

IN THE SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 1315

BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEM; AMENDING SECTION
2 59-1356, IDAHO CODE, TO REMOVE PROVISIONS REGARDING THE REEMPLOYMENT OF
3 CERTAIN RETIRED MEMBERS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
4

5 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

6 SECTION 1. That Section 59-1356, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
7 amended to read as follows:

8 59-1356. REEMPLOYMENT OF RETIRED MEMBERS. (1) If an early retired mem-
9 ber, ~~except as provided in subsection (6) of this section,~~ is reemployed with
10 an employer participating in the public employee retirement system of Idaho
11 within ninety (90) days from retiring, or the early retired member is guaran-
12 teed reemployment with an employer participating in the public employee re-
13 tirement system of Idaho, the member shall be considered to have continued in
14 the status of an employee and not to have separated from service. Any retire-
15 ment allowance payments received by the retired member shall be repaid to the
16 system and the retirement shall be negated. The month of last contribution
17 prior to the negated retirement and the month of initial contribution upon
18 return to reemployment shall be considered consecutive months of contribu-
19 tions in the determination of an appropriate salary base period upon subse-
20 quent retirement. A retired member is not considered to have separated from
21 service if he continues performing services for an employer participating
22 in the public employee retirement system of Idaho in any capacity, includ-
23 ing but not limited to independent contractor, leased employee, or temporary
24 services.

25 (2) Except as provided in subsections (3), (4), and (5), ~~and (6)~~ of this
26 section, when a retired member meets the definition of an employee as defined
27 in section 59-1302(14) (A) (a), Idaho Code, any benefit payable on behalf of
28 such member shall be suspended and any contributions payable by such member
29 under sections 59-1331 through 59-1334, Idaho Code, shall again commence.
30 The suspended benefit, as adjusted pursuant to section 59-1355, Idaho Code,
31 shall resume upon subsequent retirement, along with a separate allowance
32 computed with respect only to that salary and service credited during the
33 period of reemployment. Any death benefit that becomes payable under the
34 suspended benefit shall be payable under section 59-1361(2), Idaho Code.
35 Any death benefit that becomes payable with respect to salary and service
36 accrued during the period of reemployment shall be payable under section
37 59-1361(3), Idaho Code, if the member dies during the period of reemploy-
38 ment.

39 (3) If a retired member who is receiving a benefit that is not reduced
40 under section 59-1346, Idaho Code, and who has been retired for more than
41 six (6) months again becomes employed as defined in this section and section
42 59-1302(14) (A) (b), Idaho Code, as a result of being elected to a public of-

1 fice other than an office held prior to retirement, the retired member may
2 elect to continue receiving benefits and not accrue additional service, in
3 which event no contributions shall be made by the member or employer during
4 such reemployment and any benefit payable on behalf of such member shall con-
5 tinue.

6 (4) If a retired school employee, as defined in section 59-1302(31A),
7 Idaho Code, who retired on or after age sixty (60) years or a retired pub-
8 lic safety officer returns to work as a school employee as defined in section
9 59-1302(31A), Idaho Code, and is receiving a benefit that is not reduced un-
10 der section 59-1346, Idaho Code, again becomes an employee as defined in this
11 section and section 59-1302(14), Idaho Code, as a result of returning to em-
12 ployment with a school district as provided in section 33-1004H, Idaho Code,
13 the retired member may elect to continue receiving benefits and not accrue
14 additional service, in which event no contributions shall be made by the mem-
15 ber during such reemployment and any benefit payable on behalf of such member
16 shall continue.

17 (5) If a retired member as defined in section 59-1302(27), Idaho Code,
18 who retired prior to January 1, 2022, and retired on or after age fifty-five
19 (55) years, or retired on or after age fifty (50) years for police officer
20 or firefighter members, again becomes an employee as defined in this section
21 and in section 59-1302(14), Idaho Code, as a result of returning to employ-
22 ment with an employer as defined in section 59-1302(15), Idaho Code, the re-
23 tired member may elect to continue receiving benefits and not to accrue ad-
24 ditional service. In such a situation, no contributions shall be made by the
25 member during the reemployment and any benefit payable on behalf of such mem-
26 ber shall continue. This subsection shall no longer be in force and effect
27 after June 30, 2026, however, the other provisions of this section shall re-
28 main in full force and effect and shall remain applicable to all employment.

29 ~~(6) A retired member as defined in section 59-1302(27), Idaho Code,~~
30 ~~with police officer status as defined in section 59-1303, Idaho Code, or~~
31 ~~with firefighter member status as defined in section 59-1302(16), Idaho~~
32 ~~Code, who retires on or after age fifty (50) years and who, within thirty~~
33 ~~(30) days after retiring, again becomes an employee as defined in section~~
34 ~~59-1302(14), Idaho Code, with an employer participating in PERSI, or who~~
35 ~~is guaranteed reemployment with an employer participating in PERSI, shall~~
36 ~~be considered to have continued in the status of an employee and not to have~~
37 ~~separated from service. As a result of returning to employment with an em-~~
38 ~~ployer as defined in section 59-1302(15), Idaho Code, the retired member may~~
39 ~~elect to continue receiving benefits and not to accrue additional service.~~
40 ~~In such a situation, contributions shall be made by the member and employer~~
41 ~~during the reemployment at the rate established by PERSI for police officer~~
42 ~~or firefighter members, as applicable, and any benefit payable on behalf of~~
43 ~~such member shall continue. The provisions of this subsection shall be null,~~
44 ~~void, and of no force and effect after June 30, 2027. However, the other~~
45 ~~provisions of this section shall remain in full force and effect and shall~~
46 ~~remain applicable to all employment.~~

47 ~~(7) (6)~~ It is the responsibility of each employer to immediately report
48 to the retirement board the employment of any retired member so that benefit
49 payments can be suspended as provided in this section. If an employer fails
50 to properly report the employment of a retired member and it results in the

1 retirement board making benefit payments that should have been suspended,
2 the employer shall, in addition to paying delinquent employee and employer
3 contributions from the date of eligibility, also be responsible for repaying
4 to the retirement board the benefit payments made to the retired member that
5 should have been suspended, plus interest. The employer may then recoup such
6 payments from the retired member.

7 SECTION 2. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby
8 declared to exist, this act shall be in full force and effect on and after its
9 passage and approval.