

February 6, 2007

S 70. HIRING OF RETIRED TEACHERS. Filed 2/6/07. *TO REDUCE THE WAITING PERIOD FOR RETIRED TEACHERS RETURNING TO THE CLASSROOM WITHOUT LOSS OF BENEFITS, TO REMOVE THE SUNSET ON ALLOWING TEACHERS TO RETURN TO THE CLASSROOM WITHOUT LOSS OF BENEFITS, AND TO DIRECT THE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS DIVISION TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS FOR RETIRED TEACHERS THAT SUPPORT THEIR RETURN TO WORK AND REDUCE CLASSROOM TEACHER SHORTAGES.* Amends GS 135-3(8)c. to reduce the waiting period for retired public school teachers returning to the classroom without loss of benefits from six months to 25 working days immediately following the effective date of retirement. Amends GS 135-1(20) [definition of retirement] to cross-reference the exception in GS 135-3(8)c. for retired teachers returning to the classroom less than six months after retiring. Directs the Retirement Systems Division of the Office of State Treasurer to (1) study the feasibility of implementing programs that support retired teachers returning to work to reduce the classroom teacher shortage and (2) report the study results to the 2008 Regular Session of the General Assembly. Removes the June 30, 2007, sunset on the GS 135-3(8)c. provision giving public school teachers an exception to the “earnings cap,” effective June 30, 2007. The remainder of the act is effective July 1, 2007.

Intro. by Pittenger.

GS 135, STUDY