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SENATE BILL 6687

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2008 Regular Session

By Senators Regala, Rasmussen, McAuliffe, Carrell, Keiser, and Hobbs

By Senators Regala, Rasmussen, McAuliffe, Carrell, Keiser, and Hobbs Read first time 01/22/08. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to postretirement employment; and amending RCW
- 2 41.32.765, 41.32.875, 41.35.420, 41.35.680, 41.40.630, and 41.40.820.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 41.32.765 and 2007 c 491 s 2 are each amended to read 5 as follows:
 - (1) NORMAL RETIREMENT. Any member with at least five service credit years of service who has attained at least age sixty-five shall be eligible to retire and to receive a retirement allowance computed according to the provisions of RCW 41.32.760.
 - (2) EARLY RETIREMENT. Any member who has completed at least twenty service credit years of service who has attained at least age fifty-five shall be eligible to retire and to receive a retirement allowance computed according to the provisions of RCW 41.32.760, except that a member retiring pursuant to this subsection shall have the retirement allowance actuarially reduced to reflect the difference in the number of years between age at retirement and the attainment of age sixty-five.
 - (3) ALTERNATE EARLY RETIREMENT.

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(a) Any member who has completed at least thirty service credit years and has attained age fifty-five shall be eligible to retire and to receive a retirement allowance computed according to the provisions of RCW 41.32.760, except that a member retiring pursuant to this subsection shall have the retirement allowance reduced by three percent per year to reflect the difference in the number of years between age at retirement and the attainment of age sixty-five.

(b) On or after September 1, 2008, any member who has completed at least thirty service credit years and has attained age fifty-five shall be eligible to retire and to receive a retirement allowance computed according to the provisions of RCW 41.32.760, except that a member retiring pursuant to this subsection shall have the retirement allowance reduced as follows:

| 14 | Retirement | Percent |
|----|------------|-----------|
| 15 | Age | Reduction |
| 16 | 55 | 20% |
| 17 | 56 | 17% |
| 18 | 57 | 14% |
| 19 | 58 | 11% |
| 20 | 59 | 8% |
| 21 | 60 | 5% |
| 22 | 61 | 2% |
| 23 | 62 | 0% |
| 24 | 63 | 0% |
| 25 | 64 | 0% |

((Any member who retires under the provisions of this subsection is ineligible for the postretirement employment provisions of RCW 41.32.802(2) until the retired member has reached sixty-five years of age. For purposes of this subsection, employment with an employer also includes any personal service contract, service by an employer as a temporary or project employee, or any other similar compensated relationship with any employer included under the provisions of RCW 41.32.800(1).)

The subsidized reductions for alternate early retirement in this subsection as set forth in section 2, chapter 491, Laws of 2007 were intended by the legislature as replacement benefits for gain-sharing.

Until there is legal certainty with respect to the repeal of chapter 1 2 RCW, the right to retire under this subsection noncontractual, and the legislature reserves the right to amend or 3 repeal this subsection. Legal certainty includes, but is not limited 4 to, the expiration of any: Applicable limitations on actions; and 5 periods of time for seeking appellate review, up to and including 6 7 reconsideration by the Washington supreme court and the supreme court of the United States. Until that time, eligible members may still 8 retire under this subsection, and upon receipt of the first installment 9 10 of a retirement allowance computed under this subsection, the resulting benefit becomes contractual for the recipient. If the repeal of 11 12 chapter 41.31A RCW is held to be invalid in a final determination of a 13 court of law, and the court orders reinstatement of gain-sharing or 14 other alternate benefits as a remedy, then retirement benefits for any member who has completed at least thirty service credit years and has 15 16 attained age fifty-five but has not yet received the first installment 17 of a retirement allowance under this subsection shall be computed using the reductions in (a) of this subsection. 18

- 19 **Sec. 2.** RCW 41.32.875 and 2007 c 491 s 4 are each amended to read 20 as follows:
- 21 (1) NORMAL RETIREMENT. Any member who is at least age sixty-five 22 and who has:
 - (a) Completed ten service credit years; or

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- (b) Completed five service credit years, including twelve service credit months after attaining age forty-four; or
- 26 (c) Completed five service credit years by July 1, 1996, under plan 2 and who transferred to plan 3 under RCW 41.32.817;
- shall be eligible to retire and to receive a retirement allowance computed according to the provisions of RCW 41.32.840.
 - (2) EARLY RETIREMENT. Any member who has attained at least age fifty-five and has completed at least ten years of service shall be eligible to retire and to receive a retirement allowance computed according to the provisions of RCW 41.32.840, except that a member retiring pursuant to this subsection shall have the retirement allowance actuarially reduced to reflect the difference in the number of years between age at retirement and the attainment of age sixty-five.

