# CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

# ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5424

68th Legislature 2024 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate March 4, 2024 Yeas 48 Nays 0	CERTIFICATE
	I, Sarah Bannister, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is <b>ENGROSSED</b>
President of the Senate	SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5424 as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates
Passed by the House February 28, 2024 Yeas 96 Nays 0	hereon set forth.
Speaker of the House of Representatives	Secretary
Approved	FILED
Governor of the State of Washington	Secretary of State State of Washington

### ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5424

### AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2024 Regular Session

## State of Washington 68th Legislature 2023 Regular Session

By Senate Labor & Commerce (originally sponsored by Senators Lovick, Holy, Dhingra, Frame, Keiser, Kuderer, Shewmake, Stanford, Valdez, Warnick, and Wellman)

READ FIRST TIME 02/01/23.

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- AN ACT Relating to flexible work for general and limited authority Washington peace officers; amending RCW 41.26.030, 41.26.030, and 43.101.010; reenacting and amending RCW 10.93.020; adding a new section to chapter 49.28 RCW; providing an effective date; and providing an expiration date.
- 6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 49.28 RCW to read as follows:
  - (1) Every general authority and limited authority Washington law enforcement agency may adopt a flexible work policy. The policy may allow for general authority and limited authority Washington peace officers to work at less than full time when feasible, such as supplementing work during peak hours with part-time officers. The flexible work policy may include alternative shift and work schedules that fit the needs of the law enforcement agency.
- 16 (2) The flexible work policy adopted in subsection (1) of this section may require an officer have a certain number of years of experience as a full-time officer or have additional training for the officer to work part time or be eligible for any other types of flexible work.

1 (3) The flexible work policy adopted in subsection (1) of this 2 section may not cause the layoff or otherwise displace any full-time 3 officer.

- (4) This section does not alter any existing collective bargaining unit, the provisions of any existing collective bargaining agreement, or the duty of a law enforcement agency to meet their duty to bargain under chapter 41.56 or 41.80 RCW. Full-time and part-time officers working for the same law enforcement agency who are covered by a collective bargaining agreement must be in the same bargaining unit.
- (5) This section does not alter any laws or workplace policies relating to restrictions on secondary employment for general authority and limited authority Washington peace officers.
- 14 (6) For the purposes of this section, the definitions in this 15 subsection apply.
  - (a) "General authority and limited authority Washington law enforcement agency" has the same meaning as "general authority Washington law enforcement agency" and "limited authority Washington law enforcement agency" as defined in RCW 10.93.020 (3) and (5), respectively.
  - (b) "General authority and limited authority Washington peace officers" has the same meaning as "general authority Washington peace officer" and "limited authority Washington peace officer" as defined in RCW 10.93.020 (4) and (6), respectively.
- Sec. 2. RCW 10.93.020 and 2021 c 318 s 307 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

As used in this chapter, the following terms have the meanings indicated unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

- (1) "Agency with primary territorial jurisdiction" means a city or town police agency which has responsibility for police activity within its boundaries; or a county police or sheriff's department which has responsibility with regard to police activity in the unincorporated areas within the county boundaries; or a statutorily authorized port district police agency or four-year state college or university police agency which has responsibility for police activity within the statutorily authorized enforcement boundaries of the port district, state college, or university.
- (2) "Federal peace officer" means any employee or agent of the United States government who has the authority to carry firearms and

make warrantless arrests and whose duties involve the enforcement of criminal laws of the United States.

