



## Weekly Legislative Update

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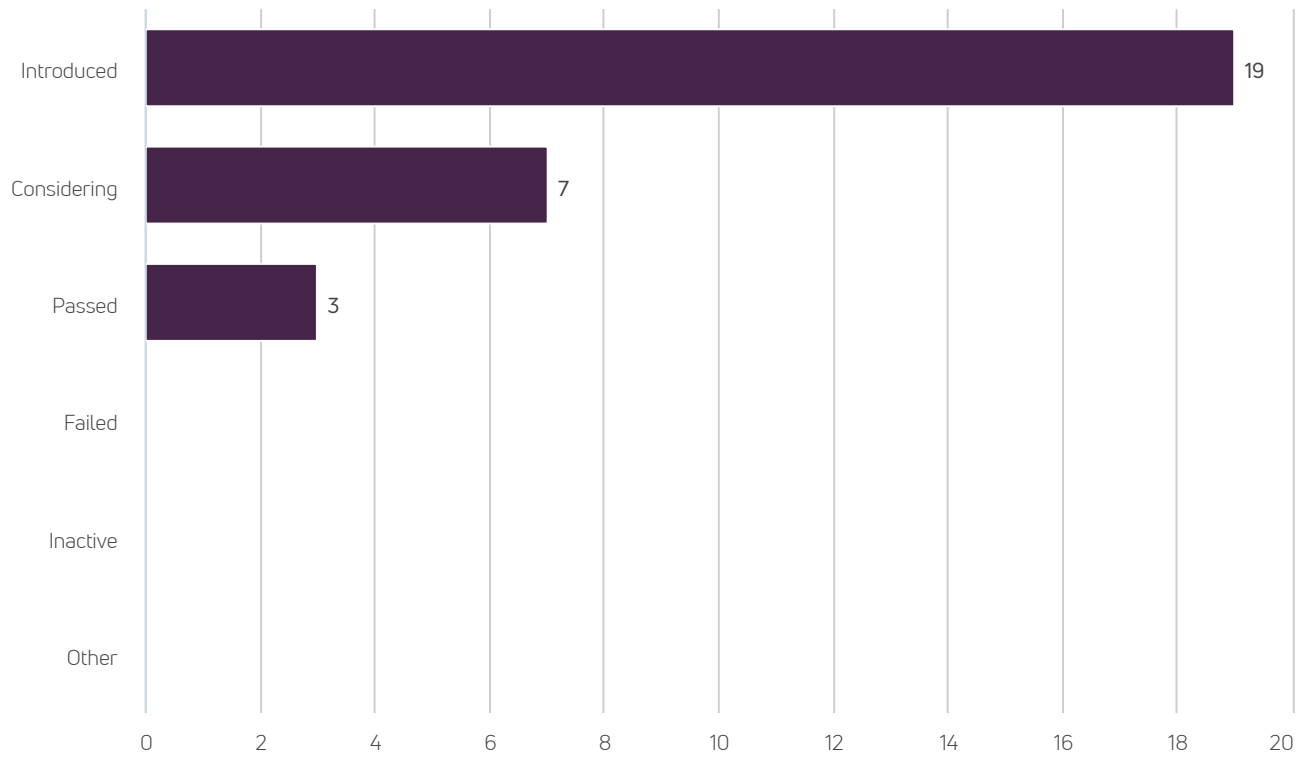
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### Bills by Status

■ Bills by Status

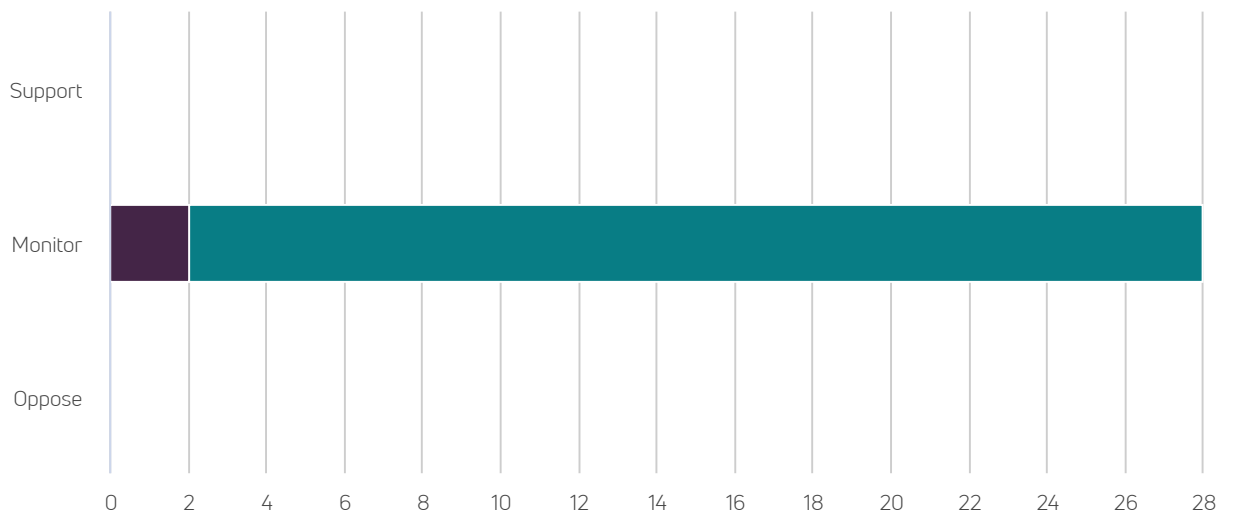


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## Bills by Priority & Position

■ High ■ Medium ■ Low

### Bills



Highchar

**Title:** Superior Court Judicial Compensation Reform Act; enact

**Current Status:** Passed Senate

**Introduction Date:** 2025-01-16

**Last Action Date:** House Sent to Governor. 2025-04-09

**Summary:** This bill changes the way salary and locality pay is calculated for retirement benefit calculation purposes for Superior Court Judges, which will simultaneously affect retirement benefit calculations for State Court Judges, Solicitors-General of State Courts, and Juvenile Court Judges (as such amounts may not exceed those of Superior Court Judges under O.C.G.A. § 47-23-100). The annual salary of each Superior Court Judge shall be set by the General Assembly in the General Appropriations Act, provided that such salary shall not exceed 90 percent of the annual salary fixed for the judges of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia on July 1 of the second preceding state fiscal year. In the event that the state annual salary to a Superior Court Judge exceeds \$201,060.00, the maximum allowable amount of annual locality pay provided to a judge by the county or counties comprising a judicial circuit shall be capped at \$20,106.00, and such cap shall be reduced in an amount equal to half of the percentage amount of such state annual salary increase above \$201,060.00. Superior Court Judges will have the ability to choose between the defined base salary or choose to receive annual locality pay provided by their Judicial Circuit, which shall not exceed 10 percent of the state annual salary to such judge. All such locality pay shall be in lieu of and not in addition to any county salary supplements previously provided by the county or counties. All judges within a judicial circuit who are in office as of July 1, 2025, and elect to exercise the option, or who take office after July 1, 2025, shall receive equal locality pay from any given county within such circuit that has opted to provide such pay. Failure to exercise this choice will result in such judge receiving default compensation. The option exercised will go into effect the next pay period at least five business days following the exercise of such option. The bill also suspends local supplements provided for by local laws on or after July 1, 2025 but does not prevent local salary supplements otherwise authorized by law on June 30, 2025. Such provisions would become effective July 1, 2025. \*\*\*Assigned to House Judiciary Committee 1/17/25. Bill passed by Committee Substitute from the House Judiciary Committee on 2/12/2025. Bill passed the House Floor by a vote of 163-7. Bill assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee on 2/21/2025. Bill passed the Senate Judiciary Committee on 3/20/2025. Bill passed the Senate Rules Committee on 3/27/2025 and will be debated by the Full Senate on 3/28/2025. Bill passed the Senate by a vote of 51-2 on 3/28/2025.\*\*\*

