

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
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S.B. 761
By: Duncan
State Affairs
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As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, Texas law requires six percent of a judge's salary to be taken out of the judge's paycheck to go towards the judge's retirement. When a judge retires and vests under the Judicial Retirement System, the judge is entitled to 60 percent of his or her salary from the state for life. A judge who has been on the bench for 20 years will not accrue any additional benefits or the six percent that the judge is contributing from pay beyond 20 years of service. S.B. 761 provides that a judge does not have to contribute six percent to the state once the judge attains 20 years of service on the bench.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 761 regulates a members contributions to the Judicial Retirement System of Texas Plan One or the Judicial Retirement System of Texas Plan Two.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 835.101, Government Code, by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (c), to require each month the payroll officer responsible for paying the state compensation of a judicial officer who is a member of the Judicial Retirement System (retirement system) to deduct from the state compensation of the judicial officer a contribution computed at the rate required of a member of the employee class of the Employee Retirement System of Texas, except as provided by Subsection (c). Provides that a member who accrues 20 years of service credit in the retirement system ceases making contributions under this section. Makes a conforming change.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 840.102, Government Code, by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (g), to require each payroll period, a judicial officer who is a member of the retirement system is required to contribute six percent of the officer's state compensation for the period to the retirement system, except as provided by Subsection (g). Provides that a member who accrues 20 years of service credit in the retirement system ceases making contributions under this section. Makes a conforming change.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 1999.

SECTION 4. Emergency clause.