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H.519

An act relating to Vermont State Employees' Retirement System Group G membership

The Senate proposes to the House to amend the bill by striking out Sec. 1, 3 V.S.A. § 455, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 1 to read as follows:

Sec. 1. 3 V.S.A. § 455 is amended to read:

§ 455. DEFINITIONS

(a) As used in this subchapter:

* * *

(11) "Member" means any employee included in the membership of the Retirement System under section 457 of this title.

* * *

(F) "Group G member" means:

(i) the following employees who are first employed in the positions listed in this subdivision (F)(i) on or after July 1, 2023, or who are members of the System as of June 30, ~~2022~~ 2023, and make an irrevocable election to prospectively join Group G on or before June 30, 2023, pursuant to the terms set by the Board: facility employees of the Department of Corrections, as Department of Corrections employees who provide direct security and treatment services to offenders under supervision in the

1 community, employees of a facility for justice-involved youth, and employees
2 of the Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital or its successor in interest, who
3 provide direct patient care; ~~and~~

4 (ii) the following employees who are first employed in the
5 positions listed in this subdivision (F)(ii) or first included in the membership of
6 the System on or after January 1, 2025, or who are members of the System as
7 of December 31, 2024, and make an irrevocable election to join Group G on or
8 before December 31, 2024, pursuant to the terms set by the Board:

9 (I) all sheriffs; and

10 (II) deputy sheriffs who:

11 (aa) are employed by county sheriff's departments that
12 participate in the Vermont Employees' Retirement System;

13 (bb) have attained Level II or Level III law enforcement
14 officer certification from the Vermont Criminal Justice Council;

15 (cc) are required to perform law enforcement duties as the
16 primary function of their employment; and

17 (dd) are not full-time deputy sheriffs compensated by the
18 State of Vermont whose primary function is transports as defined in 24 V.S.A.
19 § 290(b) and eligible for Group C pursuant to subdivision (9)(B) of this
20 subsection (a); and

1 System on or before June 30, 2008, who were employed as of June 30, ~~2022~~
2 2023, and who made an irrevocable election to prospectively join Group G on
3 or before July 1, 2023, pursuant to the terms set by the Board, the first day of
4 the calendar month next following the earlier of:

5 (I) 62 years of age and following completion of five years of
6 creditable service;

7 (II) completion of 30 years of creditable service; or

8 (III) 55 years of age and following completion of 20 years of
9 creditable service;

10 (ii) for facility employees of the Department of Corrections,
11 Department of Corrections employees who provide direct security and
12 treatment services to offenders under supervision in the community, as
13 employees of a facility for justice-involved youth, or employees of the
14 Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital or its predecessor or successor in interest,
15 who provide direct patient care, who were first included in the membership of
16 the System on or after July 1, 2008, who were employed as of June 30, ~~2022~~
17 2023, and who made an irrevocable election to prospectively join Group G on
18 or before July 1, 2023, pursuant to the terms set by the Board, the first day of
19 the calendar month next following the earlier of:

20 (I) 65 years of age and following completion of five years of
21 creditable service;

1 (II) attainment of 87 points reflecting a combination of the age
2 of the member and number of years of service; or

3 (III) 55 years of age and following completion of 20 years of
4 creditable service;

5 (iii) for facility employees of the Department of Corrections,
6 Department of Corrections employees who provide direct security and
7 treatment services to offenders under supervision in the community, employees
8 of a facility for justice-involved youth, or employees of the Vermont
9 Psychiatric Care Hospital or its predecessor or successor in interest, who
10 provide direct patient care, who first become a Group G member on or after
11 July 1, 2023, the first day of the calendar month next following the earlier of:

12 (I) attainment of 55 years of age and following completion of
13 20 years of creditable service; or

14 (II) 65 years of age and following completion of five years of
15 creditable service;

16 (iv) for all sheriffs and those deputy sheriffs who meet the
17 requirements pursuant to subdivision (11)(F)(ii) of this subsection (a), who
18 were first included in the membership of the System on or before June 30,
19 2008, who were employed as of December 31, 2024, and who made an
20 irrevocable election to prospectively join Group G on or before January 1,

1 2025, pursuant to the terms set by the Board, the first day of the calendar
2 month next following the earlier of:

3 (I) 62 years of age and following completion of five years of
4 creditable service;

5 (II) completion of 30 years of creditable service; or

6 (III) 55 years of age and following completion of 20 years of
7 creditable service;

8 (v) for all sheriffs and those deputy sheriffs who meet the
9 requirements pursuant to subdivision (11)(F)(ii) of this subsection (a), who
10 were first included in the membership of the System on or after July 1, 2008,
11 who were employed as of December 31, 2024, and who made an irrevocable
12 election to prospectively join Group G on or before January 1, 2025, pursuant
13 to the terms set by the Board, the first day of the calendar month next
14 following the earlier of:

15 (I) 65 years of age and following completion of five years of
16 creditable service;

17 (II) attainment of 87 points reflecting a combination of the age
18 of the member and number of years of service; or

19 (III) 55 years of age and following completion of 20 years of
20 creditable service; ~~or~~

1 (vi) for all sheriffs and those deputy sheriffs who meet the
2 requirements pursuant to subdivision (11)(F)(ii) of this subsection (a), who
3 first become a Group G member on or after January 1, 2025, the first day of
4 the calendar month next following the earlier of:

5 (I) attainment of 55 years of age and following completion of
6 20 years of creditable service; or

7 (II) 65 years of age and following completion of five years of
8 creditable service;

9 (vii) for all municipal law enforcement officers who meet the
10 requirements pursuant to subdivision (11)(F)(iii) of this subsection (a), who
11 were first included in the membership of the System on or before June 30,
12 2008, who were employed as of December 31, 2026, and who made an
13 irrevocable election to prospectively join Group G on or before January 1,
14 2027, pursuant to the terms set by the Board, the first day of the calendar
15 month next following the earlier of:

16 (I) 62 years of age and following completion of five years of
17 creditable service;

18 (II) completion of 30 years of creditable service; or

19 (III) 55 years of age and following completion of 20 years of
20 creditable service;

1 (viii) for all municipal law enforcement officers who meet the
2 requirements pursuant to subdivision (11)(F)(iii) of this subsection (a), who
3 were first included in the membership of the System on or after July 1, 2008,
4 who were employed as of December 31, 2026, and who made an irrevocable
5 election to prospectively join Group G on or before January 1, 2027, pursuant
6 to the terms set by the Board, the first day of the calendar month next
7 following the earlier of:

8 (I) 65 years of age and following completion of five years of
9 creditable service;

10 (II) attainment of 87 points reflecting a combination of the age
11 of the member and number of years of service; or

12 (III) 55 years of age and following completion of 20 years of
13 creditable service; or

14 (ix) for all municipal law enforcement officers who meet the
15 requirements pursuant to subdivision (11)(F)(iii) of this subsection (a) who
16 first become a Group G member on or after January 1, 2027, the first day of
17 the calendar month next following the earlier of:

18 (I) attainment of 55 years of age and following completion of
19 20 years of creditable service; or

