

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

Act 744 of the Regular Session

As Engrossed: S3/19/09

A Bill

1 State of Arkansas
2 87th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2009

SENATE BILL 190

4
5 By: Senator Faris
6 By: Representative Maloch

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9 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

10 AN ACT TO ENCOURAGE JUDICIAL SERVICE AND
11 RETENTION OF JUDGES THROUGH RETIREMENT
12 INCENTIVES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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14 **Subtitle**

15 TO ENCOURAGE JUDICIAL SERVICE AND
16 RETENTION OF JUDGES THROUGH RETIREMENT
17 INCENTIVES.

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20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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22 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 24-8-211 is amended to read as follows:

23 24-8-211. Contributions – Cessation upon retirement.

24 (a) When a judge is certified as eligible for retirement, no further
25 contribution shall be required of ~~him~~ the judge.

26 (b) Upon the written notice of election by the member of the Arkansas
27 Judicial Retirement System, a judge with at least twenty (20) years of
28 judicial service may continue or recommence payment of the six percent (6%)
29 contribution into the system to accrue the maximum retirement benefit
30 provided under § 24-8-218.

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32 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 24-8-218(c)(3), concerning the benefits
33 payable to judges and justices, is amended to read as follows:

34 (c)(3)(A) This method of determination of the amount of retirement or
35 survivors' benefits shall be applicable to any person who is a member of the



1 Arkansas Judicial Retirement System on or before June 30, 1983.

2 (B) For all judges or justices first elected after July 1,
3 1983, the benefit payable shall be ~~limited to~~ sixty percent (60%) of the
4 salary, after twenty (20) years or more of judicial service, for the office
5 at the time of the member's retirement.

6 (C)(i) Prospective with the passage of this Act, the
7 benefit payable for each year of additional service after twenty (20) years
8 of judicial service, the benefit shall be increased by two and one-half
9 percent (2.5%), in accordance with the provisions of § 24-8-211(b).

10 (ii) Election to participate shall be made in
11 writing in a manner and method determined by the Arkansas Judicial Retirement
12 System board of trustees and shall be irrevocable.

13 (iii) The maximum retirement benefit payable to a
14 judge or justice under this section is seventy-five percent (75%) of the
15 salary for the office at the time of the member's retirement.

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17 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
18 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that this act makes revisions to
19 benefits received by certain members of the Arkansas Judicial Retirement
20 System and that the ideal time to make revisions to the system is at the
21 beginning of the fiscal year. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist
22 and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public
23 peace, health, and safety shall become effective July 1, 2009.

24 /s/ Faris

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26 APPROVED: 4/1/2009
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