**Description:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 1 of Chapter 6 of Title 15 the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions concerning superior courts, so as to modify provisions regarding the compensation received by superior court judges; to amend Code Section 45-7-4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to annual salaries of certain state officials and cost-of-living adjustments, so as to revise provisions relating to calculating and setting the salaries of superior court judges; to provide a definition; to amend Chapter 3 of Title 1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to laws and statutes, so as to suspend the operation of local laws or local ordinances or resolutions that use a superior court judge's salary for the calculation of the salary or compensation of other officers, officials, or employees;

to provide a short title; to provide for an effective date; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA

 Title 47

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## GA HB 37

Medium Priority

 Monitor

**Title:** Education; require local school systems to notify employees regarding social security withholdings and eligibility for certain benefits

**Current Status:** Passed Senate


**Introduction Date:** 2025-01-14

**Last Action Date:** House Sent to Governor. 2025-04-09

**Summary:** This would require all local school systems to provide specified notices to employees regarding social security withholdings and eligibility for inclusion in certain benefits, pension, or retirement plans throughout their time of employment. \*\*\*Bill was assigned to the House Education Committee on 1/15/25. Bill passed the House Education Committee on 2/28/2025. Bill passed the House Rules Committee on 3/3/2025 and was placed on the House Debate Calendar for 3/4/2025. Bill passed the House Floor by a vote of 169-2 on 3/4/2025. Bill assigned to Senate Education & Youth Committee 3/6/25. Bill passed Senate Education & Youth Committee by substitute 3/27/25. Bill passed Senate by substitute by a vote of 52-1 on 4/2/25.\*\*\*

**Description:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Subpart 2 of Part 6 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to conditions of employment in elementary and secondary education, so as to require local school systems to provide notice to employees regarding social security withholdings and eligibility for inclusion in certain benefits, pension, or retirement plans; to provide for an effective date; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA

 Agency Issues/Aw...

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## GA HB 78

High Priority

 Monitor

**Title:** Employees' Retirement System of Georgia; total percentage of funds invested in alternative investments; raise limit

**Current Status:** Passed Senate

**Introduction Date:** 2025-01-16

**Last Action Date:** House Sent to Governor. 2025-04-08

**Summary:** This bill would amend provisions relating to the Public Retirement Systems Investment Authority Law. Current law authorizes the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia to a five percent investment in alternative investments. If this legislation is enacted, the limitation currently placed on the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia would be removed and the System would be authorized to invest up to 10 percent of their assets in alternative investments.

Such provisions would become effective July 1, 2025. \*\*\*Bill was assigned to the House Retirement Committee 1/17/2025. Bill reported out of the House Retirement Committee with Do Pass by Substitute recommendation 2/20/2025. Bill passed the House Rules Committee on 2/21/25 and will be debated by the Full House on 2/24/2025. Bill passed the Full House by a vote of 161-9 on 2/24/2025 and is transmitted to the Senate. Bill assignment to the Senate Retirement Committee on 2/26/2025. Bill passed Senate Retirement Committee on 3/13/2025 and is now in the Senate Rules Committee. Bill passed the Senate Rules Committee on 4/1/2025 and will be debated by the full Senate on 4/2/2025. Bill passed Senate by a vote of 35-18 on 4/2/2025.\*\*\*

**Description:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 7 of Chapter 20 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, the "Public Retirement Systems Investment Authority Law," so as to raise the limit for the total percentage of funds that the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia may invest in alternative investments; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA

 Title 47

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## GA HB 86

High Priority

 Monitor

**Title:** Public officers and employees; calculating and setting the salaries of certain state officials; revise provisions

**Current Status:** Passed Senate

**Introduction Date:** 2025-01-16

**Last Action Date:** House Sent to Governor. 2025-04-08

**Summary:** This bill revises the provisions for calculating and setting salaries for certain state judicial officials in Georgia. The legislation removes the fixed dollar amounts for salaries of Supreme Court Justices, Court of Appeals Judges, the Georgia State-wide Business Court Judge, and the Georgia State Tax Court Judge, and instead establishes a new method for determining their compensation. Under the new provisions, these judicial salaries will be set by the General Assembly in the General Appropriations Act, with a maximum amount tied to a "base salary" defined as the annual salary of judges in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia from two fiscal years prior. Specifically, the bill sets maximum salary ratios: Supreme Court Justices can earn up to 100 percent of the base salary, Court of Appeals Judges up to 99 percent of case salary, the State-wide Business Court Judge and the Georgia Tax Court Judge up to 95 percent of case salary. \*\*\*Bill assigned to the House Judiciary Committee on 1/17/2025. Bill passed the House Judiciary Committee 2/12/2025. Bill passed the full House of Representatives by a vote of 167-7 on 2/20/2025. Bill was assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee on 2/21/2025. Bill passed the Senate by Committee Substitute as Amended by a vote of 45-10 on 2/27/2025 and now goes back to the House for an Agree/Disagree. House disagreed to Senate Amendment and went back to the Senate 3/28/25. Senate rescinded its amendment by a vote of 46-2 on 3/28/25.\*\*\*

**Description:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Code Section 45-7-4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to annual salaries of certain state officials and cost-of-living

adjustments, so as to revise provisions relating to calculating and setting the salaries of Justices of the Supreme Court, Judges of the Court of Appeals, the judge of the Georgia State-wide Business Court, and the judge of the Georgia State Tax Court; to provide for effective dates; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA

📁 Agency Issues/Aw...