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- (3) "General authority Washington law enforcement agency" means any agency, department, or division of a municipal corporation, political subdivision, or other unit of local government of this state, and any agency, department, or division of state government, having as its primary function the detection and apprehension of persons committing infractions or violating the traffic or criminal laws in general, as distinguished from a limited authority Washington law enforcement agency, and any other unit of government expressly designated by statute as a general authority Washington law enforcement agency. The Washington state patrol and the department of fish and wildlife are general authority Washington law enforcement agencies.
- (4) "General authority Washington peace officer" means any ((full-time,)) fully compensated and elected, appointed, or employed officer of a general authority Washington law enforcement agency who is commissioned to enforce the criminal laws of the state of Washington generally.
- (5) "Limited authority Washington law enforcement agency" means any agency, political subdivision, or unit of local government of this state, and any agency, department, or division of state government, having as one of its functions the apprehension or detection of persons committing infractions or violating the traffic or criminal laws relating to limited subject areas, including but not limited to, the state departments of natural resources and social and health services, the state gambling commission, the state lottery commission, the state parks and recreation commission, the state utilities and transportation commission, the state liquor and cannabis board, the office of the insurance commissioner, the state department of corrections, and the office of independent investigations.
- (6) "Limited authority Washington peace officer" means any ((full-time,)) fully compensated officer of a limited authority Washington law enforcement agency empowered by that agency to detect or apprehend violators of the laws in some or all of the limited subject areas for which that agency is responsible. A limited authority Washington peace officer may be a specially commissioned Washington peace officer if otherwise qualified for such status under this chapter.

(7) "Mutual law enforcement assistance" includes, but is not limited to, one or more law enforcement agencies aiding or assisting one or more other such agencies through loans or exchanges of personnel or of material resources, for law enforcement purposes.

- (8) "Primary commissioning agency" means (a) the employing agency in the case of a general authority Washington peace officer, a limited authority Washington peace officer, a tribal peace officer from a federally recognized tribe, or a federal peace officer, and (b) the commissioning agency in the case of a specially commissioned Washington peace officer (i) who is performing functions within the course and scope of the special commission and (ii) who is not also a general authority Washington peace officer, a limited authority Washington peace officer, a tribal peace officer from a federally recognized tribe, or a federal peace officer.
- (9) "Primary function of an agency" means that function to which greater than fifty percent of the agency's resources are allocated.
- (10) "Reserve officer" means any person who does not serve as a regularly employed, fully compensated peace officer of this state, but who, when called by an agency into active service, is fully commissioned on the same basis as regularly employed, fully compensated officers to enforce the criminal laws of this state.
- (11) "Specially commissioned Washington peace officer," for the purposes of this chapter, means any officer, whether part-time or full-time, compensated or not, commissioned by a general authority Washington law enforcement agency to enforce some or all of the criminal laws of the state of Washington, who does not qualify under this chapter as a general authority Washington peace officer for that commissioning agency, specifically including reserve peace officers, and specially commissioned full-time, fully compensated peace officers duly commissioned by the states of Oregon or Idaho or any such peace officer commissioned by a unit of local government of Oregon or Idaho. ((A reserve peace officer is an individual who is an officer of a Washington law enforcement agency who does not serve such agency on a full-time basis but who, when called by the agency into active service, is fully commissioned on the same basis as full-time peace officers to enforce the criminal laws of the state.))
- **Sec. 3.** RCW 41.26.030 and 2021 c 12 s 2 are each amended to read as follows:

1 As used in this chapter, unless a different meaning is plainly 2 required by the context:

- (1) "Accumulated contributions" means the employee's contributions made by a member, including any amount paid under RCW 41.50.165(2), plus accrued interest credited thereon.
- (2) "Actuarial reserve" means a method of financing a pension or retirement plan wherein reserves are accumulated as the liabilities for benefit payments are incurred in order that sufficient funds will be available on the date of retirement of each member to pay the member's future benefits during the period of retirement.
- (3) "Actuarial valuation" means a mathematical determination of the financial condition of a retirement plan. It includes the computation of the present monetary value of benefits payable to present members, and the present monetary value of future employer and employee contributions, giving effect to mortality among active and retired members and also to the rates of disability, retirement, withdrawal from service, salary and interest earned on investments.
- (4) (a) "Basic salary" for plan 1 members, means the basic monthly rate of salary or wages, including longevity pay but not including overtime earnings or special salary or wages, upon which pension or retirement benefits will be computed and upon which employer contributions and salary deductions will be based.
- (b) "Basic salary" for plan 2 members, means salaries or wages earned by a member during a payroll period for personal services, including overtime payments, and shall include wages and salaries deferred under provisions established pursuant to sections 403(b), 414(h), and 457 of the United States Internal Revenue Code, but shall exclude lump sum payments for deferred annual sick leave, unused accumulated vacation, unused accumulated annual leave, or any form of severance pay. In any year in which a member serves in the legislature the member shall have the option of having such member's basic salary be the greater of:
- (i) The basic salary the member would have received had such member not served in the legislature; or
- 35 (ii) Such member's actual basic salary received for 36 nonlegislative public employment and legislative service combined. 37 Any additional contributions to the retirement system required 38 because basic salary under (b)(i) of this subsection is greater than 39 basic salary under (b)(ii) of this subsection shall be paid by the 40 member for both member and employer contributions.

