

CHAPTER 98.

[ H. B. 427. ]

RELATING TO PENSION AND RETIREMENT SYSTEMS OF THE STATE AND ITS POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS.

AN ACT relating to pension and retirement systems of the state and political subdivisions thereof; conditionally permitting the retention of accrued service credit by members of such systems when undertaking other public employment, or upon the amalgamation of any one such public service with another.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:*

Declaration of intent.

SECTION 1. It is the intent of this act to allow the preservation, accumulation and retention of service credits towards eventual retirement by officers and employees who by reason of employment by more than one public agency in the state may participate in one or more retirement or pension systems. It is also intended that sovereignty of the various retirement and pension systems operating in the state shall not be intruded upon and the eventual granting of pensions and/or annuities to such officers and employees shall remain under the control of and be controlled by act of the governing bodies of such retirement or pension systems except as specifically set forth herein.

Members of pension or retirement systems accepting other public employment or office may retain credit for service.

SEC. 2. Any officer or employee of the state or of any political subdivision thereof who is a member of any pension or retirement system thereof may upon acceptance of any other public employment or office, retain credit for service in his or her previous office or employment toward eventual retirement upon such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the governing body or bodies of any such political subdivisions and by the pension board or authority concerned in the case of the state; and such like privilege shall be extended to any such officer or employee whose employment or office is changed as the

result of any amalgamation of any public service agency in this state with another.

Amalgama-  
tion of  
public  
service  
agencies.

SEC. 3. It is hereby specifically provided that the governing bodies referred to in section 2 hereof may allow persons to recover or regain credit lost or lapsed by reason of previous lack of authority to proceed as intended in this act, such recovery to be allowed under rules separately established by the aforementioned governing bodies.

Retroactive  
operation  
authorized.

SEC. 4. The receipt of any pension or annuity earned as a member of any system under the circumstances provided for herein shall not preclude the receipt of another pension earned as a member of any other system, any local provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, but the total of the one or more system payments due at time of retirement shall not exceed the maximum payment for full service in the system last participated in.

Receipt of  
pension  
under one  
system does  
not preclude  
receipt  
under any  
other.

SEC. 5. When there exists a joint operation of a public service, the authorities may make provision for membership of all new employees in one designated retirement system by agreement with the proper authorities.

Joint  
operation  
of a public  
service.

Passed the House February 24, 1951.

Passed the Senate March 6, 1951.

Approved by the Governor March 13, 1951.