## GA HB 68

High Priority

👁 Monitor

**Title:** General appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

**Current Status:** Passed Senate

**Introduction Date:** 2025-01-16

**Last Action Date:** House Sent to Governor. 2025-04-08

**Summary:** The Governor's recommendation in the FY 2026 Budget includes \$26,750,000 in appropriations to support one-time benefit adjustments for eligible ERS retirees as authorized by the Board of Trustees. If enacted, the Board will evaluate various calculations to most efficiently and fairly allocate the funds. The House recommendation in the FY 2026 Budget includes \$26,750,000, plus an additional \$23,250,000 for a total of \$50,000,000 in appropriations to support one-time benefit adjustments for eligible ERS retirees as authorized by the Board of Trustees. If enacted, the Board will evaluate various calculations to most efficiently and fairly allocate the funds. The Senate recommendation in the FY 2026 Budget includes \$50,000,000 in appropriations to support one-time benefit adjustments for eligible ERS retirees as authorized by the Board of Trustees. If enacted, the Board will evaluate various calculations to most efficiently and fairly allocate the funds. The Senate recommendation in the FY 2026 Budget also includes \$52,636,987 in funds to ERS to strategically invest in increasing the plans funded ratio in order to improve the long-term financial viability of the system. The final recommendation for the FY 2026 Budget includes \$36,750,000 in appropriations to support one-time benefit adjustments for eligible ERS retirees as authorized by the Board of Trustees. The Board will evaluate various calculations to most efficiently and fairly allocate the funds. \*\*\*Bill was assigned to the House Appropriations Committee on 1/17/2025. Bill passed the House Appropriations Committee by Committee Substitute and passed the House Rules Committee on 3/10/2025 and will be debated by the Full House on 3/11/2025. Bill passed the House on 3/11/2025 by a vote of 171- 4 and was immediately transmitted to the Senate and assigned to the Senate Appropriations Committee. Bill passed the Senate Appropriations Committee by Substitute on 3/27/2025 and is now in Senate Rules. Bill passed the Senate Rules Committee on 3/27/2025 and will be debated by the Full Senate on 3/28/2025. Bill passed the Senate by Committee Substitute by a vote of 48-7 on 3/28/2025 and was immediately transmitted to the House where a conference committee will be appointed. Senate agreed to adopt the Conference Committee Report by a vote of 54-1 on 4/4/2025.\*\*\*

**Description:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to make and provide appropriations for the State Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026; to make and provide such appropriations for the operation of the state government and its departments, boards, bureaus, commissions, institutions, and other agencies, for the university system, common schools, counties,

municipalities, and political subdivisions, for all other governmental activities, projects, and undertakings authorized by law, and for all leases, contracts, agreements, and grants authorized by law; to provide for the control and administration of funds; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA

 Title 47

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## GA HB 406

High Priority

 Monitor

**Title:** Judicial Retirement System; increase retirement age of superior court judges first taking office on or after July 1, 2026

**Current Status:** Passed Senate

**Introduction Date:** 2025-02-11

**Last Action Date:** House Sent to Governor. 2025-04-07

**Summary:** The current normal retirement age for all members of the Judicial Retirement System (JRS) is age 60. This bill changes the method for calculating retirement benefits for any person who becomes a member of JRS on or after the effective date of this act (potentially July 1, 2025 or July 1, 2026 dependent on enactment) and serves as a Superior Court Judge. Any person who first becomes a member after the effective date of this bill may still retire at age 60; however, their retirement benefits will be reduced by any service time earned as a Superior Court Judge. Once such person reaches age 65, their retirement benefit will be adjusted to account for all years of service. \*\*\*Bill assigned to House Judiciary Committee 2/13/2025. Bill was Withdrawn from the House Judiciary Committee and recommitted to the House Retirement Committee 2/18/2025. Bill was discussed during House Retirement 2/18/2025 meeting, but Leverett asked bill to be held until amendments could be made. Bill passed the House Retirement Committee by Substitute on 2/25/2025. Bill passed out of the House Rules Committee on 3/3/2025 and was placed on the House debate calendar for 3/4/2025. Bill passed the House Floor by a vote of 167-7 on 3/4/2025. Bill assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee on 3/6/2025. Bill passed the Senate Judiciary Committee on 3/11/2025 and is now in the Senate Rules Committee. Bill passed out of the Senate Rules Committee on 3/8/2025 and was placed on the Senate debate calendar for 3/20/2025. Bill passed the Senate by a vote of 53-0 on 3/20/25.\*\*\*

**Description:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 23 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Georgia Judicial Retirement System, so as to increase the retirement age of superior court judges first taking office on or after July 1, 2026; to provide for an effective date; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA

 Title 47

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## GA HB 924

High Priority

 Monitor

**Title:** Legislative Retirement System; match benefit amounts payable to former and current retired legislators to benefits payable to legislators who were in office on or after January 1, 2022

**Current Status:** In House

**Introduction Date:** 2025-04-04

**Last Action Date:** House First Readers. 2025-04-04

**Summary:** This bill raises benefits for retired and former LRS members who served on or before January 1, 2022 to match the current amounts for LRS members who joined on or after January 1, 2022. This bill allows for all retired and vested former members of LRS to have a benefit multiplier of \$50 per month for each year of creditable service and an additional \$200 per month for each year for service as presiding members. This bill would become effective on July 1, 2026. \*\*\*Bill was assigned to the House Retirement Committee on 4/4/2025.\*\*\*

**Description:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 6 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Georgia Legislative Retirement System, so as to match the retirement benefit amounts payable to former legislators upon retirement and to currently retired legislators in retirement to those benefits which are payable upon retirement to legislators who were in office on or after January 1, 2022; to provide for related matters; to provide conditions for an effective date and automatic repeal; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA

 Title 47

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## GA HB 900

High Priority

 Monitor

**Title:** Employees' Retirement System; any member shall be eligible to transfer funds to Judicial Retirement System; provide

**Current Status:** In House

**Introduction Date:** 2025-04-02

**Last Action Date:** House First Readers. 2025-04-04

**Summary:** This bill would allow any member of the Judicial Retirement System (JRS) who was previously an active member of the Employees' Retirement System (ERS) to have all contributions transferred to JRS not later than December 31, 2026, or within 90 days of first becoming a member of JRS, or within 90 days after entering service in a covered position, whichever is later. This act would become effective July 1, 2026. This bill is the same bill text as HB 905. \*\*\*\*Bill assigned to House Retirement Committee 4/4/25.\*\*\*\*

**Description:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Code Section 47-23-64 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to transfer of funds from the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia to the Georgia Judicial Retirement System by superior court judges, district attorneys, or solicitors-general and crediting service, so as to provide that any member of such retirement system shall be eligible to transfer funds; to provide conditions for an effective date and automatic repeal; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA



## GA SB 23

High Priority

👁 Monitor

**Title:** Retirement; total percentage of funds that the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia may invest in alternative investments; raise the limit

**Current Status:** In House

**Introduction Date:** 2025-01-17

**Last Action Date:** House Withdrawn, Recommitted. 2025-04-04

**Summary:** This bill would amend provisions relating to the Public Retirement Systems Investment Authority Law. Current law authorizes the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia to a five percent investment in alternative investments. If this legislation is enacted, the limitation currently placed on the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia would be removed and the System would be authorized to invest up to 10 percent of their assets in alternative investments. Such provisions would become effective July 1, 2025. \*\*\*Assigned to Senate Retirement Committee 2/3/25. Bill received a Do Pass recommendation from Senate Retirement Committee 2/5/2025. Bill received a Do Pass recommendation from the Senate Rules Committee on 2/6/2025 and will be debated by the full Senate on 2/10/2025. Bill passed the Senate on 2/10/2025 with a vote of 47 yeas and 8 nays. Assigned to House Retirement Committee 2/11/2025. Bill passed the House Retirement Committee by Substitute on 3/25/2025.\*\*\*

**Description:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 7 of Chapter 20 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, the "Public Retirement Systems Investment Authority Law," so as to raise the limit for the total percentage of funds that the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia may invest in alternative investments; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA

## GA HB 895

High Priority

👁 Monitor

**Title:** Legislative Retirement System; increase retirement benefit amounts payable to certain legislators upon retirement

