

**From:** [quesje@yahoo.com](mailto:quesje@yahoo.com)  
**To:** [Office State Actuary, WA](#)  
**Subject:** Service Credit Legislation - Clarification needed  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 27, 2015 10:54:57 AM

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To the Committee on Pension Policy:

Like many women, I taught half-time in Washington State while my children were young. Under the rules that existed from 1987 to 1991, we were not allowed to contribute to the retirement system or earn service credit for those years.

In 1994, the legislature addressed this issue, and passed RCW 41.50.165. It states...

“This act removes the time limitations within the state’s retirement systems for: (b)The crediting of certain service that, under the provisions of the system, was not creditable at the time it was performed, such as a probationary period or interrupted military service.”

The intent seems quite clear...employees should be allowed to purchase service credit today for service not creditable at the time it was performed, such as my years of half-time teaching. However, recently I tried to purchase service credit for those years, and I was told by DRS that I could not. Their reasoning was that the law is “not retroactive.”

Please introduce legislation to add "retroactive" wording to RCW 41.50.165. Educators in our state who taught half-time during those years, should be allowed to purchase service credit for the service performed.

Thank you for your time.

Jennifer Quesnell

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