

House Bill 817

By: Representatives Cox of the 105<sup>th</sup>, Coleman of the 80<sup>th</sup>, Williams of the 83<sup>rd</sup>, Everett of the 163<sup>rd</sup>, Lewis of the 14<sup>th</sup> and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 5 of Chapter 3 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
2 relating to service creditable toward retirement benefits under the Teachers Retirement  
3 System of Georgia, so as to define certain terms; to provide that a member of such retirement  
4 system who teaches for a full contract year at a low-performing school shall receive one and  
5 one-half years of service credit; to provide for an additional employer contribution; to  
6 provide conditions for an effective date and automatic repeal; to repeal conflicting laws; and  
7 for other purposes.

8 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 Article 5 of Chapter 3 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
11 service creditable toward retirement benefits under the Teachers Retirement System of  
12 Georgia, is amended by inserting at the end thereof the following:

13 "47-3-93.

14 (a) As used in this Code section, the term

15 (1) 'Blackboard teacher' means a teacher of grades kindergarten through 12 who has as  
16 his or her primary responsibility the academic instruction of students in a classroom for  
17 not less than four hours a day throughout the entire contract year.

18 (2) 'Criterion-referenced competency test' means that test provided for in Code Section  
19 20-2-281.

20 (3) 'Low-performing school' means a school in which at least 70 percent of the students  
21 did not meet the most recent criterion-referenced competency test standard in reading,  
22 language arts, or mathematics or a school identified as low performing based on the  
23 indicators adopted under Code Section 20-14-33.

24 (b) Any other provision of this chapter to the contrary notwithstanding, any member who  
25 serves after July 1, 2002, for an entire contract year as a blackboard teacher in grades  
26 kindergarten through 8 at a low-performing school shall receive one and one-half years of

1 service credit for each such year in lieu of the normal one year of such credit. Such  
2 creditable service shall be used to calculate entitlement to all benefits and for all other  
3 purposes in this chapter.

4 (c) It shall be the duty of any member seeking creditable service pursuant to this Code  
5 section to notify the board of trustees at the end of each school year and to provide such  
6 information as the board of trustees deems necessary.

7 (d) The local school system shall pay to the board of directors of this retirement system  
8 as an additional employer contribution the amount necessary to provide the benefit  
9 provided for in this Code section without creating any accrued actuarial unfunded liability  
10 as to this retirement system.

11 (e) The benefits provided by this Code section shall not become a part of the employment  
12 contract and shall be subject to subsequent legislation."

13 **SECTION 2.**

14 This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2002, only if it is determined to have been  
15 concurrently funded as provided in Chapter 20 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia  
16 Annotated, the "Public Retirement Systems Standards Law"; otherwise, this Act shall not  
17 become effective and shall be automatically repealed in its entirety on July 1, 2002, as  
18 required by subsection (a) of Code Section 47-20-50.

19 **SECTION 3.**

20 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.