



State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 847

SENATE BILL NO. 2081

By Johnson, Powers, Massey

Substituted for: House Bill No. 2088

By Lamberth, Cochran, Whitson, Reedy, Moon, Crawford, Wright, Todd, McCalmon, Hardaway, Hurt, Williams, Towns, Dixie, Richey, Tim Hicks, Hemmer, Brock Martin, Powers, Sherrell, Rudder, Davis, Carringer, Littleton, Faison, Moody, Gillespie, Powell, Alexander, Kumar, Garrett, Love, Cepicky, White, Eldridge, Hazlewood, Russell, Clemmons, Butler, Thompson, Raper, Helton-Haynes, Capley, Gary Hicks, Shaw, Boyd, Vital, Zachary, Burkhart, Grills, Bulso, Haston, Slater, Greg Martin, Freeman, Camper, Carr, Glynn, Bricken, Ragan, Barrett, Baum, Behn, Chism, Darby, Doggett, Farmer, Fritts, Gant, Hakeem, Harris, Hawk, Hill, Holsclaw, Howell, Hulsey, Jernigan, Curtis Johnson, Gloria Johnson, Jones, Keisling, Lafferty, Leatherwood, Lynn, Marsh, McKenzie, Miller, Mitchell, Parkinson, Pearson, Rudd; Mr. Speaker Sexton; Sparks, Stevens, Travis, Vaughan

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 58, Chapter 1, Part 1, relative to armed forces personnel.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 58, Chapter 1, Part 1, is amended by adding the following new sections:

58-1-120. Critical Skills Retention Bonus Program.

(a) Subject to available appropriations, the military department may administer a critical skills retention bonus program to be used to award retention bonuses to enlisted service members in the Tennessee national guard in addition to any other retention bonus the service members may receive. A retention bonus awarded from the program must not exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).

(b) The adjutant general shall adopt written policies to implement the critical skills retention bonus program consistent with this section.

58-1-121. State employees who are members of the Reserve or National Guard called to full-time military duty.

(a) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Contingency operation" means a military operation that results in the call or order to active duty, or retention on active duty, of members of the uniformed services under 10 U.S.C. § 688; § 12301(a); § 12302; § 12304; § 12304a; § 12304b; § 12305; § 12406; chapter 15 of title 10 U.S.C.; or another provision of law during a war or during a national emergency declared by the president or congress;

(2) "Governor" means the governor of this state;

(3) "Partial pay" means the difference, if any, between a state employee's regular state salary and the employee's full-time active duty military pay, with a minimum monthly amount sufficient to keep in full force and effect all state benefits that the employee had on the date of the call to active military duty; and

(4) "State employee" means an employee employed with an entity

described in § 8-30-102(a), § 8-30-102(b)(2)-(3), § 8-30-102(b)(5)-(7), or § 8-30-102(b)(10)-(11).

(b) A state employee ordered to active duty, or retained on active duty, by the president of the United States, or under the authority of the governor, as a member of a reserve component of the armed forces of the United States or the national guard in recognition of a contingency operation is entitled, while on such active military duty, to special leave with partial pay during the period of active duty; provided, however, that the special leave with partial pay must not exceed one (1) year.

(c) The commissioner of the department of human resources and the commissioner of the department of finance and administration may establish such policies as are necessary to implement and administer this section.

SECTION 2. The headings to sections in this act are for reference purposes only and do not constitute a part of the law enacted by this act. However, the Tennessee Code Commission is requested to include the headings in a compilation or publication containing this act.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: April 16, 2024



RANDY McNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE



CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 15th day of May 2024



BILL LEE, GOVERNOR