

**ARKANSAS SENATE**  
86th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2007  
**Amendment Form**

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**Subtitle of Senate Bill No. 157**

"AN ACT AMENDING THE ARKANSAS PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
CONCERNING ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS, BENEFITS, CREDITED SERVICE,  
EMPLOYEE AND EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS, AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE  
SYSTEM."

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**Amendment No. 1 to Senate Bill No. 157.**

Amend Senate Bill No. 157 as originally introduced:

Page 1, delete lines 9 through 14 and substitute the following:

"AN ACT CONCERNING THE RESUMPTION OF CREDITED SERVICE AS A PUBLIC SAFETY MEMBER IN THE ARKANSAS PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

AND

Page 1, delete lines 17 through 22 and substitute the following:

"AN ACT CONCERNING THE RESUMPTION OF CREDITED SERVICE AS A PUBLIC SAFETY MEMBER IN THE ARKANSAS PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM."

AND

Delete everything following the enacting clause and substitute the following:

"SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 24-4-101(34), concerning the definition of "public safety member", is amended to read as follows:

(34)(A) "Public safety member" means a noncontributory member whose covered employment is for personal services as a police officer or firefighter and his or her employment commenced prior to July 1, 1997.

(B)(i) "Police officer" means any regular or permanent employee whose primary duty is law enforcement of a municipal police department, a county sheriff's office, or the Department of Arkansas State Police, including probationary police officers, and shall also include wildlife officers of the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission and all officers and the Director of the State Capitol Police within the office of the Secretary of State.

(ii) An officer who, although assigned to administrative duties, is still subject to call for service at patrol duty or duty in the field or is subject to call for duties in emergency situations



requiring the officer to be armed with a firearm shall be considered to have the primary duty of law enforcement for the purpose of this subdivision (34)(B).

(iii) The term "police officer" shall not include any civilian employee of a police department or any person temporarily employed as a police officer during an emergency.

(C)(i) "Firefighter" means any regular employee of a fire department whose primary duty is fire fighting, including probationary firefighters.

(ii) "Firefighter" shall not include any civilian employee of a fire department or any person temporarily employed as a firefighter during an emergency.

(D)(i) "Public safety member" shall not include a member whose employment as a police officer or firefighter commenced on or after July 1, 1997.

(ii)(a) If a public safety member leaves his or her employment as a police officer or firefighter for employment as a police officer or firefighter in a position covered by the Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System, Arkansas State Highway Employees' Retirement System, State Police Retirement System, or Arkansas Local Police and Fire Retirement System and returns to his or her previous employment as a police officer or firefighter, the public safety member shall resume receiving credited service at one and one-half (1 1/2) times the regular rate for crediting service.

(b) A person eligible to resume receiving public safety credit prior to the effective date of subdivision (34)(D)(ii)(a) of this section shall receive credited service for his or her return to employment as a police officer or firefighter at one and one-half (1 1/2) times the regular rate for crediting service.

(E) A public safety member who receives or has received credited service at one and one-half (1 1/2) times the regular rate for crediting service may change employers and continue to receive credited service at one and one-half (1 1/2) times the regular rate for crediting service, provided:

(i) The person is employed as a public safety officer within six (6) months of termination from employment as a public safety member; and

(ii) The employer provides public safety officers credited service at one and one-half (1 1/2) times the regular rate for crediting service;"

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and \_\_\_\_\_

By: Senator J. Jeffress

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Secretary