

CHAPTER 148
[Senate Bill No. 3184]
MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT SYSTEMS—
CREDIT TRANSFERS

AN ACT Relating to public employment; adding a new section to chapter 41.18 RCW; and adding a new section to chapter 41.20 RCW.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

NEW SECTION. Section 1. There is added to chapter 41.18 RCW a new section to read as follows:

Any former employee of a department of a city of the first class, of over two hundred thousand population, who (1) was a member of the employees' retirement system of such city, and (2) is now employed within the fire department of such city, may transfer his former membership credit from the city employees' retirement system to the fireman's pension system created by chapters 41.16 and 41.18 RCW by filing a written request with the board of administration and the municipal fireman's pension board, respectively.

Upon the receipt of such request, the transfer of membership to the city's fireman's pension system shall be made, together with a transfer of all accumulated contributions credited to such member. The board of administration shall transmit to the municipal fireman's pension board a record of service credited to such member which shall be computed and credited to such member as a part of his period of employment in the city's fireman's pension system. For the purpose of the transfer contemplated by this section, those affected individuals who have formerly withdrawn funds from the city employees' retirement system shall be allowed to restore contributions withdrawn from that retirement system directly to the fireman's pension system and receive credit in the fireman's pension system for their former membership service in the prior system.

Any employee so transferring shall have all the rights, benefits, and privileges that he would have been entitled to had he been a member of the city's fireman's pension system from the beginning of his employment with the city.

No person so transferring shall thereafter be entitled to any other public pension, except that provided by chapter 41.26 RCW or social security, which is based upon such service with the city.

The right of any employee to file a written request for transfer of membership as set forth in this section shall expire December 31, 1974.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. There is added to chapter 41.20 RCW a new section to read as follows:

A former employee of a fire department of a city of the first class who (1) was a member of the fireman's pension system created by chapters 41.16 or 41.18 RCW, and (2) is now employed within the police department of such city, will be regarded as having received membership service credit for such service to the fire department in the city's police and relief pension system at the time he recovers such service credit by paying withdrawn contributions to the Washington law enforcement officers' and fire fighters' retirement system pursuant to RCW 41.26.030 (14).

Passed the Senate January 29, 1974.

Passed the House February 5, 1974.

Approved by the Governor February 13, 1974, with the exception of an item in Section 1 which is vetoed.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State February 26, 1974.

Note: Governor's explanation of partial veto is as follows:

"I am returning herewith without my approval as to one item Senate Bill No. 3184 entitled:

"AN ACT Relating to public employment."

Veto
Message

This bill permits former employees of a city of the first class of over two hundred thousand population who are now employed by the fire department of such city to transfer their pension credits from the city retirement system to the firemen's pension system.

A similar bill, Chapter 143, Laws of 1973, was enacted in the 1973 regular session of the Legislature allowing former city employees of first class cities who are now employed by the city police department to transfer their pension credits in like manner.

The 1973 act did not restrict its application to only a first class city of over two hundred thousand population, and there is no good reason why Senate Bill No. 3184 should be so restricted. Legislative consistency dictates that benefits conferred to a class of employees be made equally available to all those eligible within that class.

For the foregoing reasons, I have determined to veto the item in section 1 of the bill which restricts the application of the bill to solely a first class city of over two hundred thousand population, so that the bill will be applicable to all first class cities. The remainder of Senate Bill No. 3184 is approved.

CHAPTER 149

[Initiative Measure No. 282]

ELECTED PUBLIC OFFICIALS--SALARIES

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

Section 1. Section 110, chapter 137, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. is amended to read as follows:

GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION TO THE GOVERNOR:

To be allocated by the governor in order to implement salary increases to enable the payment of salaries to the below