

Senate Bill 85

By: Senators Rhett of the 33rd, Williams of the 25th, Payne of the 54th, Dugan of the 30th,
Jones of the 10th and others

AS PASSED SENATE

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, so as to provide for creditable
3 service for certain military service; to provide for application and payment; to provide for a
4 short title; to provide for related matters; to provide conditions for an effective date and
5 automatic repeal; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Speaker David Ralston Veterans'
9 Retirement Act."

10 **SECTION 2.**

11 Article 5 of Chapter 2 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
12 service creditable toward retirement benefits, is amended by revising Code Section 47-2-95,
13 which is designated as reserved, as follows:

14 "47-2-95.

15 (a) A member with at least two years of membership service may obtain up to 60 months
16 of creditable service to be awarded month for month for active military service in the
17 armed forces of the United States performed on or after January 1, 1990.

18 (b) To obtain such creditable service, a member shall:

19 (1) Apply in a method or manner to be prescribed by the board of trustees;

20 (2) Submit proof of qualifying active military service as the board of trustees shall deem
21 necessary; and

22 (3) Pay to the board of trustees an amount determined by such board to be equal to the
23 full actuarial cost of such creditable service.

24 (c) Following its approval of an application for creditable service pursuant to this Code
25 section, the board of trustees shall certify to the applicant the amount of the payment to the
26 retirement system required to earn creditable service under this Code section.

27 (d) A member may make a one-time payment of the full amount established by the board
28 of trustees under subsection (c) of this Code section within 90 days and thereafter receive
29 such creditable service to which he or she is entitled or may elect to participate in a
30 payment plan under the same terms provided in subsection (e) of Code Section 47-2-101.

31 (e) Pursuant to this Code section, no member shall receive creditable service:

32 (1) If such member was not honorably discharged;

33 (2) For reserve duty;

34 (3) For any period of time for which he or she obtained membership service; or

35 (4) For any portion of such member's active military service in the armed forces of the
36 United States that has been or will be used in the determination of eligibility for
37 retirement benefits or allowances from any other state or federal retirement program,
38 excluding social security. Reserved."

39

SECTION 3.

40 This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2024, only if it is determined to have been
41 concurrently funded as provided in Chapter 20 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia
42 Annotated, the "Public Retirement Systems Standards Law"; otherwise, this Act shall not
43 become effective and shall be automatically repealed in its entirety on July 1, 2024, as
44 required by subsection (a) of Code Section 47-20-50.

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SECTION 4.

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