

1 State of Arkansas
2 91st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2017
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 193

5 By: Senator E. Cheatham
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO PROVIDE SERVICE CREDIT FOR UNUSED SICK
9 LEAVE TO CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE ARKANSAS TEACHER
10 RETIREMENT SYSTEM; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR
11 OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

14 TO PROVIDE SERVICE CREDIT FOR UNUSED SICK
15 LEAVE TO CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE ARKANSAS
16 TEACHER RETIREMENT SYSTEM; AND TO DECLARE
17 AN EMERGENCY.
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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23 SECTION 1. Ark. Code Ann. § 24-7-601(c)(2), concerning credited
24 service generally in the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System, is amended to
25 read as follows:

26 (2)(A) Days Except as provided under subdivision (c)(2)(B) of
27 this section, days of paid sick leave shall not be considered service if the
28 payment is for unused sick leave.

29 (B) If a member dies during active service on or after
30 July 1, 2013, the member's accrued unused sick leave, whether paid or unpaid,
31 shall be credited as service in the fiscal year of the member's death to
32 determine the member's retirement eligibility, final average salary, and
33 eligibility for other system benefits. The member's account shall be credited
34 with:

35 (i) One (1) day of service for each day of accrued
36 unused sick leave; and



1 (ii) One (1) day of service for any remaining
2 partial day of sick leave.

3 (C) If a member dies during active service on or after
4 July 1, 2013, the member's unused catastrophic leave and unused donated leave
5 shall not be credited as service.

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7 SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
8 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the operations of a state
9 public retirement system are complex; that the Arkansas Teacher Retirement
10 System must be able to meet the needs of its members as anticipated by the
11 General Assembly; that certain provisions of the Arkansas Teacher Retirement
12 System Act are imminently in need of revision and updating in order to bring
13 them into conformance with sound public pension policy and actuarial
14 requirements; that such revision and updating is of a great importance to
15 members of the system and to other citizens of the State of Arkansas; that
16 the system needs the ability to make immediate changes to maintain and
17 improve its actuarial status; and that this act is immediately necessary in
18 order to maintain an orderly system of benefits for the members of the
19 Arkansas Teacher Retirement System. Therefore, an emergency is declared to
20 exists and this act being necessary for the preservation of the public,
21 peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

22 (1) The date it is approved by the Governor;

23 (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,
24 the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the
25 bill; or

26 (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is
27 overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.

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32 **APPROVED: 02/17/2017**