



DOAA
Georgia Department
of Audits & Accounts

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

February 10, 2025

The Honorable Russ Goodman
State Senator
Coverdell Legislative Office Building, Room 301-A
Atlanta, GA 30334

SUBJECT: State Auditor's Certification
Senate Bill (LC 56 0298)

Dear Senator Goodman:

This bill would amend provisions relating to membership in the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia. Specifically, this bill would authorize certain persons who would otherwise be members of the Public School Employees Retirement System to make an irrevocable election to become members of the Teachers Retirement System. Only persons who work not less than half time would be eligible to make such election. Once such election is made, the members would be covered under the same provisions and contribution requirements as other members of the Teachers Retirement System.

Under the provisions of this bill, persons who make this election may not receive creditable service in the Teachers Retirement System for time worked as a member of the Public School Employees Retirement System. Vested persons who transfer into the Teachers Retirement System may elect to keep their accumulated contributions with the Public School Employees Retirement System and receive their earned pension upon reaching normal retirement age. Vested members who elect to withdraw their accumulated contributions would forfeit any right to a future benefit. Nonvested members who transfer into the Teachers Retirement System would be required to withdraw their accumulated contributions.

This is to certify that this bill is a fiscal retirement bill as defined in the Public Retirement Systems Standards Law.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Greg S. Griffin".

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

GSG/cs

S.B. 209