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(3) ALTERNATE EARLY RETIREMENT.

- (a) Any member who has completed at least thirty service credit years and has attained age fifty-five shall be eligible to retire and to receive a retirement allowance computed according to the provisions of RCW 41.32.840, except that a member retiring pursuant to this subsection shall have the retirement allowance reduced by three percent per year to reflect the difference in the number of years between age at retirement and the attainment of age sixty-five.
- (b) On or after September 1, 2008, any member who has completed at least thirty service credit years and has attained age fifty-five shall be eligible to retire and to receive a retirement allowance computed according to the provisions of RCW 41.32.840, except that a member retiring pursuant to this subsection shall have the retirement allowance reduced as follows:

| 15 | Retirement | Percent |
|----|------------|-----------|
| 16 | Age | Reduction |
| 17 | 55 | 20% |
| 18 | 56 | 17% |
| 19 | 57 | 14% |
| 20 | 58 | 11% |
| 21 | 59 | 8% |
| 22 | 60 | 5% |
| 23 | 61 | 2% |
| 24 | 62 | 0% |
| 25 | 63 | 0% |
| 26 | 64 | 0% |

((Any member who retires under the provisions of this subsection is ineligible for the postretirement employment provisions of RCW 41.32.862(2) until the retired member has reached sixty-five years of age. For purposes of this subsection, employment with an employer also includes any personal service contract, service by an employer as a temporary or project employee, or any other similar compensated relationship with any employer included under the provisions of RCW 41.32.860(1).))

The subsidized reductions for alternate early retirement in this subsection as set forth in section 4, chapter 491, Laws of 2007 were

intended by the legislature as replacement benefits for gain-sharing. 1 2 Until there is legal certainty with respect to the repeal of chapter RCW, the right to retire under this 3 subsection noncontractual, and the legislature reserves the right to amend or 4 5 repeal this subsection. Legal certainty includes, but is not limited to, the expiration of any: Applicable limitations on actions; and 6 7 periods of time for seeking appellate review, up to and including reconsideration by the Washington supreme court and the supreme court 8 of the United States. Until that time, eligible members may still 9 10 retire under this subsection, and upon receipt of the first installment of a retirement allowance computed under this subsection, the resulting 11 12 benefit becomes contractual for the recipient. If the repeal of 13 chapter 41.31A RCW is held to be invalid in a final determination of a court of law, and the court orders reinstatement of gain-sharing or 14 other alternate benefits as a remedy, then retirement benefits for any 15 member who has completed at least thirty service credit years and has 16 17 attained age fifty-five but has not yet received the first installment of a retirement allowance under this subsection shall be computed using 18 the reductions in (a) of this subsection. 19

- 20 **Sec. 3.** RCW 41.35.420 and 2007 c 491 s 6 are each amended to read 21 as follows:
 - (1) NORMAL RETIREMENT. Any member with at least five service credit years who has attained at least age sixty-five shall be eligible to retire and to receive a retirement allowance computed according to the provisions of RCW 41.35.400.
 - (2) EARLY RETIREMENT. Any member who has completed at least twenty service credit years and has attained age fifty-five shall be eligible to retire and to receive a retirement allowance computed according to the provisions of RCW 41.35.400, except that a member retiring pursuant to this subsection shall have the retirement allowance actuarially reduced to reflect the difference in the number of years between age at retirement and the attainment of age sixty-five.
 - (3) ALTERNATE EARLY RETIREMENT.

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(a) Any member who has completed at least thirty service credit years and has attained age fifty-five shall be eligible to retire and to receive a retirement allowance computed according to the provisions of RCW 41.35.400, except that a member retiring pursuant to this

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subsection shall have the retirement allowance reduced by three percent per year to reflect the difference in the number of years between age at retirement and the attainment of age sixty-five.