- 1 (5)(a) "Beneficiary" for plan 1 members, means any person in 2 receipt of a retirement allowance, disability allowance, death 3 benefit, or any other benefit described herein.
  - (b) "Beneficiary" for plan 2 members, means any person in receipt of a retirement allowance or other benefit provided by this chapter resulting from service rendered to an employer by another person.
  - (6)(a) "Child" or "children" means an unmarried person who is under the age of eighteen or mentally or physically disabled as determined by the department, except a person who is disabled and in the full time care of a state institution, who is:
    - (i) A natural born child;

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- 12 (ii) A stepchild where that relationship was in existence prior 13 to the date benefits are payable under this chapter;
  - (iii) A posthumous child;
- 15 (iv) A child legally adopted or made a legal ward of a member 16 prior to the date benefits are payable under this chapter; or
  - (v) An illegitimate child legitimized prior to the date any benefits are payable under this chapter.
- 19 (b) A person shall also be deemed to be a child up to and 20 including the age of twenty years and eleven months while attending 21 any high school, college, or vocational or other educational 22 institution accredited, licensed, or approved by the state, in which 23 it is located, including the summer vacation months and all other 24 normal and regular vacation periods at the particular educational 25 institution after which the child returns to school.
- 26 (7) "Department" means the department of retirement systems 27 created in chapter 41.50 RCW.
  - (8) "Director" means the director of the department.
- (9) "Disability board" for plan 1 members means either the county disability board or the city disability board established in RCW 41.26.110.
- 32 (10) "Disability leave" means the period of six months or any 33 portion thereof during which a member is on leave at an allowance 34 equal to the member's full salary prior to the commencement of 35 disability retirement. The definition contained in this subsection 36 shall apply only to plan 1 members.
- 37 (11) "Disability retirement" for plan 1 members, means the period 38 following termination of a member's disability leave, during which 39 the member is in receipt of a disability retirement allowance.

1 (12) "Domestic partners" means two adults who have registered as domestic partners under RCW 26.60.020.

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- (13) "Employee" means any law enforcement officer or firefighter as defined in subsections (17) and (19) of this section.
- (14)(a) "Employer" for plan 1 members, means the legislative 5 authority of any city, town, county, district, or regional fire 6 protection service authority or the elected officials of any 7 municipal corporation that employs any law enforcement officer and/or 8 firefighter, any authorized association of such municipalities, and, 9 except for the purposes of RCW 41.26.150, any labor guild, 10 association, or organization, which represents the firefighters or 11 law enforcement officers of at least seven cities of over 20,000 12 population and the membership of each local lodge or division of 13 which is composed of at least sixty percent law enforcement officers 14 or firefighters as defined in this chapter. 15
  - (b) "Employer" for plan 2 members, means the following entities to the extent that the entity employs any law enforcement officer and/or firefighter:
  - (i) The legislative authority of any city, town, county, district, public corporation, or regional fire protection service authority established under RCW 35.21.730 to provide emergency medical services as defined in RCW 18.73.030;
    - (ii) The elected officials of any municipal corporation;
  - (iii) The governing body of any other general authority law enforcement agency;
    - (iv) A four-year institution of higher education having a fully operational fire department as of January 1, 1996; or
    - (v) The department of social and health services or the department of corrections when employing firefighters serving at a prison or civil commitment center on an island.
  - (c) Except as otherwise specifically provided in this chapter, "employer" does not include a government contractor. For purposes of this subsection, a "government contractor" is any entity, including a partnership, limited liability company, for-profit or nonprofit corporation, or person, that provides services pursuant to a contract with an "employer." The determination whether an employer-employee relationship has been established is not based on the relationship between a government contractor and an "employer," but is based solely on the relationship between a government contractor's employee and an "employer" under this chapter.

