

1 State of Arkansas  
2 93rd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2021  
4

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 162

5 By: Senator B. Sample  
6

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE TERMINATION  
9 PERIOD REQUIRED FOR RETIREMENT UNDER THE ARKANSAS  
10 PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM; TO DECLARE AN  
11 EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
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## Subtitle

14 TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE  
15 TERMINATION PERIOD REQUIRED FOR  
16 RETIREMENT UNDER THE ARKANSAS PUBLIC  
17 EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM; AND TO  
18 DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.  
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22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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24 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 24-4-520(b)(1), concerning the termination  
25 requirement for retirement eligibility under the Arkansas Public Employees'  
26 Retirement System, is amended to read as follows:

27 (b)(1) A member shall not be terminated from employment for retirement  
28 purposes if the person:

29 (A)(i) Returns to employment in a position covered under  
30 the system within one hundred eighty (180) days of the person's effective  
31 date of retirement.

32 (ii) Subdivision (b)(1)(A) of this section does not  
33 apply to a member of the system who returns to temporary employment with the  
34 House of Representatives, the Senate, the Bureau of Legislative Research,  
35 Arkansas Legislative Audit, or the Arkansas Code Revision Commission during a  
36 regular session, fiscal session, or special session in a session only



1 position requiring specialized institutional knowledge and experience; or

2 (B) Is a member with service credit under § 24-4-521 at a  
3 rate of two (2) or more years of credited service for each year of actual  
4 service and the person returns to employment in a position covered under the  
5 system within one (1) year of the person's effective date of retirement.

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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 current coronavirus 2019  
9 (COVID-19) pandemic has impacted the normal functioning of state government,  
10 including the procedures that will be used for the 2021 Regular Session; that  
11 the coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has required a change in the  
12 procedures usually implemented by the General Assembly during previous  
13 legislative sessions; that given the required changes to the normal  
14 legislative session procedures, the state government needs to retain  
15 experienced personnel in order to properly perform necessary legislative  
16 functions and adequately respond to issues that may arise during the 2021  
17 Regular Session; and that this act is necessary to ensure that the 2021  
18 Regular Session proceeds with minimal interruption or error. Therefore, an  
19 emergency is declared to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for  
20 the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become  
21 effective on:

22 (1) The date of its approval 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.