(b) On or after September 1, 2008, any member who has completed at least thirty service credit years and has attained age fifty-five shall be eligible to retire and to receive a retirement allowance computed according to the provisions of RCW 41.35.400, except that a member retiring pursuant to this subsection shall have the retirement allowance reduced as follows:

| 10 | Retirement | Percent |
|----|------------|-----------|
| 11 | Age | Reduction |
| 12 | 55 | 20% |
| 13 | 56 | 17% |
| 14 | 57 | 14% |
| 15 | 58 | 11% |
| 16 | 59 | 8% |
| 17 | 60 | 5% |
| 18 | 61 | 2% |
| 19 | 62 | 0% |
| 20 | 63 | 0% |
| 21 | 64 | 0% |

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((Any member who retires under the provisions of this subsection is ineligible for the postretirement employment provisions of RCW 41.35.060(2) until the retired member has reached sixty-five years of age. For purposes of this subsection, employment with an employer also includes any personal service contract, service by an employer as a temporary or project employee, or any other similar compensated relationship with any employer included under the provisions of RCW 41.35.230(1).))

The subsidized reductions for alternate early retirement in this subsection as set forth in section 6, chapter 491, Laws of 2007 were intended by the legislature as replacement benefits for gain-sharing. Until there is legal certainty with respect to the repeal of chapter 41.31A RCW, the right to retire under this subsection is noncontractual, and the legislature reserves the right to amend or repeal this subsection. Legal certainty includes, but is not limited

to, the expiration of any: Applicable limitations on actions; and 1 2 periods of time for seeking appellate review, up to and including reconsideration by the Washington supreme court and the supreme court 3 of the United States. Until that time, eligible members may still 4 5 retire under this subsection, and upon receipt of the first installment of a retirement allowance computed under this subsection, the resulting 6 7 benefit becomes contractual for the recipient. If the repeal of chapter 41.31A RCW is held to be invalid in a final determination of a 8 court of law, and the court orders reinstatement of gain-sharing or 9 other alternate benefits as a remedy, then retirement benefits for any 10 member who has completed at least thirty service credit years and has 11 attained age fifty-five but has not yet received the first installment 12 13 of a retirement allowance under this subsection shall be computed using 14 the reductions in (a) of this subsection.

- 15 **Sec. 4.** RCW 41.35.680 and 2007 c 491 s 8 are each amended to read 16 as follows:
- 17 (1) NORMAL RETIREMENT. Any member who is at least age sixty-five and who has:
 - (a) Completed ten service credit years; or

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- 20 (b) Completed five service credit years, including twelve service 21 credit months after attaining age forty-four; or
- (c) Completed five service credit years by September 1, 2000, under the public employees' retirement system plan 2 and who transferred to plan 3 under RCW 41.35.510;
- shall be eligible to retire and to receive a retirement allowance computed according to the provisions of RCW 41.35.620.
 - (2) EARLY RETIREMENT. Any member who has attained at least age fifty-five and has completed at least ten years of service shall be eligible to retire and to receive a retirement allowance computed according to the provisions of RCW 41.35.620, except that a member retiring pursuant to this subsection shall have the retirement allowance actuarially reduced to reflect the difference in the number of years between age at retirement and the attainment of age sixty-five.
 - (3) ALTERNATE EARLY RETIREMENT.
- 36 (a) Any member who has completed at least thirty service credit 37 years and has attained age fifty-five shall be eligible to retire and

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to receive a retirement allowance computed according to the provisions of RCW 41.35.620, except that a member retiring pursuant to this subsection shall have the retirement allowance reduced by three percent per year to reflect the difference in the number of years between age at retirement and the attainment of age sixty-five.

(b) On or after September 1, 2008, any member who has completed at least thirty service credit years and has attained age fifty-five shall be eligible to retire and to receive a retirement allowance computed according to the provisions of RCW 41.35.620, except that a member retiring pursuant to this subsection shall have the retirement allowance reduced as follows:

| 12 | Retirement | Percent |
|----|------------|-----------|
| 13 | Age | Reduction |
| 14 | 55 | 20% |
| 15 | 56 | 17% |
| 16 | 57 | 14% |
| 17 | 58 | 11% |
| 18 | 59 | 8% |
| 19 | 60 | 5% |
| 20 | 61 | 2% |
| 21 | 62 | 0% |
| 22 | 63 | 0% |
| 23 | 64 | 0% |

((Any member who retires under the provisions of this subsection is ineligible for the postretirement employment provisions of RCW 41.35.060(2) until the retired member has reached sixty-five years of age. For purposes of this subsection, employment with an employer also includes any personal service contract, service by an employer as a temporary or project employee, or any other similar compensated relationship with any employer included under the provisions of RCW 41.35.230(1).))

