

HCS HB 729 -- RETIREMENT OF STATE EMPLOYEES (Bernskoetter)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Standing Committee on Pensions

Beginning January 1, 2018, members of the Missouri State Employees Retirement System and the Missouri Department of Transportation and Highway Patrol Employees' Retirement System who are not statewide elected officials or members of the General Assembly should be eligible for retirement under the following conditions:

(1) A member's normal retirement eligibility will be based on the attainment of at least age 67 with the completion of five years of credited service or at age 55 with the member's age plus years of credited service equal to 90 (90 and out). In the case of a member who is serving as a uniformed member of the highway patrol and subject to the mandatory retirement provisions, such member's attainment of at least age 60 or the attainment of age 55 with five years of creditable service;

(2) A vested former member's normal retirement eligibility shall be based on the attainment of at least age 67;

(3) A temporary annuity shall be payable for members qualifying under 90 and out. For uniformed members of the highway patrol the temporary annuity shall be payable if the member has attained at least age 60, or at least age 55 with five years of credited service;

(4) Members will be eligible for an early retirement at age 62 with five years of credited service. A vested former member shall not be eligible for early retirement;

(5) Survivor benefits for vested former members covered by this section shall not be payable until the deceased member would have reached his or her normal retirement eligibility;

(6) The annual cost-of-living adjustment payable to a vested former member will not be payable until the second anniversary of a vested former member's annuity starting date; and

(7) The unused sick leave credit will only apply to members who terminate employment after reaching normal retirement eligibility or becoming eligible for an early retirement annuity.

(8) Term vested members who are not yet eligible for a normal retirement benefit are allowed to make a one-time election to receive a lump sum payment equal to a percentage of the present value of such member's deferred annuity should a board choose to establish such a program. Members electing this option will

forfeit all creditable service under the plan and if such member again becomes an employee they will be considered a new employee with no prior credited service.