after January 1, 2011, will be a member of the Missouri State Employees' Retirement System (MOSERS) Year 2000 Plan. To be eligible for normal retirement under this plan, an employee must be at least 67 years of age and have completed at least 10 years of credited service or be at least 55 years of age with the sum of the employee's age and credited service equaling at least 90. A uniformed member of the State Highway Patrol who is subject to the mandatory retirement provisions of Section 104.081, RSMo, must be at least 60 years of age or at least 55 years of age with 10 years of credited service. A member of the General Assembly must be at least 62 years of age and have completed at least three full biennial assemblies or be at least 55 years of age with the sum of the member's age and credited service equaling at least 90. A statewide elected official must be at least 62 years of age and have completed at least four years of credited service or be at least 55 years of age with the sum of the official's age and credited service equaling at least 90. A vested former member must be at least 67 years of age and have completed at least 10 years of credited service. An employee, except for a uniformed member of the patrol who is subject to the mandatory retirement provisions, will be eligible for early retirement upon reaching 62 years of age with at least 10 years of credited service. A vested former member will not be eligible for early retirement. An employee must work for the state for 10 years in order to be vested in the system. A member of this plan is required to contribute 4% of his or her pay to his or her individual account with the system. A member will not be able to purchase credit in the system for his or her previous non-federal, full-time public employment or military service or to transfer credit from another public retirement system. The employee contribution rate, the benefits under the Year 2000 Plan, and any other provision of the Year 2000 Plan may be altered, amended, increased, decreased, or repealed, but the change will only apply to service or interest credits after the effective date of the change. An employee under the plan will not be eligible for the backdrop option;

(2) Requires any person who first becomes a judge on or after January 1, 2011, to be at least 67 years of age and have at least 12 years of service as a judge or be at least 62 years of age and have at least 20 years of service as a judge before he or she is eligible for normal retirement benefits under the Judicial Plan with MOSERS. If a judge retires at 67 years of age with less than 12 years of service or at 62 years of age with less than 20

years of service, his or her retirement compensation will be reduced proportionately. A judge in this plan will be required to contribute 4% of his or her compensation to his or her individual account with the system. A judge will not be able to purchase credit in the plan for his or her previous non-federal, full-time public employment or military service. A judge under this plan who continues to work after his or her normal retirement date will not have cost-of-living increases added to his or her retirement compensation for the period of time between his or her eligibility for retirement and the actual retirement date. When a retired judge under this plan dies, his or her beneficiary will not receive an amount equal to 50% of the judge's retirement compensation. Instead, at the time of retirement, a judge will choose one of four payment options for his or her beneficiary. The employee contribution rate, the benefits under the plan, and any other provision of the plan may be altered, amended, increased, decreased, or repealed, but the change will only apply to service or interest credits after the effective date of the change; and

(3) Prohibits a judge retiring under the provisions of the bill who is hired as an employee eligible to participate in the MOSERS Closed Plan or in the Year 2000 Plan from receiving judicial retirement benefits while employed, and any judge who serves as a judge while receiving judicial retirement under these provisions is prohibited from receiving judicial retirement while serving as a judge. A judge who serves as a senior judge or senior commissioner while receiving judicial retirement may continue to receive judicial retirement and additional credit and salary for the service.