The subsidized reductions for alternate early retirement in this subsection as set forth in section 8, chapter 491, Laws of 2007 were intended by the legislature as replacement benefits for gain-sharing. Until there is legal certainty with respect to the repeal of chapter 41.31A RCW, the right to retire under this subsection is

noncontractual, and the legislature reserves the right to amend or 1 2 repeal this subsection. Legal certainty includes, but is not limited to, the expiration of any: Applicable limitations on actions; and 3 periods of time for seeking appellate review, up to and including 4 5 reconsideration by the Washington supreme court and the supreme court of the United States. Until that time, eligible members may still 6 7 retire under this subsection, and upon receipt of the first installment of a retirement allowance computed under this subsection, the resulting 8 benefit becomes contractual for the recipient. 9 If the repeal of 10 chapter 41.31A RCW is held to be invalid in a final determination of a court of law, and the court orders reinstatement of gain-sharing or 11 12 other alternate benefits as a remedy, then retirement benefits for any 13 member who has completed at least thirty service credit years and has 14 attained age fifty-five but has not yet received the first installment of a retirement allowance under this subsection shall be computed using 15 the reductions in (a) of this subsection. 16

- Sec. 5. RCW 41.40.630 and 2007 c 491 s 9 are each amended to read as follows:
- (1) NORMAL RETIREMENT. Any member with at least five service credit years who has attained at least age sixty-five shall be eligible to retire and to receive a retirement allowance computed according to the provisions of RCW 41.40.620.
- (2) EARLY RETIREMENT. Any member who has completed at least twenty service credit years and has attained age fifty-five shall be eligible to retire and to receive a retirement allowance computed according to the provisions of RCW 41.40.620, except that a member retiring pursuant to this subsection shall have the retirement allowance actuarially reduced to reflect the difference in the number of years between age at retirement and the attainment of age sixty-five.
 - (3) ALTERNATE EARLY RETIREMENT.

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(a) Any member who has completed at least thirty service credit years and has attained age fifty-five shall be eligible to retire and to receive a retirement allowance computed according to the provisions of RCW 41.40.620, except that a member retiring pursuant to this subsection shall have the retirement allowance reduced by three percent per year to reflect the difference in the number of years between age at retirement and the attainment of age sixty-five.

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(b) On or after July 1, 2008, any member who has completed at least thirty service credit years and has attained age fifty-five shall be eligible to retire and to receive a retirement allowance computed according to the provisions of RCW 41.40.620, except that a member retiring pursuant to this subsection shall have the retirement allowance reduced as follows:

| 7 | Retirement | Percent |
|----|------------|-----------|
| 8 | Age | Reduction |
| 9 | 55 | 20% |
| 10 | 56 | 17% |
| 11 | 57 | 14% |
| 12 | 58 | 11% |
| 13 | 59 | 8% |
| 14 | 60 | 5% |
| 15 | 61 | 2% |
| 16 | 62 | 0% |
| 17 | 63 | 0% |
| 18 | 64 | 0% |

((Any member who retires under the provisions of this subsection is ineligible for the postretirement employment provisions of RCW 41.40.037(2)(d) until the retired member has reached sixty-five years of age. For purposes of this subsection, employment with an employer also includes any personal service contract, service by an employer as a temporary or project employee, or any other similar compensated relationship with any employer included under the provisions of RCW 41.40.690(1).))

