

KANSAS LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

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March 18, 2015

To: House Committee on Pensions and Benefits
From: Reed Holwegner, Principal Research Analyst
Re: History of Previous Post-Retirement Provisions

During the House Pensions and Benefits Committee meeting held on March 9, 2015, additional information was requested regarding the reasons behind the repeal of a working after retirement policy, which removed all restrictions and allowed retirees to become active KPERS members after returning to work. The authorizing language in 1989 HB 2403 read as follows:

Such retirant may elect to revoke such retirant's retirement and become an active member and make employee contributions to the system and receive service credit for any service after the date of commencement of service in such position or office by filing with the office of the retirement system a notice of such intention in such form and manner as the board prescribes within 10 days after the date of commencement of service in such position or office.

Restrictions were re-established five years later by 1994 HB 2597. Searching through the archived committee minutes and records for HB 2597, staff could not identify who was advocating for, nor the reasoning behind, the change. When HB 2597 passed the House, the bill would have authorized the Joint Committee on Pensions, Investments and Benefits to meet in executive session. The first appearance of the repeal was in a recommendation from a Senate Ways and Means subcommittee report on HB 2597, which became the Omnibus KPERS bill for the 1994 Legislative Session. However, the Summary of Legislation for HB 2597 does include an explanatory reference, explaining the ability to unretire was repealed due to legislation enacted in 1993 (HB 2211), which increased the benefit formula's multiplier from 1.4 percent to 1.75 percent.

Please contact me if you require additional information on this matter.

RLH/db