

House Bill 735

By: Representative Parham of the 141st

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 3 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
2 Teachers Retirement System of Georgia, so as to provide for a postretirement benefit
3 increase for certain retired members; to provide for a recalculation of creditable service; to
4 provide for an allocation of benefit increases; to provide that active members of such
5 retirement system may obtain creditable service for prior service in public schools; to provide
6 for conditions; to provide for the payment of employer and employee contributions; to
7 provide conditions for an effective date and automatic repeal; to repeal conflicting laws; and
8 for other purposes.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

10 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

11 Chapter 3 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Teachers
12 Retirement System of Georgia, is amended by revising Code Section 47-3-95, relating to
13 creditable service for service in private schools, as follows:

14 "47-3-95.

15 A member who has completed at least five consecutive years of membership service in the
16 public schools of Georgia or the University System of Georgia immediately prior to
17 applying may obtain up to ten years of creditable service for service as a teacher in a
18 private elementary or secondary school or any private college or university located in ~~the~~
19 this state accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the Georgia
20 Accrediting Association, or a nationally recognized accrediting agency by the State Board
21 of Education. Such service credit shall be allowed on the basis of one year of credit for
22 such service for each additional year of membership service in the public schools of
23 Georgia or the University System of Georgia. A member wishing to obtain such creditable
24 service shall provide documentation and pay to the board of trustees ~~such amount as~~
25 ~~determined by the actuary as necessary to grant such benefit without creating any accrued~~
26 ~~actuarial liability as to this retirement system~~ the employer and employee contributions

1 which would have been paid to the retirement system on a salary comparable to his or her
2 salary for such service, plus the applicable rate of interest, in accordance with regulations
3 adopted by the board of trustees."

4 **SECTION 2.**

5 Said chapter is further amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

6 "47-3-126.5.

7 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'qualified beneficiary' means a member of this
8 retirement system who retired on a service retirement between January 1, 2003, and June
9 30, 2008.

10 (b) Effective on July 1, 2008, the retirement allowance of any qualified beneficiary shall
11 be recalculated by increasing the amount of creditable service claimed by such qualified
12 beneficiary upon his or her retirement by the number of years, not to exceed ten years, of
13 prior service as a teacher in a private elementary or secondary school or any private college
14 or university located in this state accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and
15 Schools, the Georgia Accrediting Association, or a nationally recognized accrediting
16 agency approved by the State Board of Education. The resulting increase in benefits shall
17 be paid from July 1, 2008, forward.

18 (c) The amount of increase in the monthly retirement benefit granted pursuant to
19 subsection (b) of this Code section shall be reduced as provided in this subsection. The
20 board of trustees shall calculate the amount of employer and employee contributions which
21 the qualified beneficiary would have paid to the retirement system if he or she had obtained
22 additional creditable service in accordance with Code Section 47-3-95 and retain the
23 amount of the increase in benefit until such amount has been paid with interest calculated
24 to the date of payment."

25 **SECTION 3.**

26 This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2008, only if it is determined to have been
27 concurrently funded as provided in Chapter 20 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia
28 Annotated, the "Public Retirement Systems Standards Law"; otherwise, this Act shall not
29 become effective and shall be automatically repealed in its entirety on July 1, 2008, as
30 required by subsection (a) of Code Section 47-20-50.

31 **SECTION 4.**

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