

Retirement benefits for certain state employees

HB 3609 by Talton (Ellis)

DIGEST: HB 3609 would have amended Employees Retirement System (ERS) requirements to allow a person who retired with more than 14 years of service credit and, after retirement, worked for the Legislature before January 1, 2007, to resume membership in ERS and receive credit for the period served after retirement. To receive credit, the person would have had to pay employee contributions, without interest, for the period of service after retirement.

The bill also would have allowed certain employees of the Legislature who met conditions specified in the bill to transfer the person's ERS service credit from the employee class to the elected class.

**GOVERNOR'S
REASON FOR
VETO:**

"House Bill No. 3609 would entitle a select group of state employees to receive special retirement benefits which other state employees will not have the opportunity to receive. State law governing retirement benefits requires a state employee to work for a certain number of years while contributing to the pension trust fund in order to establish the requisite amount of service credit to receive retirement benefits. House Bill No. 3609 would allow a select few to receive increased benefits without meeting established state requirements."

RESPONSE: Neither Rep. Robert Talton, the bill's author, nor Sen. Rodney Ellis, the Senate sponsor, had a comment on the veto

NOTES: HB 3609 passed the House on the Local, Consent, and Resolutions Calendar and was not analyzed in a *Daily Floor Report*.