**Current Status:** In House

**Introduction Date:** 2025-03-31

**Last Action Date:** House Second Readers. 2025-04-04

**Summary:** This bill increases Legislative Retirement System (LRS) members' monthly benefit payable at retirement by increasing the multiplier from \$50 to \$75. Presiding officers will have their monthly benefit payable at retirement increased by increasing the multiplier from \$200 to \$300. Such increases would only apply to those individuals who were contributing members on January 1, 2026 or who first becomes an LRS member after January 1, 2026. This Act would become effective July 1, 2026. \*\*\*\*Bill assigned to House Retirement Committee 4/2/25\*\*\*\*

**Description:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 6 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Georgia Legislative Retirement System, so as to increase the retirement benefit amounts payable to certain legislators upon retirement; to provide for related matters; to provide conditions for an effective date and automatic repeal; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA

 Title 47

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## GA HB 905

High Priority

 Monitor

**Title:** Employees' Retirement System; any member shall be eligible to transfer funds to Judicial Retirement System; provide

**Current Status:** In House

**Introduction Date:** 2025-04-02

**Last Action Date:** House First Readers. 2025-04-04

**Summary:** This bill would allow any member of the Judicial Retirement System (JRS) who was previously an active member of the Employees' Retirement System (ERS) to have all contributions transferred to JRS not later than December 31, 2026, or within 90 days of first becoming a member of JRS, or within 90 days after entering service in a covered position, whichever is later. This act would become effective July 1, 2026. This bill is the same bill text as HB 900. \*\*\*\*Bill assigned to House Retirement Committee 4/4/25\*\*\*\*

**Description:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Code Section 47-23-64 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to transfer of funds from the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia to the Georgia Judicial Retirement System by superior court judges, district attorneys, or solicitors-general and crediting service, so as to provide that any member of such retirement system shall be eligible to transfer funds; to provide conditions for an effective date and automatic repeal; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA

 Title 47

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## GA HB 891

High Priority

 Monitor

**Title:** Georgia State Employees' Pension and Savings; increase the benefits payable for service after July 1, 2026

**Current Status:** In House

**Introduction Date:** 2025-03-31

**Last Action Date:** House Second Readers. 2025-04-04

**Summary:** This bill increases the Tier 3 (ERS GSEPS) employee contributions from 1 ¼% of earnable compensation to between 3 – 4% of earnable compensation as determined by the Board of Trustees. Under this bill, members would receive a retirement allowance of 1% for each year of creditable service earned prior to July 1, 2026 and 1.5% for each year of creditable

service earned after July 1, 2026. This Act would become effective July 1, 2026. \*\*\*\*\* Bill assigned to House Retirement Committee 4/2/25.\*\*\*\*

**Description:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 10 of Chapter 2 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Georgia State Employees' Pension and Savings Plan, so as to increase the benefits payable for service after July 1, 2026; to provide for an increase to employee contributions; to provide for related matters; to provide conditions for an effective date and automatic repeal; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA

 Title 47

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## GA HR 557

Medium Priority

 Monitor

**Title:** House Study Committee on Georgia's Investment Funds; create


**Current Status:** Enacted

**Introduction Date:** 2025-03-10

**Last Action Date:** House Passed/Adopted By Substitute. 2025-04-04

**Description:** A RESOLUTION creating the House Study Committee on Georgia's Investment Funds; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA

 Agency Issues/Aw...

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## GA SB 362

High Priority

 Monitor

**Title:** Employees' Retirement System of Georgia; all sworn law enforcement officers serving in and the commissioner and deputy commissioner of the Department of Public Safety to be eligible for regular retirement benefits at the age of 55 years; allow

**Current Status:** In Senate

**Introduction Date:** 2025-03-27

**Last Action Date:** Senate Read and Referred. 2025-03-28

**Summary:** This bill adds those who are in service with the Department of Public Safety as a sworn law enforcement officers, officers of the GBI, Game wardens of the Department of Natural Resources, and the commissioner and deputy commissioner of the Department of Public Safety (in addition to the current troopers, noncommissioned officers, GBI agents, and Department of Revenue alcohol and tobacco officer or agents or officers or agents of the Special Investigations Unit) to be eligible to retire at age 55 (instead of the normal retirement age of 60) as long as he or she has at least 10 years of creditable service. This bill also allows the above employees, (excluding for officers or agents of the Special Investigations Unit) who are injured in the line of duty to become eligible for disability retirement allowances upon making a written application to the board of trustees and certification by the medical board that the member is permanently disabled. This bill allows the above listed employees as well as district attorney investigators compensated from state funds pursuant to Code Section 15-18-14.1, investigators of the

Department of Driver Services, as well as Criminal investigators or K9 handlers of the Department of Corrections to be permitted to obtain up to an additional 5 years of creditable service for his or her prior employment by a local government in Georgia full-time—in which he or she was vested with authority to enforce criminal or traffic laws with the power to arrest and tasked with the preservation of public order, the protection of life and property, or the prevention, detection, or investigation of crime –and is not eligible to receive a present or future defined benefit or defined contribution retirement or pension plan in which such member participated In during such employment other than member the Peace Officers’ Annuity Benefit Fund, and the member has been a member of the retirement system at least 10 years. This Act would become effective July 1, 2026. \*\*\*\*\*Bill assigned to Senate Retirement Committee 3/28/25.\*\*\*\*\*

**Description:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 2 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Employees’ Retirement System of Georgia, so as to allow all sworn law enforcement officers serving in and the commissioner and deputy commissioner of the Department of Public Safety to be eligible for regular retirement benefits at the age of 55 years, certain disability benefits, and certain provisions for purchasing creditable service; to provide conditions for an effective date and automatic repeal; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA

 Title 47

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## GA HB 818

High Priority

 Monitor

**Title:** Georgia Judicial Retirement System; membership for each judge employed full time in the Georgia Tax Court; provide

**Current Status:** In House

**Introduction Date:** 2025-03-21

**Last Action Date:** House Second Readers. 2025-03-27

**Summary:** This bill extends Judicial Retirement System (JRS) membership eligibility to include persons employed full-time as a judge in the Georgia Tax Court on or after July 1, 2026. Each such member’s earnable monthly compensation shall be the full rate of the regular monthly compensation paid from state funds for his or her working full time. Each individual who becomes a member of JRS under this bill would be eligible to transfer his or her creditable service from the Employees’ Retirement System (ERS) upon notification to the board within one year of becoming a JRS member and the payment of the full actuarial cost of the transfer of service. Persons employed in this role as of June 30, 2026, who are members of ERS, will remain an ERS member unless they elect to become a JRS member on or before June 30, 2027. Such person must notify the board and pay full actuarial cost to the retirement system associated with their transfer of service. This Act would become effective July 1, 2026.

