Wisconsin Legislative Council AMENDMENT MEMO



Memo published: February 15, 2024

Contact: Tom Koss, Staff Attorney

2023 Assembly Bill 671

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1

2023 ASSEMBLY BILL 671

Under current law, a person who retires from Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS)-covered employment and receives an annuity generally may not return to work with a WRS-participating employer without having his or her annuity suspended. 2023 Assembly Bill 671 provides an exception to this annuity suspension requirement for certain protective occupation participants who retire from WRS-covered employment and are subsequently rehired or provide employee services to a WRScovered employer. Specifically, the bill requires that the person did not have an agreement with any WRS-participating employer to return to employment at the time of termination and that the person elects not to become a WRS-participating employee. The bill requires at least 75 days to have elapsed between the person's termination of employment with a participating employer and date of rehiring.

ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 1

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 provides an exception to this annuity suspension requirement for certain retired law enforcement officers, rather than other protective occupation participants, and limits the annuity suspension to a period of 60 months. Specifically, the amendment requires that the person did not have an agreement with a WRS-participating employment to return to employment at the time of termination, is hired to work at a law enforcement agency other than the one from which the person retired, is at least 55 years old when rehired, and elects not to become a WRS-participating employee. The amendment requires at least one year to have elapsed between the person's termination of employment with a participating employer and date of rehiring.

The amendment requires any participating employer who hires any such person who elects not to suspend his or her annuity to make payments that are equal to the amount of contributions that would have been required to be paid for that employee's employer retirement contributions to the Employee Trust Fund for deposit in the Employer Reserve Fund.

BILL HISTORY

Representatives Rettinger, Wittke, and Tittl introduced Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 on January 31, 2024. On February 13, 2024, the Assembly Committee on State Affairs voted to recommend adoption of the amendment on a vote of Ayes, 11; Noes, 2; and voted to recommend passage of the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 12; Noes, 1.

For a full history of the bill, visit the Legislature's bill history page.

TK:ksm