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(15) (a) "Final average salary" for plan 1 members, means (i) for a member holding the same position or rank for a minimum of twelve months preceding the date of retirement, the basic salary attached to such same position or rank at time of retirement; (ii) for any other member, including a civil service member who has not served a minimum of twelve months in the same position or rank preceding the date of retirement, the average of the greatest basic salaries payable to such member during any consecutive twenty-four month period within such member's last ten years of service for which service credit is allowed, computed by dividing the total basic salaries payable to such member during the selected twenty-four month period by twenty-four; (iii) in the case of disability of any member, the basic salary payable to such member at the time of disability retirement; (iv) in the case of a member who hereafter vests pursuant to RCW 41.26.090, the basic salary payable to such member at the time of vesting.

- (b) "Final average salary" for plan 2 members, means the monthly average of the member's basic salary for the highest consecutive sixty service credit months of service prior to such member's retirement, termination, or death. Periods constituting authorized unpaid leaves of absence may not be used in the calculation of final average salary.
- (c) In calculating final average salary under (a) or (b) of this subsection, the department of retirement systems shall include:
- (i) Any compensation forgone by a member employed by a state agency or institution during the 2009-2011 fiscal biennium as a result of reduced work hours, mandatory or voluntary leave without pay, temporary reduction in pay implemented prior to December 11, 2010, or temporary layoffs if the reduced compensation is an integral part of the employer's expenditure reduction efforts, as certified by the employer;
- (ii) Any compensation forgone by a member employed by the state or a local government employer during the 2011-2013 fiscal biennium as a result of reduced work hours, mandatory leave without pay, temporary layoffs, or reductions to current pay if the reduced compensation is an integral part of the employer's expenditure reduction efforts, as certified by the employer. Reductions to current pay shall not include elimination of previously agreed upon future salary increases; and
- 39 (iii) Any compensation forgone by a member employed by the state 40 or a local government employer during the 2019-2021 and 2021-2023

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- fiscal biennia as a result of reduced work hours, mandatory leave without pay, temporary layoffs, furloughs, reductions to current pay, or other similar measures resulting from the COVID-19 budgetary crisis, if the reduced compensation is an integral part of the employer's expenditure reduction efforts, as certified by the employer. Reductions to current pay shall not include elimination of previously agreed upon future salary increases.
  - (16) "Fire department" includes a fire station operated by the department of social and health services or the department of corrections when employing firefighters serving a prison or civil commitment center on an island.
    - (17) "Firefighter" means:

- (a) Any person who is serving on a full time, fully compensated basis as a member of a fire department of an employer and who is serving in a position which requires passing a civil service examination for firefighter, and who is actively employed as such;
- (b) Anyone who is actively employed as a full time firefighter where the fire department does not have a civil service examination;
  - (c) Supervisory firefighter personnel;
- (d) Any full time executive secretary of an association of fire protection districts authorized under RCW 52.12.031. The provisions of this subsection (17)(d) shall not apply to plan 2 members;
- (e) The executive secretary of a labor guild, association or organization (which is an employer under subsection (14) of this section), if such individual has five years previous membership in a retirement system established in chapter 41.16 or 41.18 RCW. The provisions of this subsection (17)(e) shall not apply to plan 2 members;
- (f) Any person who is serving on a full time, fully compensated basis for an employer, as a fire dispatcher, in a department in which, on March 1, 1970, a dispatcher was required to have passed a civil service examination for firefighter;
- (g) Any person who on March 1, 1970, was employed on a full time, fully compensated basis by an employer, and who on May 21, 1971, was making retirement contributions under the provisions of chapter 41.16 or 41.18 RCW; and
- 37 (h) Any person who is employed on a full-time, fully compensated 38 basis by an employer as an emergency medical technician that meets 39 the requirements of RCW 18.71.200 or 18.73.030((-(12))) (13), and

whose duties include providing emergency medical services as defined in RCW 18.73.030.