\*\*\*\*Assigned to House Retirement Committee 3/25/25.\*\*\*\*

**Description:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 23 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Georgia Judicial Retirement System, so as to provide for membership in the system for each judge employed full time in the Georgia Tax Court; to provide for creditable service; to provide for transfer of funds; to provide for transfer of membership

service; to provide for payments of full actuarial costs; to provide for all other individuals employed by the court; to provide for earnable monthly compensation for purposes of contributions and benefit amounts; to provide for related matters; to provide conditions for an effective date and automatic repeal; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA

 Title 47

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## GA HB 808

High Priority

 Monitor

**Title:** State Law Enforcement Officer Plan or 'SLEO Plan'; establish

**Current Status:** In House

**Introduction Date:** 2025-03-20

**Last Action Date:** House Second Readers. 2025-03-25

**Summary:** This bill establishes the State Law Enforcement Officer (SLEO) Plan under the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia (ERS). The bill amends the definition of a 'State law enforcement officer to mean those certified as peace officers under Code Section 35-8-2 employed by the Department of Community Supervision; or any sworn police officers certified by the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council employed to perform the duties of a peace officer, as such term is defined in Code Section 16-1-3, by the Department of Corrections, Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, Office of the Attorney General, Georgia Board of Dentistry, Georgia Composite Medical Board, Department of Driver Services, Department of Transportation, Office of the Inspector General, Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of the State of Georgia, State Board of Workers' Compensation, Department of Juvenile Justice, State Board of Pardons and Paroles, Georgia Public Safety Training Center, Public Service Commission, Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Department of Natural Resources, Department of Agriculture, Department of Revenue, Georgia Drugs and Narcotics Agency, State Forestry Commission, Office of Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner, Georgia Ports Authority, Georgia World Congress Center Police; and Department of Public Safety. Eligible State law enforcement officers must notify ERS of such irrevocable election into the SLEO Plan within 90 days of becoming a State law enforcement officer, or July 1, 2026, whichever is later, after which point they will be considered an "electing officer." This bill also provides that no "electing officer" shall be eligible to retire at any point prior to July 1, 2031, and if they should do so before such date, he or she will not be entitled to any of the enhanced benefits provided under the SLEO Plan. Members of the SLEO Plan will be entitled to the same benefits currently granted to law enforcement officers or members under ERS. In addition, they will be required to contribute five percent (5%) of his or her earnable compensation and receive enhanced retirement benefits based on their years of service. The following outlines the benefit structure for "electing officers" within the SLEO Plan: Years of Creditable Service % of Average Final Compensation 10 10% 11 13% 12 16% 13 19% 14 22% 15 25% 16 30% 17 35% 18 40% 19 45% 20 50% 21 56% 22 62% 23 68% 24 74% 25 80% After an SLEO member reaches 25 years of creditable service, they will not be required to make further contributions to the Plan and their retirement benefit will be calculated based upon his or her average final compensation at such time. If such member does not elect to retire after obtaining 25 years of creditable service, their retirement benefit, in addition to any

postretirement benefit adjustments granted, will be paid into a Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) account until such member retires. Lastly, this bill requires ERS to create DROP accounts for each eligible "electing officer," where the related benefit amounts deposited earn interest at a market rate, to be determined by the ERS Board. Upon retirement, members of the SLEO Plan with a DROP account are entitled to receive a lump sum, a partial lump sum, or an annuity payment from such funds in her or her account. Additionally, the Board can make available options to roll such DROP account funds into certain tax-advantaged retirement accounts. \*\*\*Bill was assigned to the House Retirement Committee on 3/21/2025.\*\*\*

**Description:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 2 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia, so as to establish the State Law Enforcement Officer Plan to offer enhanced benefits for electing state law enforcement officers; to provide for irrevocable elections; to provide for conditions and limitations; to provide for deferred retirement option program accounts; to provide for definitions; to provide a short title; to provide for related matters; to provide conditions for an effective date and automatic repeal; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA

 Title 47

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## GA HB 773

High Priority

 Monitor

**Title:** Retirement and pensions; permit certain persons to make an irrevocable election to become members of the Teachers Retirement System

**Current Status:** In House

**Introduction Date:** 2025-03-13

**Last Action Date:** House Second Readers. 2025-03-20

**Summary:** This bill provides an option for public school permanent employees employed no less than half time, who are hired on or after September 2, 2026, who would have otherwise been a Public School Employees Retirement System (PSERS) member, to make a one-time irrevocable election to become a Teachers Retirement System (TRS) member. The election must be made in writing within ten days after being hired to the PSERS eligible position and delivered to the respective boards of trustees of ERS and TRS. Members who make this election would not be eligible for any transfer of creditable service other than actual TRS membership service or military creditable service. Vested persons who transfer into TRS may elect to keep their accumulated contributions with PSERS and receive their earned pension upon reaching normal retirement age. Vested members who elect to withdraw accumulated contributions from PSERS would forfeit any right to a future benefit. Nonvested members who transfer into TRS would be required to withdraw their accumulated contributions from PSERS. This bill would become effective on July 1, 2026. \*\*\*Bill was assigned to the House Retirement Committee on 3/18/2025.\*\*\*

**Description:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to retirement and pensions, so as to permit certain persons who would otherwise be required to be members of the Public School Employees Retirement System to make an irrevocable election to become members of the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia;

to provide for conditions; to prohibit transfers of creditable service; to provide for related matters; to provide conditions for an effective date and automatic repeal; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA

 Title 47

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## GA SB 339

High Priority

 Monitor

**Title:** Employees' Retirement System of Georgia; semiannual postretirement benefit adjustments for all beneficiaries; provide

**Current Status:** In Senate

**Introduction Date:** 2025-03-13

**Last Action Date:** Senate Read and Referred. 2025-03-18

**Summary:** This bill would enable members of the Employees' Retirement System (ERS), who joined on or after July 1, 2009 to be eligible to receive post retirement benefit adjustments granted on or after July 1, 2026. This bill would also provide a post retirement benefit adjustment in the form of a 1.5% increase in beneficiaries' retirement allowance on July 1, 2026 and every 6 months after that. If the revenue collected in the most recent fiscal year decreases by 3% or more below the revenue estimate, or if the state experiences a decline in revenue collected for 3 consecutive months in the fiscal year, the Governor may suspend the next two post retirement benefit adjustments via executive order, but not more frequent than 2 consecutive calendar years, or more than 3 times within 10 consecutive years. Each executive order would also be subject to revocation, revision, or extension by the General Assembly via the adoption of a joint resolution. This bill would become effective on July 1, 2026. \*\*\*Bill was assigned to the Senate Retirement Committee on 3/18/2025. \*\*\*

**Description:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 2 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia, so as to provide for semiannual postretirement benefit adjustments for all beneficiaries of the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia; to provide for conditions, limitations, and suspensions; to provide for related matters; to provide conditions for an effective date and automatic repeal; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA

