

1 State of Arkansas  
2 80th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 1995  
4 By: Senator Canada

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 237

## For An Act To Be Entitled

"AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE PURCHASE OF LIMITED CREDITED SERVICE IN THE ARKANSAS PUBLIC EMPLOYEES\_ RETIREMENT SYSTEM OR THE ARKANSAS STATE POLICE RETIREMENT SYSTEM FOR SERVICE AS A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER WITH A LOCAL GOVERNMENT; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

## Subtitle

"TO ALLOW THE PURCHASE OF SERVICE CREDIT IN VARIOUS RETIREMENT SYSTEMS FOR EMPLOYMENT AS A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER WITH A LOCAL GOVERNMENT."

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

SECTION 1. (a) Any public safety member of a state-supported retirement system in this state who is not receiving benefits under the system shall be entitled to purchase credited service in the system for a period not to exceed three (3) years for service rendered by the member as a certified law enforcement officer with a city, county, state or federal police department prior to the member\_s employment in the position covered by any state, out-of-state, or federal supported retirement system, but only if the person:

(1) Has ten (10) years credited service with the retirement system;

(2) Is not receiving any credited service in the retirement system of the city or county in which the member was employed for the time period for which credit is sought; and

1           (3) Contributes to the member\_s deposit account a sum of money  
2 equal to the amount he would have contributed to the account had he been a  
3 member during period of employment with the city or county. This amount  
4 shall be based upon his monthly contribution at the time he first became a  
5 member of the retirement system and interest thereon at the rate of six  
6 percent (6%). Interest compounded annually shall commence January 1, 1995 or  
7 six (6) months after eligibility, whichever is later.

8           (b) The benefit program to be applicable to the credited service for  
9 members of the Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System or the Arkansas  
10 State Police Retirement System shall be:

11           (1) The benefit program of Arkansas Code §§ 24-3-101, 24-3-105,  
12 24-3-201, 24-3-214, 24-3-301, 24-3-303, 24-3-401, 24-3-413, and 24-3-415 if  
13 the member is not making regular member contributions to the system and if he  
14 paid no employee contribution to purchase the credited service; or

15           (2) The benefit program based on Acts 1957, No. 177 for members  
16 of the Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System or the benefit program  
17 based on Arkansas Code §§ 24-6-201, 24-6-217, and 24-6-223 as for members of  
18 the Arkansas State Police Retirement System if the member is making regular  
19 member contributions to the system.

20           (c) The provisions of this section shall be supplemental to any other  
21 laws relating to state-supported retirement systems in this state. Nothing in  
22 this section shall be construed to repeal or modify any existing provisions  
23 of any state-supported retirement system law providing the credited service  
24 in the system, nor the right of any member of a state-supported retirement  
25 system to obtain credited service in the system for other service under the  
26 provisions of existing laws. No member shall be eligible for credited  
27 service for such periods of employment in more than one (1) state-supported  
28 retirement system.

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30           SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of general and permanent nature  
31 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code  
32 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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34           SECTION 3. If any provisions of this act or the application thereof to  
35 any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect

1 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without  
2 the invalid provisions or application, and to this end the provisions of this  
3 act are declared to be severable.

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5       SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are  
6 hereby repealed.

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8       SECTION 5. Emergency. It is hereby found and determined by the  
9 Eightieth General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that public safety  
10 officers of state supported retirement systems have service as law  
11 enforcement officers with local governments without any retirement benefits  
12 credited to them; these officers should be allowed to purchase credit for  
13 this law enforcement service time, and that by providing this benefit  
14 immediately, law enforcement officers will be motivated to perform at the  
15 most effective level for the State of Arkansas. Therefore, in order to  
16 provide the most effective law enforcement for the State, an emergency is  
17 hereby declared to exist, and this act being necessary for the immediate  
18 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, shall be in full force  
19 and effect from and after its passage and approval.

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