

SB 934 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Workforce

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 3/28, 4/2

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Expands exemption allowing retired Tier 1 and Tier 2 members of Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) employed by a county sheriff, a municipal police department, a state or county correctional institution, or the Oregon State Police to work in excess of 1,040 per calendar year for a PERS participating public employer. Limits expanded exemption to retired members who are already employed or become employed by a participating public employer. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon's Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) enables public employers to provide their employees with retirement benefits. State government, public schools, community colleges, and many local governments (cities, counties, and special districts) participate in PERS.

If retirees wish to re-enter the workforce, their PERS benefit could be affected based on the plan they retired under, who their employer is, and how many hours they work per year. Any retiree who works for a private-sector or non-PERS covered employer may work unlimited hours without any impact on their level of retirement benefit. In general, a Tier One or Tier Two retired PERS member working for a participating public employer can continue to receive retirement benefits as long as the total period of combined employment with one or more participating public employers does not total more than 1,039 hours in a calendar year. The hour limitations on employment do not apply to certain retired members, including those employed by a sheriff, the Oregon State Police, or a state or county correctional institutional in a county with a population of fewer than 75,000 persons. And the hour limitations also do not apply to a retired member employed a municipal police department in a city with a population of fewer than 15,000 persons.

Senate Bill 934 would exempt Tier one or Tier Two retired members from the 1,039 hour limitation if they were employed by a sheriff, Oregon State Police, state or county correctional institution, or a municipal police department regardless of the population of the county or city.