 Title 47

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## GA HB 67

High Priority

 Monitor

**Title:** Supplemental appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

**Current Status:** Enacted

**Introduction Date:** 2025-01-16

**Last Action Date:** Effective Date. 2025-03-06

**Summary:** The Governor's recommendation in the Amended FY 2025 Budget includes \$26,750,000 supplemental appropriations to support one-time benefit adjustments for eligible ERS retirees as authorized by the Board of Trustees. If enacted, the Board will evaluate various calculations to most efficiently and fairly allocate the funds. This is expected to be presented to the full Board in April, with an anticipated payment to eligible ERS retirees in June 2025. The Governor's recommendation in the Amended FY 2025 Budget also includes \$500 million in funds to ERS to strategically invest in increasing the plans funded ratio in order to improve the long-term financial viability of the system. The House recommendation in the Amended FY 2025 Budget includes \$26,750,000 supplemental appropriations to support one-time benefit adjustments for eligible ERS retirees as authorized by the Board of Trustees. If enacted, the Board will evaluate various calculations to most efficiently and fairly allocate the funds. This is expected to be presented to the full Board in April, with an anticipated payment to eligible ERS retirees in June 2025. The House recommendation in the Amended FY 2025 Budget also includes \$500 million in funds to ERS to strategically invest in increasing the plans funded ratio in order to improve the long-term financial viability of the system. The Senate recommendation in the Amended FY 2025 Budget includes \$26,750,000 supplemental appropriations to support one-time benefit adjustments for eligible ERS retirees as authorized by the Board of Trustees. If enacted, the Board will evaluate various calculations to most efficiently and fairly allocate the funds. This is expected to be presented to the full Board in April, with an anticipated payment to eligible ERS retirees in June 2025. The Senate recommendation in the Amended FY 2025 Budget also includes \$500 million in funds to ERS to strategically invest in increasing the plans funded ratio in order to improve the long-term financial viability of the system. \*\*\*Bill was assigned to the House Appropriations Committee on 1/17/2025. Bill passed by Committee Substitute from the House Appropriations Committee on 2/5/2025. Bill passed the House Rules Committee on 2/5/2025 and is scheduled to be voted on by the full House on 2/6/2025. Bill passed the House by a vote of 166 Yeas to 3 Nays and was immediately transmitted to the Senate 2/6/2025. Bill passed by Committee Substitute from the Senate Appropriations Committee on 2/24/2025. Bill passed the full Senate by a vote of 55-1 and was immediately transmitted to the House on 2/26/2025. House agreed to Senate Amendment and immediately transmitted to Senate on 3/3/2025. Senate agreed to House Amendment and immediately transmitted to House on 3/3/2025. Bill was sent to Governor for signature on 3/4/2025. Governor signed the bill on 3/6/2025 as Act 3 to be effective 3/6/2025.\*\*\*

**Description:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend an Act making and providing appropriations for the State Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025, known as the "General Appropriations Act," Act No. 709, approved May 7, 2024, so as to make, provide, and change certain appropriations for the operation of the state government and its departments, boards, bureaus, commissions, institutions, and other agencies, for the university system, common schools, counties, municipalities, and political subdivisions, for all other governmental activities, projects, and undertakings authorized by law, and for all leases, contracts, agreements, and grants authorized by law; to provide for the control and administration of funds; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA

 Title 47



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## GA SB 226

High Priority

 Monitor

**Title:** Peach State Saves Programs; provide for creation

**Current Status:** In Senate


**Introduction Date:** 2025-02-20

**Last Action Date:** Senate Read and Referred. 2025-02-21

**Summary:** This bill creates the Peach State Saves Program, a state-administered defined contribution retirement plan for private persons and businesses who employ 5 or more employees 18 years of age or older. These employers must automatically enroll their employees in the program at a 5% employee contribution to an individual Roth IRA account (percent and type of account adjustable by the program's Board), and employees can opt-out or adjust contribution rates at any time. Employers already offering a qualifying retirement plan would be exempt. Employers who fail to enroll employees in a timely manner would owe \$250 per employee during the first year of noncompliance and \$500 per employee during subsequent years. These penalties can be waived if the employer corrects the violation within 90 days. Employers who fail to facilitate payroll deductions and remit contributions to the program in a timely manner would be subject to a \$500 penalty per violation. Employers would not be responsible for investment decisions or program administration, and would be shielded from liability related to the program. The program would be administered by the ERSGA and managed by a Board consisting of the ERSGA Board of Trustees plus three additional members with relevant expertise who would be appointed by the Governor of Georgia. The program's implementation schedule must be substantially completed on or before January 1, 2028. \*\*\*Bill assigned to the Senate Retirement Committee on 2/21/2025. Bill failed to make it out of the Senate Retirement Committee on 2/27/2025.\*\*\*

**Description:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Title 34 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to labor and industrial relations, so as to provide for the creation of the Peach State Saves program, a defined contribution retirement program; to provide for definitions; to provide for appointment of a board of trustees; to provide for limitations on liability; to provide for the confidentiality of program participants; to provide for a date for the establishment of the program; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA

 Agency Issues/Aw...

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## GA SB 198

High Priority

 Monitor

**Title:** Georgia Legislative Retirement System; board of trustees of the system to increase benefit multipliers for members; provide

**Current Status:** In Senate

**Introduction Date:** 2025-02-19

**Last Action Date:** Senate Read and Referred. 2025-02-20

**Summary:** This bill provides the Legislative Retirement System (LRS) Board with the authority to increase the benefit multiplier for members of LRS in relation to the Funded Ratio of the System

being at 120 percent. Any benefit increases granted would first be awarded to LRS retirees who currently have a lower benefit multiplier (\$36) than the multiplier (\$50) established in by Act 747 in 2022. Once retirees benefit multiplier is equal to active members, future increases could then be granted to both active and retired members based on the Funded Ratio of the System being at 120 percent. The minimum increase shall not be less than \$1. The legislation provides for increases in the member contributions that are proportional to any increase in the benefit multiplier. Such provisions would become effective July 1, 2026. \*\*\*Bill assigned to Senate Retirement Committee on 2/20/2025. \*\*\*

**Description:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 6 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Georgia Legislative Retirement System, so as to provide for the board of trustees of the system to increase benefit multipliers for members; to provide for the system to maintain a minimum 120 percent funded ratio; to provide for conditions for such benefit multiplier increases; to provide for automatic increases in employee contributions proportional to benefit multiplier increases; to allow for members who joined after 2009 to receive benefit multiplier increases; to provide for definitions; to provide for conforming changes; to provide conditions for an effective date and automatic repeal; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA

 Title 47

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## GA SB 209

High Priority

 Monitor

**Title:** Teachers Retirement System of Georgia; members of the Public School Employees Retirement System to make an irrevocable election to become members; permit certain persons

**Current Status:** In Senate

**Introduction Date:** 2025-02-19

**Last Action Date:** Senate Read and Referred. 2025-02-20

**Summary:** This bill provides an option for public school permanent employees employed no less than half time, who are hired on or after September 2, 2026, who would have otherwise been a Public School Employees Retirement System (PSERS) member, to make a one-time irrevocable election to become a Teachers Retirement System (TRS) member. Members who make this election would not be eligible for any transfer of creditable service other than actual TRS membership service or military creditable service. Vested persons who transfer into TRS may elect to keep their accumulated contributions with PSERS and receive their earned pension upon reaching normal retirement age. Vested members who elect to withdraw accumulated contributions from PSERS would forfeit any right to a future benefit. Nonvested members who transfer into TRS would be required to withdraw their accumulated contributions from PSERS. This Act would become effective July 1, 2026. \*\*\*Bill assigned to Senate Retirement Committee on 2/20/2025. \*\*\*

**Description:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to retirement and pensions, so as to permit certain persons who would otherwise be required to be members of the Public School Employees Retirement System to make an irrevocable election to become members of the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia;

to provide for conditions; to prohibit transfers of creditable service; to provide for related matters; to provide conditions for an effective date and automatic repeal; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA

 Title 47

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## GA SB 216

**Title:** Georgia Judicial Retirement System; membership in the system for individuals employed as the director of the Prosecuting Attorneys Qualifications Commission; provide

