

CF 7r1211

By: Senators Ruben, Teitelbaum, Van Hollen, Hogan, Frosh, Forehand, McCabe, and Roesser

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 1997

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Membership in the Judges' Retirement System - Masters**

3 FOR the purpose of providing for all full-time masters in chancery and masters in
4 juvenile causes to become members of the Judges' Retirement System; authorizing
5 the purchase of service credit for certain prior service; providing for the transfer of
6 certain contributions; and generally relating to the membership of the Judges'
7 Retirement System.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article - State Personnel and Pensions
10 Section 23-201(a), 27-201, and 27-304
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (1994 Volume and 1996 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
14 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article - State Personnel and Pensions**

16 23-201.

17 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, §§ 23-202 through 23-205
18 of this subtitle apply only to:

19 (1) a regular employee whose compensation is provided by State
20 appropriation or paid from State funds;

21 (2) an appointed or elected official of the State, including:

22 (i) a clerk of the circuit court;

23 (ii) a register of wills;

24 (iii) a State's Attorney; and

25 (iv) a sheriff;

26 (3) an employee or official of a participating governmental unit who is
27 eligible to participate under Title 31, Subtitle 1 of this article;

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1 (4) an employee of the Office of the Sheriff of Baltimore City;

2 (5) an additional employee or agent of the State Racing Commission
3 authorized by § 11-207 of the Business Regulation Article;

4 (6) a permanent employee of the board of supervisors of elections of a
5 county;

6 (7) [a full-time master in chancery or in juvenile causes who is appointed
7 on or after July 1, 1989, in any county by the circuit court for that county;

8 (8)] an employee of the Maryland Environmental Service who is a member of
9 the Employees' Pension System on June 30, 1993, or transfers from the Employees'
10 Retirement System on or after July 1, 1993;

11 [(9)] (8) a full-time employee of the Maryland Aviation Administration
12 Fire Rescue Service who becomes an employee on or after October 1, 1993;

13 [(10)] (9) an employee of Dorchester County who is not a member of the
14 County's general pension and retirement program;

15 [(11)] (10) a former Baltimore City jail employee who became an employee of
16 the Baltimore City Detention Center and a member of the Employees' Pension System on
17 July 1, 1991;

18 [(12)] (11) an employee of the Baltimore City Community College who is not
19 a clerical or professional employee; and

20 [(13)] (12) a court reporter for the Circuit Court for Charles County who is a
21 member of the Employees' Pension System on July 1, 1994, or transfers from the
22 Employees' Retirement System on or after July 1, 1994.

23 27-201.

24 (a) The following individuals are members of the Judges' Retirement System:

25 (1) a judge of the Court of Appeals, Court of Special Appeals, circuit court
26 of a county, or District Court of Maryland;

27 (2) a member of the State Workers' Compensation Commission; and

28 (3) a master in chancery or master in juvenile causes who[:

29 (i) was appointed by the circuit court of a county on or before June
30 30, 1989; and

31 (ii)] serves full time as a master.

32 (b) A former judge who is temporarily assigned to sit in a court of the State under
33 the authority of Article IV, § 3A of the Maryland Constitution is not a member.

3

1 27-304.

2 (a) A member may purchase service credit as provided in subsection (b) of this
3 section for periods of service described in subsection (c) of this section for which the
4 member is not otherwise entitled to service credit.

5 (b) (1) To purchase service credit under this section, a member must:

6 (i) complete a claim for the service credit and file it with the Board of
7 Trustees on the form that the Board of Trustees provides; and

8 (ii) pay to the Board of Trustees in a single payment 6% of the amount
9 received in compensation for that full-time service plus regular interest to the date of
10 payment.

11 (2) A member may pay for service credit purchased under this section at any
12 time before retirement.

13 (c) A member may purchase service credit for prior service as:

14 (1) a full-time master in chancery or master in juvenile causes on or before
15 June 30, 1975 OR FROM JULY 1, 1989 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 1997, BOTH INCLUSIVE;
16 or

17 (2) a member of the State Workers' Compensation Commission on or before
18 June 30, 1977.

19 (d) Service credit that is purchased under this section may not be used as service
20 credit in another retirement or pension system of the State or a political subdivision of
21 the State.

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, for members of the
23 Judges' Retirement System who transfer from the Employees' Pension System, the Board
24 of Trustees shall transfer to the Judges' Retirement System the member contributions
25 and employer contributions that were made to the Employees' Pension System on behalf
26 of those members who transferred, plus the interest earned on those contributions
27 through the date of transfer.

28 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
29 October 1, 1997.