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- (18) "General authority law enforcement agency" means any agency, department, or division of a municipal corporation, political subdivision, or other unit of local government of this state, and any agency, department, or division of state government, having as its primary function the detection and apprehension of persons committing infractions or violating the traffic or criminal laws in general, but including the Washington state patrol. Such an department, or division is distinguished from a limited authority law enforcement agency having as one of its functions the apprehension or detection of persons committing infractions or violating the traffic or criminal laws relating to limited subject areas, including but not limited to, the state departments of natural resources and social and health services, the state gambling commission, the state lottery commission, the state parks and recreation commission, the state utilities and transportation commission, the state liquor and cannabis board, and the state department of corrections. A general authority law enforcement agency under this chapter does not include a government contractor.
  - (19) "Law enforcement officer" beginning January 1, 1994, means any person who is commissioned and employed by an employer on a full time, fully compensated basis to enforce the criminal laws of the state of Washington generally, with the following qualifications:
  - (a) No person who is serving in a position that is basically clerical or secretarial in nature, and who is not commissioned shall be considered a law enforcement officer;
  - (b) Only those deputy sheriffs, including those serving under a different title pursuant to county charter, who have successfully completed a civil service examination for deputy sheriff or the equivalent position, where a different title is used, and those persons serving in unclassified positions authorized by RCW 41.14.070 except a private secretary will be considered law enforcement officers;
  - (c) Only such full time commissioned law enforcement personnel as have been appointed to offices, positions, or ranks in the police department which have been specifically created or otherwise expressly provided for and designated by city charter provision or by ordinance enacted by the legislative body of the city shall be considered city police officers;

- (d) The term "law enforcement officer" also includes the executive secretary of a labor guild, association or organization (which is an employer under subsection (14) of this section) if that individual has five years previous membership in the retirement system established in chapter 41.20 RCW. The provisions of this subsection (19) (d) shall not apply to plan 2 members; ((and))
- (e) The term "law enforcement officer" also includes a person employed on or after January 1, 1993, as a public safety officer or director of public safety, so long as the job duties substantially involve only either police or fire duties, or both, and no other duties in a city or town with a population of less than ten thousand. The provisions of this subsection (19)(e) shall not apply to any public safety officer or director of public safety who is receiving a retirement allowance under this chapter as of May 12, 1993; and
- (f) Beginning July 1, 2024, the term "law enforcement officer" also includes any person who is commissioned and employed by an employer on a fully compensated basis to enforce the criminal laws of the state of Washington generally, on a less than full-time basis, with the qualifications in (a) through (e) of this subsection.
- (20) "Medical services" for plan 1 members, shall include the following as minimum services to be provided. Reasonable charges for these services shall be paid in accordance with RCW 41.26.150.
- 23 (a) Hospital expenses: These are the charges made by a hospital, 24 in its own behalf, for
  - (i) Board and room not to exceed semiprivate room rate unless private room is required by the attending physician due to the condition of the patient.
- 28 (ii) Necessary hospital services, other than board and room, 29 furnished by the hospital.
- 30 (b) Other medical expenses: The following charges are considered 31 "other medical expenses," provided that they have not been considered 32 as "hospital expenses".
  - (i) The fees of the following:

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- 34 (A) A physician or surgeon licensed under the provisions of 35 chapter 18.71 RCW;
- 36 (B) An osteopathic physician and surgeon licensed under the provisions of chapter 18.57 RCW;
- 38 (C) A chiropractor licensed under the provisions of chapter 18.25 39 RCW.

- 1 (ii) The charges of a registered graduate nurse other than a 2 nurse who ordinarily resides in the member's home, or is a member of 3 the family of either the member or the member's spouse.
- 4 (iii) The charges for the following medical services and 5 supplies:
  - (A) Drugs and medicines upon a physician's prescription;
  - (B) Diagnostic X-ray and laboratory examinations;
  - (C) X-ray, radium, and radioactive isotopes therapy;
  - (D) Anesthesia and oxygen;