**Current Status:** In Senate

**Introduction Date:** 2025-02-19

**Last Action Date:** Senate Read and Referred. 2025-02-20

**Summary:** This bill extends Judicial Retirement System (JRS) membership to include persons employed as the director of the Prosecuting Attorneys Qualifications Commission on or after July 1, 2026. Persons employed in this role as of June 30, 2026, who are members of Employees' Retirement System (ERS), will remain an ERS member unless they elect to become a JRS member on or before June 30, 2027. Such person must notify the board and pay full actuarial cost to the retirement system associated with their transfer of service. Upon this election, the individual will become a JRS member, and ERSGA shall transfer all employer and employee contributions paid by or on behalf of the individual together with regular interest, and the individual will receive service in JRS towards vesting in the full amount of service accrued during their time as an ERS member. Each such member's earnable monthly compensation shall be the full rate of the regular monthly compensation paid from state funds for his or her working full time. This Act would become effective July 1, 2026. \*\*\*Bill assigned to Senate Retirement Committee on 2/20/2025. \*\*\*

**Description:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 23 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Georgia Judicial Retirement System, so as to provide for membership in the system for individuals employed as the director of the Prosecuting Attorneys Qualifications Commission; to provide for an election for such current employees; to provide for transfer of funds; to provide for payment of actuarial costs; to provide for transfer of membership service; to provide for earnable monthly compensation for purposes of contributions and benefit amounts; to provide for applicability; to provide for related matters; to provide conditions for an effective date and automatic repeal; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA

 Title 47

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## GA HB 438

High Priority

 Monitor

**Title:** Employees' Retirement System of Georgia; allow certain sworn law enforcement officers to be eligible for retirement benefits at age 55; provisions

**Current Status:** In House

**Introduction Date:** 2025-02-12

**Last Action Date:** House Second Readers. 2025-02-18

**Summary:** This bill expands the current retirement eligibility and benefits applying to certain law enforcement personnel who are ERS members so as to include members who are in service with the Department of Public Safety as a sworn law enforcement officer, noncommissioned officer, or trooper (no longer limited to officers of the Uniform Division); Officers and agents of the GBI (no longer limited to agents); Game wardens (replaces the outdated term "conservation manager") of the DNR; and adds the commissioner and the deputy commissioner of the Department of Public Safety. Under this legislation, which would become effective July 1, 2026, such law enforcement groups under ERS would be eligible to retire with normal benefits at the age of 55 instead of 60 as long as they have at least 10 years of creditable service, and would also be eligible for Injury in the Line of Duty provisions as well as purchase of applicable, local creditable service. This bill allows the above added law enforcement members of ERS to purchase up to five years of creditable service for certain prior service as a full time employee of a local governing authority in the State of Georgia beginning July 1, 2018. Creditable service would only be granted if the member (1) held a P.O.S.T. certified law enforcement position with the local governing authority, (2) is not eligible to receive a present or future benefits from a defined benefit or defined contribution retirement or pension plan in which member participated while employed by the local governing authority, and (3) has been a member of ERS for at least ten years. Eligible members wishing to obtain such service may make application to the Board of Trustees and must pay an amount determined to be sufficient to cover the full actuarial cost of granting such service. Similar proposed fiscal bills include: HB 612 (2021-22); HB 657 (2021-22); and HB 472 (2023-2024) with a first year cost of \$ 732,000. \*\*\*\*\*Bill was assigned to House Retirement Committee 2/13/2025.\*\*\*\*\*

**Description:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 2 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia, so as to allow all sworn law enforcement officers serving in and the commissioner and deputy commissioner of the Department of Public Safety to be eligible for regular retirement benefits at the age of 55 years, certain disability benefits, and certain provisions for purchasing creditable service; to provide conditions for an effective date and automatic repeal; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA

 Title 47

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**GA SB 157**

**High Priority**

 **Monitor**

**Title:** Retirement; certain members or former members of the General Assembly to buy into the Georgia Legislative Retirement System; provide

**Current Status:** In Senate

**Introduction Date:** 2025-02-12

**Last Action Date:** Senate Read and Referred. 2025-02-13

**Summary:** This bill allows a member or former member of the General Assembly to make an irrevocable election to become a member of the Legislative Retirement System (LRS) who served on or after January 12, 1981, and to obtain creditable service for prior service as a member of the General Assembly as long as the member has served, at the time of the application, at least four years or two full terms as a member of the General Assembly. Persons who wish to earn such creditable service would be required to pay to full actuarial cost of the service granted to the board of trustees at submission of the member's application. No creditable service shall be granted or obtained pursuant to this subsection if such service may be used to calculate creditable service under any other public retirement system created by this title. This bill would require the Employees' Retirement System to physically mail a one-time notice in writing to the latest reported mailing address of all eligible members or former members of the General Assembly who meet the above criteria by September 1, 2026. Any member of the General Assembly who obtains creditable service for prior service as a member of the General Assembly whose service concluded before January 1, 2022, shall receive the monthly pension amount provided in O.C.G.A. 47-6-80(d); and every member whose service concluded on or after January 1, 2022, shall receive the monthly pension amount provided in subsection O.C.G.A. 47-6-80(c.1). This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2026 if funds are appropriated. \*\*\*Bill was assigned to Senate Retirement Committee on 2/13/2025. \*\*\*

**Description:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Code Section 47-6-40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to qualifications for membership, irrevocable election for certain members of General Assembly, membership of persons who cease to become members before age 60, termination of membership, and application for additional creditable service, so as to provide for certain members or former members of the General Assembly to buy into the Georgia Legislative Retirement System; to provide for creditable service and the payment of the full actuarial value of such; to provide conditions for an effective date and automatic repeal; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA

 Title 47

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## GA HB 338

High Priority

 Monitor

**Title:** State Law Enforcement Officer Plan' or 'SLEO Plan'; enact

**Current Status:** In House

**Introduction Date:** 2025-02-06

**Last Action Date:** House Second Readers. 2025-02-11

**Summary:** This bill establishes the State Law Enforcement Officer (SLEO) Plan under the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia (ERS). The bill amends the definition of a 'State law enforcement officer' to mean any sworn police officers certified by the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council employed to perform the duties of a peace officer, as such term is defined in Code Section 16-1-3, by the: Department of Corrections; Department of Community Supervision; Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities; Office of the Attorney General; Georgia Board of Dentistry; Georgia Composite Medical Board; Department of Driver Services; Department of Transportation; Office of the Inspector General; Prosecuting

