

HB 2838 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Business and Labor

Action Date: 04/08/19

Action: Without recommendation as to passage, with amendments, and be referred to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 8-3-0-0

Yeas: 8 - Barker, Barreto, Boles, Bonham, Boshart Davis, Clem, Doherty, Evans

Nays: 3 - Bynum, Fahey, Holvey

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 4/3, 4/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Exempts retired police officer under the Public Employees Retirement System from limitations on work after retirement if member is employed by a school district or public charter school to provide law enforcement, security, or safety services. Exempts retiree from limitations on work after retirement if retiree is employed by Oregon State Police (OSP) to provide security to residence of Governor or judges, or to provide law enforcement related to access and habitat programs of Department of Fish and Wildlife.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Other categories of retirees exempt from limitation on work after retirement
- Problem OSP faces to fill positions and keep overtime usage down
- Preference not to pull troopers off highway patrol to cover game enforcement or provide security to Governor and judges
- Unique training and experience to keep schools safe

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Exempts retired police officer hired by public charter school to provide law enforcement, security, or safety services from limitations on work after retirement. Exempts retiree from limitations on work after retirement if retiree is employed by Oregon State Police to provide security to residence of Governor or judges or to provide law enforcement related to access and habitat programs of Department of Fish and Wildlife.

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 a retiree wishes 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 1 or Tier 2 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. There are numerous exemptions to the limit on hours a retiree can work. Retirement benefit payments will be suspended for a retiree under the Oregon Public Service Retirement Plan (OPSRP) if they are employed in a qualifying position by a participating employer.

House Bill 2838-A allows Tier 1 or Tier 2 retirees to work an unlimited number of hours without any loss of retirement benefits if they are a retired police officer and are subsequently employed by a school district or public

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charter school to provide law enforcement, security, or safety service. The measure also exempts from the post-retirement work limit those who work for the Oregon State Police to provide security to the residences of the Governor and judges and to provide game enforcement.