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WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 1994

ENROLLED Com. Sub. An

HOUSE BILL No. 4205

(By Delegates Smith, Campbell, Browning, Lindsey, Ashley. Prezioso and Walluce)

Passed March 12 1994 In Effect 90 Days From Passage

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ENROLLED

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

H. B. 4205

(By Delegates Smith, Campbell, Browning, Lindsey, Ashley, Prezioso and Wallace)

[Passed March 12, 1994; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact section twenty-five, article ten, chapter five of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended; and to amend article ten-d of said chapter by adding thereto a new section, designated section five, relating to retirement systems administered by the consolidated public retirement board; limiting eligibility for disability retirement by former members of the public employees retirement system to those who were employed by participating public employers within the last twelve months unless other specifications are met; and prohibiting payment of disability retirement benefits to a member of any stateadministered retirement system due to disability resulting from a pre-existing condition.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section twenty-five, article ten, chapter five of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted; and that article ten-d of said chapter be amended by adding thereto a new section, designated section five, all to read as follows:

ARTICLE 10. WEST VIRGINIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIRE-MENT ACT.

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§5-10-25. Disability retirement.

(a) Upon the application of a member or former 1 $\mathbf{2}$ member of the retirement system, or his or her present 3 or past employing authority, any member or former 4 member who is in the employ of a participating public $\mathbf{5}$ employer or was in the employ of a participating public 6 employer on a date which is twelve months or less from $\overline{7}$ the date upon which the former member became 8 incapacitated, who has ten or more years of credited 9 service of which three years is contributing service, and 10 who becomes totally and permanently incapacitated for 11 employment, by reason of a personal injury or disease, 12may be retired by the board if after a medical exam-13 ination of the said member or former member made by 14 or under the direction of a medical committee consisting 15 of two physicians, one of whom shall be named by the 16board, and one by the said member or former member. 17the said medical committee reports, in writing, to the 18 board that the said member or former member is 19physically or mentally totally incapacitated for employ-20ment, that such incapacity will probably be permanent. 21and that the said member or former member should be 22retired. In the event the two above-mentioned examin-23ing physicians do not agree in their findings, then the $\mathbf{24}$ board may, at its discretion, appoint a third physician 25to examine said member or former member and, based 26upon the third physician's report in writing, the board 27may retire said member or former member. A former 28member who has not been employed by a participating 29public employer may receive disability retirement 30 under the provisions of this subsection if, in the opinion 31of the medical committee, the incapacity occurred 32during the time that the former member was employed 33by a participating public employer and the incapacity 34otherwise qualifies the former member for retirement 35under this subsection.

(b) A member with less than ten years of credited
service shall have the service requirement provided for
in subsection (a) above (including the requirement of
three years contributing service) waived in the event (1)
the board finds his or her total and permanent disability

to be the natural and proximate result of a personal injury or disease arising out of and in the course of his or her actual performance of duty in the employ of a participating public employer, and (2) he or she is receiving or has received workers' compensation benefits on account of such physical or mental disability.

47(c) For any member or former member retiring and any member retired, as of March one, one thousand nine 48 49 hundred seventy, he or she shall receive a straight life 50annuity computed according to section twenty-two 51hereof and he or she shall have the right to elect an option provided for in section twenty-four hereof: 5253*Provided.* That his or her straight life annuity pavable to his or her attainment of age sixty-five years may not 54be less than fifty percent of his or her final average 55salary; and his or her said straight life annuity payable 5657from and after his or her attainment of age sixty-five years may not be less than twenty percent of his or her 5859final average salary: Provided, however, That his or her said annuity shall be subject to section twenty-six 60 61hereof.

ARTICLE 10D. CONSOLIDATED PUBLIC RETIREMENT BOARD. §5-10D-5. Award of disability retirement.

1 The board may not award disability retirement to a 2 member of any retirement plan that it administers, if 3 the member is seeking to retire based on a disability 4 that existed at the time the member joined the public

5 retirement plan.

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The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing hill is correctly enrolled? Chairman Senate Committy Chairman House Committee Originating in the House. Takes effect ninety days from passage. Clerk of the Senate he House ent of the Senate P_{γ} UL 11 Speaker of the House of Delegates The within DO-ppNOUCO . this day of March Gove nor ® GCU 3000

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GOVERNOR Date <u>-128/94</u> Time <u>4:11</u>