

HB 305 -- SCHOOL EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

SPONSOR: Pike

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Pensions by a vote of 11 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on Rules - Administrative Oversight by a vote of 14 to 0.

Currently, a retired teacher from the Kansas City Public School Retirement System can work part-time for a school district during a school year and not forfeit his or her retirement allowance. The retired teacher can work up to 600 hours and earn up to 50% of the annual salary received by the person while they were teaching prior to retirement.

The bill expands this provision to include someone who is employed by a third party or working as an independent contractor as a substitute teacher or other position normally requiring certification. Documentation may be required showing proof of compliance with this provision.

Currently, a retired teacher receiving an allowance from the Missouri Public School Retirement System can work part-time for a school district covered by the retirement system and not forfeit his or her retirement allowance. The retired person can work up to 550 hours and earn up to 50% of the annual salary received by the person while they were teaching prior to retirement.

The bill expands this provision to any individual who is employed by a third party or working as an independent contractor as a substitute teacher or other position normally requiring certification. Documentation may be required showing proof of compliance with this provision.

This bill is similar to HB 1710 (2016) and HB 1085 (2015).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill will prevent retired teachers from working more hours than allowed by law because they are working for a contractor providing teaching services. Currently, retired teachers can work more than the 550 hours as a teacher without losing his or her allowance if he or she is employed through a job service. This will close that loop hole.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Pike; Public School Retirement System of Missouri; Kansas City Public School Retirement System; Retired Teachers Association; MSTA; Missouri NEA; and AFT Missouri.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that some rural areas

have a teacher shortage and this will make it harder for the schools to get good quality teachers to help our youth learn.

Testifying against the bill were Carol Gregg, Flexible Staffing and Dale Wallace, Flexible Educators.