

2015 Pension Legislation

HB 1168/SB 5211 – Correcting PERS retiree return to work restrictions (HB 1168 signed by the governor 4/24/15)

ESHB 1981 of the 2011 session modified the return to work rules for PERS retirees. This legislation corrects some unintended consequences of those statute changes to ensure that:

- PERS retirees who return to work in ineligible positions would not be subject to the 867 hour limitation.
- PERS Plan 2 or Plan 3 retirees who return to work in eligible positions covered by other DRS administered systems would be eligible to work up to 867 hours before their benefit is suspended.

HB 1194/SB 5246 - Remarriage prohibition for survivors (HB 1194 signed by the governor 4/24/15)

Currently, surviving spouses of LEOFF Plan 2 and WSPRS members who are killed in the line of duty are entitled to receive a monthly benefit of at least 60 percent of member's wages from the state workers' compensation program. However, this benefit is terminated if the survivor remarries. This legislation would allow the surviving spouse of a LEOFF Plan 2 or WSPRS member killed in the course of employment to remarry and continue receiving workers' compensation survivor benefits.

HB 1169/SB 5210 – Regarding an optional life annuity benefit for members of the Washington State Patrol Retirement System (SB 5210 signed by the governor 4/25/15)

This legislation allows WSPRS members to use funds from certain tax-qualified plans to purchase a life annuity from the Washington State Patrol retirement fund at the time of retirement.