

House Bill 477

By: Representatives Powell of the 171<sup>st</sup>, Maxwell of the 17<sup>th</sup>, Lindsey of the 54<sup>th</sup>, and Golick of the 40<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 5 of Chapter 2 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
2 relating to service creditable toward retirement benefits under the Employees' Retirement  
3 System of Georgia, so as to provide for the transfer of service credit from the Georgia  
4 Judicial Retirement System to the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia; to provide for  
5 the transfer of funds; to provide for the payment for creditable service in the Employees'  
6 Retirement System of Georgia for prior service as a member of the Georgia Judicial  
7 Retirement System; to provide for conditions and payment; to provide conditions for an  
8 effective date and automatic repeal; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

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

11 Article 5 of Chapter 2 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
12 service creditable toward retirement benefits under the Employees' Retirement System of  
13 Georgia, is amended by revising Code Section 47-2-96, which is reserved, as follows:

14 "~~47-2-96. Reserved.~~

15 (a) Any member of this retirement system who was previously an active member of the  
16 Georgia Judicial Retirement System and who has not withdrawn his or her employee  
17 contributions from such retirement system may elect to have all contributions made by or  
18 on behalf of such member transferred from such retirement system to this retirement  
19 system. Any such member shall notify the board of trustees of each retirement system.

20 (b) Upon receipt of the notice provided for in subsection (a) of this Code section, the  
21 Board of Trustees of the Georgia Judicial Retirement System shall transfer to the board of  
22 trustees of this retirement system all employer and employee contributions paid by or on  
23 behalf of the employee, together with regular interest thereon. The member is authorized,  
24 but not required, to pay such additional amount to the board of trustees as the member  
25 desires.

26 (c) If a member of this retirement system has withdrawn his or her employee contributions  
27 from the Georgia Judicial Retirement System, he or she may obtain creditable service in  
28 this retirement system as provided in subsection (d) of this Code section by paying to the  
29 board of trustees of this retirement system such amount as the member desires.

30 (d) Upon receipt of the funds provided for in subsection (b) or (c) of this Code section, the  
31 board of trustees of this retirement system shall credit the member with only the number  
32 of years of creditable service, not to exceed the actual years of prior service, as the amount  
33 so transferred or paid shall warrant without creating any accrued liability as to this  
34 retirement system; provided, however, that no member shall be granted creditable service  
35 in excess of the service to which he or she was credited under the Georgia Judicial  
36 Retirement System."

37 **SECTION 2.**

38 This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2014, only if it is determined to have been  
39 concurrently funded as provided in Chapter 20 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia  
40 Annotated, the "Public Retirement Systems Standards Law"; otherwise, this Act shall not  
41 become effective and shall be automatically repealed in its entirety on July 1, 2014, as  
42 required by subsection (a) of Code Section 47-20-50.

43 **SECTION 3.**

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