
MISCELLANEOUS

Additional PERS service credit purchase

- Allows a Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) member appointed by the Speaker of the House or Senate President to serve full-time as a member of a board, commission, or other public body to purchase additional PERS service credit for the appointment period.

Public improvement projects

- Increases, from 10% to 20% the allowable difference between a public improvement project's estimate and the project's contract price.
- Prohibits subdividing projects or purchases to avoid competitive bidding requirements.

OWDA member salary increase

- Increases, from \$5,000 to \$7,500, the annual salary of the five members of the Ohio Water Development Authority who are appointed by the Governor.

Month of the Military Child

- Designates April as the Month of the Military Child.

Additional PERS service credit purchase

(R.C. 145.201)

Under the bill, a Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) member appointed by the Speaker of the House or Senate President to serve full time as a member of a board, commission, or other public body may, before retirement, purchase additional PERS service credit for the appointment period in an amount up to 35% of the credit allowed for that period. Continuing law allows a PERS member who is an elective official or is appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate to serve as a full-time member of a board, commission, or other public body to purchase the additional service credit for the period as an elective or appointed official.

Continuing law allows the PERS Board to determine by rule who is full time for the purpose of determining eligibility for a purchase of additional service credit. Under those rules, a member of a board, commission, or other public body must earn a salary of at least \$1,000 per month to be considered full time.²¹⁰ Of the boards and commissions that have Speaker- or President-appointed members who are not legislators and participate in PERS, it appears that only the members of the Transportation Review Advisory Council appointed by the Speaker or

²¹⁰ O.A.C. 145-2-07.

President could earn enough salary in a month to be considered full time and eligible to purchase additional PERS service credit under this provision.²¹¹

Public improvement projects

(R.C. 153.12)

Currently, the contract price of a public improvement project may exceed the estimate by only 10%; the bill increases this to 20%. The bill also imposes a blanket prohibition – applicable to all public entities subject to a competitive bidding threshold under state law – against subdividing a purchase, lease, project, or other expenditure into components or separate parts in an effort to avoid the competitive bidding requirement.

OWDA member salary increase

(R.C. 6121.02)

The bill increases, from \$5,000 to \$7,500, the annual salary of the five members of the Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) who are appointed by the Governor. Under continuing law, each appointed member of the OWDA receives the annual salary in monthly installments and is entitled to health care benefits comparable to those generally available to state officers and employees.

Month of the Military Child

(R.C. 5.55)

The bill designates April as the Month of the Military Child.

²¹¹ R.C. 5512.08, not in the bill.