Attorneys' Council of the State of Georgia; State Board of Workers' Compensation; Department of Juvenile Justice; State Board of Pardons and Paroles; Georgia Public Safety Training Center; Public Service Commission; Georgia Bureau of Investigation; Department of Natural Resources; Department of Agriculture; Department of Revenue; Georgia Drugs and Narcotics Agency; State Forestry Commission; Office of Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner; Georgia Ports Authority; Georgia World Congress Center Police; and Department of Public Safety. Eligible State law enforcement officers must notify ERS of such irrevocable election into the SLEO Plan within 90 days of becoming a State law enforcement officer, or July 1, 2026, whichever is later, after which point they will be considered an "electing officer." This bill also provides that no "electing officer" shall be eligible to retire at any point prior to July 1, 2031, and if they should do so before such date, he or she will not be entitled to any of the enhanced benefits provided under the SLEO Plan. Members of the SLEO Plan will be entitled to the same benefits currently granted to law enforcement officers or members under ERS. In addition, they will be required to contribute five percent (5%) of his or her earnable compensation and receive enhanced retirement benefits based on their years of service. The following outlines the benefit structure for "electing officers" within the SLEO Plan: Years of Creditable Service % of Average Final Compensation 10 10% 11 13% 12 16% 13 19% 14 22% 15 25% 16 30% 17 35% 18 40% 19 45% 20 50% 21 56% 22 62% 23 68% 24 74% 25 80% After an SLEO member reaches 25 years of creditable service, they will not be required to make further contributions to the Plan and their retirement benefit will be calculated based upon his or her average final compensation at such time. If such member does not elect to retire after obtaining 25 years of creditable service, their retirement benefit, in addition to any postretirement benefit adjustments granted, will be paid into a Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) account until such member retires. Lastly, this bill requires ERS to create DROP accounts for each eligible "electing officer," where the related benefit amounts deposited earn interest at a market rate, to be determined by the ERS Board. Upon retirement, members of the SLEO Plan with a DROP account are entitled to receive a lump sum, a partial lump sum, or an annuity payment from such funds in her or her account. Additionally, the Board can make available options to roll such DROP account funds into certain tax-advantaged retirement accounts. \*\*\*Bill was assigned to the House Retirement Committee on 2/10/2025.\*\*\*

**Description:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 2 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia, so as to establish the State Law Enforcement Officer Plan to offer enhanced benefits for electing state law enforcement officers; to provide for irrevocable elections; to provide for conditions and limitations; to provide for deferred retirement option program accounts; to provide for definitions; to provide a short title; to provide for related matters; to provide conditions for an effective date and automatic repeal; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA

 Title 47

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**GA HB 337**

**High Priority**

 **Monitor**

**Title:** State Law Enforcement Officer Plan' or 'SLEO Plan'; enact

**Current Status:** In House

**Introduction Date:** 2025-02-06

**Last Action Date:** House Second Readers. 2025-02-11

**Summary:** This bill establishes the State Law Enforcement Officer (SLEO) Plan under the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia (ERS). It provides for "State law enforcement officers" to make an irrevocable election to participate into the SLEO Plan instead of any other retirement system, plan, or program established under ERS. The term "State law enforcement officer" is defined as any member employed by the: • Uniform Division of the Department of Public Safety as an officer, a noncommissioned officer, or a trooper; • Georgia Bureau of Investigation as an officer or agent; • Department of Natural Resources as a game warden; • Department of Revenue as an alcohol and tobacco officer or agent or as an officer of the Special Investigation Unit; • Motor Carrier Compliance Division as a sworn law enforcement officer; or • Capitol Police Division of the Department of Public Safety as a sworn law enforcement officer. Eligible State law enforcement officers must notify ERS of such irrevocable election into the SLEO Plan within 90 days of becoming a State law enforcement officer, or July 1, 2026, whichever is later, after which point they will be considered an "electing officer." This bill also provides that no "electing officer" shall be eligible to retire at any point prior to July 1, 2031, and if they should do so before such date, he or she will not be entitled to any of the enhanced benefits provided under the SLEO Plan. Members of the SLEO Plan will be entitled to the same benefits currently granted to law enforcement officers under ERS. In addition, they will be required to contribute five percent (5%) of his or her earnable compensation and receive enhanced retirement benefits based on their years of service. The following outlines the benefit structure for "electing officers" within the SLEO Plan: Years of Creditable Service % of Average Final Compensation 10 10% 11 13% 12 16% 13 19% 14 22% 15 25% 16 30% 17 35% 18 40% 19 45% 20 50% 21 56% 22 62% 23 68% 24 74% 25 80% After an SLEO member reaches 25 years of creditable service, they will not be required to make further contributions to the Plan and their retirement benefit will be calculated based upon his or her average final compensation at such time. If such member does not elect to retire after obtaining 25 years of creditable service, their retirement benefit, in addition to any postretirement benefit adjustments granted, will be paid into a Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) account until such member retires. Lastly, this bill requires ERS to create DROP accounts for each eligible "electing officer," where the related benefit amounts deposited earn interest at a market rate, to be determined by the ERS Board. Upon retirement, members of the SLEO Plan with a DROP account are entitled to receive a lump sum, a partial lump sum, or an annuity payment from such funds in her or her account. Additionally, the Board can make available options to roll such DROP account funds into certain tax-advantaged retirement accounts. \*\*\*Bill was assigned to the House Retirement Committee on 2/10/2025.\*\*\*

**Description:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 2 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia, so as to establish the State Law Enforcement Officer Plan to offer enhanced benefits for electing state law enforcement officers; to provide for irrevocable elections; to provide for conditions and limitations; to provide for deferred retirement option program accounts; to provide for definitions; to provide a short title; to provide for related matters; to provide conditions for an effective date and automatic repeal; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA

**GA SR 71****High Priority****👁 Monitor****Title:** Employees' Retirement System of Georgia; congratulate**Current Status:** Enacted**Introduction Date:** 2025-01-30**Last Action Date:** Senate Read and Adopted. 2025-02-03**Description:** A RESOLUTION congratulating the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia upon its 75th anniversary; and for other purposes.**Location:** US-GA**GA SB 11****High Priority****👁 Monitor****Title:** Retirement; creditable service for certain military service; provide**Current Status:** In Senate**Introduction Date:** 2025-01-15**Last Action Date:** Senate Read and Referred. 2025-01-16

**Summary:** This bill allows ERS members with at least ten years of membership service to obtain up to 36 months of creditable service, awarded month for month, for active military service in the U.S. armed forces performed on or after January 1, 1990. In order to obtain such credit, the member shall: (1) Apply in a method or manner prescribed by the ERS Board of Trustees "Board"; (2) Submit proof of qualifying active military service as deemed necessary by the Board; and (3) Pay to the Board the amount that the Board determines to be the full actuarial cost equal to such eligible creditable service. Members are eligible to make a one-time payment of the full amount within 90 days, or may choose to participate in a payment plan like that established in O.C.G.A. § 47-2-101. Members shall not receive such creditable service: • If such member was not honorably discharged; • For reserve duty; • For any period of time for which he or she obtained ERS membership service; or • For any portion of such member's active military service in the U.S. armed forces that has been or will be used in the determination of eligibility for retirement benefits or allowances from any other state or federal retirement program, excluding social security. Similar fiscal bills from previous sessions include: SB 149 (2015-16), with a \$3,120,000 first year cost; SB 150 (2015-16); SB 10 (2017-18); SB 129 (2017-18), with \$0 cost since full actuarial cost; and SB 47 (2019-20), with \$0 cost since full actuarial cost, SB 85 (2023-2024), with \$0 cost since full actuarial cost. \*\*\*Assigned to Senate Retirement Committee 1/16/25. \*\*\*

**Description:** A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 5 of Chapter 2 of Title 47 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to service creditable toward retirement benefits, so as to provide for creditable service for certain military service; to provide for application and payment; to provide for related matters; to provide conditions for an effective date and automatic repeal; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**Location:** US-GA