The subsidized reductions for alternate early retirement in this subsection as set forth in section 9, chapter 491, Laws of 2007 were intended by the legislature as replacement benefits for gain-sharing. Until there is legal certainty with respect to the repeal of chapter 41.31A RCW, the right to retire under this subsection is noncontractual, and the legislature reserves the right to amend or repeal this subsection. Legal certainty includes, but is not limited to, the expiration of any: Applicable limitations on actions; and periods of time for seeking appellate review, up to and including reconsideration by the Washington supreme court and the supreme court

of the United States. Until that time, eligible members may still 1 2 retire under this subsection, and upon receipt of the first installment of a retirement allowance computed under this subsection, the resulting 3 benefit becomes contractual for the recipient. If the repeal of 4 chapter 41.31A RCW is held to be invalid in a final determination of a 5 court of law, and the court orders reinstatement of gain-sharing or 6 7 other alternate benefits as a remedy, then retirement benefits for any member who has completed at least thirty service credit years and has 8 9 attained age fifty-five but has not yet received the first installment 10 of a retirement allowance under this subsection shall be computed using the reductions in (a) of this subsection. 11

- 12 **Sec. 6.** RCW 41.40.820 and 2007 c 491 s 10 are each amended to read 13 as follows:
- 14 (1) NORMAL RETIREMENT. Any member who is at least age sixty-five and who has:
 - (a) Completed ten service credit years; or

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- (b) Completed five service credit years, including twelve service credit months after attaining age forty-four; or
- (c) Completed five service credit years by the transfer payment date specified in RCW 41.40.795, under the public employees' retirement system plan 2 and who transferred to plan 3 under RCW 41.40.795;
- shall be eligible to retire and to receive a retirement allowance computed according to the provisions of RCW 41.40.790.
 - (2) EARLY RETIREMENT. Any member who has attained at least age fifty-five and has completed at least ten years of service shall be eligible to retire and to receive a retirement allowance computed according to the provisions of RCW 41.40.790, except that a member retiring pursuant to this subsection shall have the retirement allowance actuarially reduced to reflect the difference in the number of years between age at retirement and the attainment of age sixty-five.
 - (3) ALTERNATE EARLY RETIREMENT.
 - (a) Any member who has completed at least thirty service credit years and has attained age fifty-five shall be eligible to retire and to receive a retirement allowance computed according to the provisions of RCW 41.40.790, except that a member retiring pursuant to this

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subsection shall have the retirement allowance reduced by three percent per year to reflect the difference in the number of years between age at retirement and the attainment of age sixty-five.

(b) On or after July 1, 2008, any member who has completed at least thirty service credit years and has attained age fifty-five shall be eligible to retire and to receive a retirement allowance computed according to the provisions of RCW 41.40.790, except that a member retiring pursuant to this subsection shall have the retirement allowance reduced as follows:

| 11 | Retirement | Percent |
|----|------------|-----------|
| 12 | Age | Reduction |
| 13 | 55 | 20% |
| 14 | 56 | 17% |
| 15 | 57 | 14% |
| 16 | 58 | 11% |
| 17 | 59 | 8% |
| 18 | 60 | 5% |
| 19 | 61 | 2% |
| 20 | 62 | 0% |
| 21 | 63 | 0% |
| 22 | 64 | 0% |

((Any member who retires under the provisions of this subsection is ineligible for the postretirement employment provisions of RCW 41.40.037(2)(d) until the retired member has reached sixty-five years of age. For purposes of this subsection, employment with an employer also includes any personal service contract, service by an employer as a temporary or project employee, or any other similar compensated relationship with any employer included under the provisions of RCW 41.40.850(1).))

The subsidized reductions for alternate early retirement in this subsection as set forth in section 10, chapter 491, Laws of 2007 were intended by the legislature as replacement benefits for gain-sharing. Until there is legal certainty with respect to the repeal of chapter 41.31A RCW, the right to retire under this subsection is noncontractual, and the legislature reserves the right to amend or

repeal this subsection. Legal certainty includes, but is not limited 1 2 to, the expiration of any: Applicable limitations on actions; and periods of time for seeking appellate review, up to and including 3 reconsideration by the Washington supreme court and the supreme court 4 of the United States. Until that time, eligible members may still 5 retire under this subsection, and upon receipt of the first installment 6 7 of a retirement allowance computed under this subsection, the resulting benefit becomes contractual for the recipient. If the repeal of 8 chapter 41.31A RCW is held to be invalid in a final determination of a 9 10 court of law, and the court orders reinstatement of gain-sharing or other alternate benefits as a remedy, then retirement benefits for any 11 12 member who has completed at least thirty service credit years and has 13 attained age fifty-five but has not yet received the first installment 14 of a retirement allowance under this subsection shall be computed using 15 the reductions in (a) of this subsection.

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