Introduced by Representatives Webb of Shelburne, Brumsted of Shelburne, and Hooper of Randolph

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Education; retirement; Vermont State Teachers’ Retirement System

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to allow a beneficiary of the Vermont State Teachers’ Retirement System to resume service as an interim educator for a one-year period and continue to receive a retirement allowance for that period.

An act relating to the retirement allowance for interim educators

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 16 V.S.A. § 1939 is amended to read:

§ 1939. RESTORATION TO SERVICE

(a) In any fiscal year in which a beneficiary resumes service, as that term is defined in section 1931 of this title, he or she the beneficiary shall again become a member of the System, shall contribute at the rate established for members of his or her the beneficiary’s group, and shall not be entitled to receive a retirement allowance, if he or she the beneficiary is:
(1) compensated in excess of the allowable number of days per school year as established by the Board for substitute teaching; or

(2) receives compensation in excess of 60 percent of the average compensation in the teacher System.

(b) If a person once again becomes a member under subsection (a) of this section, membership shall be retroactive to the beginning of the fiscal year in which the person resumed service and the member shall not be entitled to any retirement allowance received during that fiscal year. If the person received a retirement allowance during the fiscal year in which he or she resumed service, upon subsequent retirement the Board shall suspend his or her retirement allowance for a period necessary to reimburse the System for the total retirement allowance received during the period in which the beneficiary resumed service and became a member.

(c) Upon subsequent retirement of a person who once again becomes a member under subsection (a) of this section, the beneficiary’s former retirement allowance shall be restored, but the beneficiary shall not be entitled to cost of living adjustments for the period during which he or she was restored to service. In addition to the former retirement allowance, a beneficiary shall be entitled to a retirement allowance separately computed for the period beginning with his or her last restoration to service for which the member has made a contribution.
(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in any fiscal year, a beneficiary who retired from the System as a Group A or a Group C member may resume service under subsection (a) of this section to serve as an interim school educator for a period not to exceed one school year and receive the beneficiary’s retirement allowance for the entire period that service is resumed, provided that the beneficiary:

1. maintains an active educators’ license in the area in which the beneficiary will serve as an interim educator; and
2. makes contributions at the rate established for members of the beneficiary’s group for the entire period that service is resumed.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.