

# Legislative Update

For the Week of: January 31 - February 4, 2022  
Legislative Days: 9 - 11

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## *Legislative Log*

### **Monday, January 31, 2022**

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No action on retirement bills

### **Tuesday, February 1, 2022**

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**HB 780 – Retirement and pensions; membership of full-time judges of the state-wide business court in the retirement plan established for appellate court judges; provide**

Currently, any individual employed as the State-wide Business Court Judge is eligible for retirement plan membership under JRS.

This bill would change such eligibility so that the State-wide Business Court Judge, on and after July 1, 2022, would no longer be eligible for JRS, but instead for the special provisions under ERS provided to judges of the Appellate and Supreme Courts.

The term “appellate court judge” is amended to include the State-wide Business Court Judge, and a new Code section is added to allow for the transfer of service for such judge from JRS to ERS. It also amends JRS statute so that current eligibility provisions in JRS are capped from July 1, 2020 to July 1, 2022.

**HB 780 received a DO PASS from the House Retirement Committee.**

## ***Legislative Log (continued)***

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**Wednesday, February 2, 2022**

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### **SB 343 – Retirement; prohibition of granting postretirement benefit adjustments to any individual who became a member on or after July 1, 2009; remove**

This bill contains several provisions, which are listed out below:

**Section 1** – Removes current COLA prohibition for all individuals who become ERS members on or after July 1, 2009, but states that such members would not be eligible for any COLAs granted prior to July 1, 2022, and only eligible for those granted on or after such date.

**Section 2** – Specifies that employers shall contribute amounts relating to creditable service for forfeited leave only for retirements that become effective prior to July 1, 2022.

- All forfeited leave payments for future retirements beyond such date would be factored into actuarial assumptions for ERS and paid as part of the ADEC.

**Section 3** – **Updates 401(k) employer matching structure for GSEPS members of ERS.**

- Employers would match employee contributions on a one-for-one basis up to a maximum of five percent of the employee's pay.
- GSEPS members with more than five years of creditable service and who contribute five percent to their 401(k) would receive an additional 0.5 percent employer match for each year of service that exceeds five years.
- The additional employer matching contribution would be capped after 13 years of service, which is equivalent to a maximum employer contribution of nine percent.

**Section 4** – Removes current COLA prohibition for all individuals who become LRS members on or after July 1, 2009, but states that such members would not be eligible for any COLAs granted prior to July 1, 2022, and only eligible for those granted on or after such date.

**Section 5** – Removes current COLA prohibition for all individuals who become JRS members on or after July 1, 2009, but states that such members would not be eligible for any COLAs granted prior to July 1, 2022, and only eligible for those granted on or after such date.

**SB 343 received a DO PASS from the Senate Retirement Committee.**

## ***Legislative Log (continued)***

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### **Thursday, February 3, 2022**

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#### **HB 780 – Retirement and pensions; membership of full-time judges of the state-wide business court in the retirement plan established for appellate court judges; provide**

Currently, any individual employed as the State-wide Business Court Judge is eligible for retirement plan membership under JRS.

This bill would change such eligibility so that the State-wide Business Court Judge, on and after July 1, 2022, would no longer be eligible for JRS, but instead for the special provisions under ERS provided to judges of the Appellate and Supreme Courts.

The term “appellate court judge” is amended to include the State-wide Business Court Judge, and a new Code section is added to allow for the transfer of service for such judge from JRS to ERS. It also amends JRS statute so that current eligibility provisions in JRS are capped from July 1, 2020 to July 1, 2022.

**HB 780 received a DO PASS from the House Rules Committee and will be on the House debate calendar for 2/7/2022.**

### **Friday, February 4, 2022**

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No action on retirement bills.