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- 10 (E) Rental of iron lung and other durable medical and surgical 11 equipment;
  - (F) Artificial limbs and eyes, and casts, splints, and trusses;
- 13 (G) Professional ambulance service when used to transport the 14 member to or from a hospital when injured by an accident or stricken 15 by a disease;
  - (H) Dental charges incurred by a member who sustains an accidental injury to his or her teeth and who commences treatment by a legally licensed dentist within ninety days after the accident;
    - (I) Nursing home confinement or hospital extended care facility;
    - (J) Physical therapy by a registered physical therapist;
- 21 (K) Blood transfusions, including the cost of blood and blood 22 plasma not replaced by voluntary donors;
- 23 (L) An optometrist licensed under the provisions of chapter 18.53 24 RCW.
  - (21) "Member" means any firefighter, law enforcement officer, or other person as would apply under subsection (17) or (19) of this section whose membership is transferred to the Washington law enforcement officers' and firefighters' retirement system on or after March 1, 1970, and every law enforcement officer and firefighter who is employed in that capacity on or after such date.
- 31 (22) "Plan 1" means the law enforcement officers' and 32 firefighters' retirement system, plan 1 providing the benefits and 33 funding provisions covering persons who first became members of the 34 system prior to October 1, 1977.
  - (23) "Plan 2" means the law enforcement officers' and firefighters' retirement system, plan 2 providing the benefits and funding provisions covering persons who first became members of the system on and after October 1, 1977.
- 39 (24) "Position" means the employment held at any particular time, 40 which may or may not be the same as civil service rank.

1 (25) "Regular interest" means such rate as the director may determine.

- (26) "Retiree" for persons who establish membership in the retirement system on or after October 1, 1977, means any member in receipt of a retirement allowance or other benefit provided by this chapter resulting from service rendered to an employer by such member.
- 8 (27) "Retirement fund" means the "Washington law enforcement 9 officers' and firefighters' retirement system fund" as provided for 10 herein.
  - (28) "Retirement system" means the "Washington law enforcement officers' and firefighters' retirement system" provided herein.
  - (29) (a) "Service" for plan 1 members, means all periods of employment for an employer as a firefighter or law enforcement officer, for which compensation is paid, together with periods of suspension not exceeding thirty days in duration. For the purposes of this chapter service shall also include service in the armed forces of the United States as provided in RCW 41.26.190. Credit shall be allowed for all service credit months of service rendered by a member from and after the member's initial commencement of employment as a firefighter or law enforcement officer, during which the member worked for seventy or more hours, or was on disability leave or disability retirement. Only service credit months of service shall be counted in the computation of any retirement allowance or other benefit provided for in this chapter.
  - (i) For members retiring after May 21, 1971 who were employed under the coverage of a prior pension act before March 1, 1970, "service" shall also include (A) such military service not exceeding five years as was creditable to the member as of March 1, 1970, under the member's particular prior pension act, and (B) such other periods of service as were then creditable to a particular member under the provisions of RCW 41.18.165, 41.20.160, or 41.20.170. However, in no event shall credit be allowed for any service rendered prior to March 1, 1970, where the member at the time of rendition of such service was employed in a position covered by a prior pension act, unless such service, at the time credit is claimed therefor, is also creditable under the provisions of such prior act.
- (ii) A member who is employed by two employers at the same time shall only be credited with service to one such employer for any month during which the member rendered such dual service.

(iii) Reduction efforts such as furloughs, reduced work hours, mandatory leave without pay, temporary layoffs, or other similar situations as contemplated by subsection (15)(c)(iii) of this section do not result in a reduction in service credit that otherwise would have been earned for that month of work, and the member shall receive the full service credit for the hours that were scheduled to be worked before the reduction.

- (b) (i) "Service" for plan 2 members, means periods of employment by a member for one or more employers for which basic salary is earned for ninety or more hours per calendar month which shall constitute a service credit month. Periods of employment by a member for one or more employers for which basic salary is earned for at least seventy hours but less than ninety hours per calendar month shall constitute one-half service credit month. Periods of employment by a member for one or more employers for which basic salary is earned for less than seventy hours shall constitute a one-quarter service credit month.
- (ii) Members of the retirement system who are elected or appointed to a state elective position may elect to continue to be members of this retirement system.
- (iii) Service credit years of service shall be determined by dividing the total number of service credit months of service by twelve. Any fraction of a service credit year of service as so determined shall be taken into account in the computation of such retirement allowance or benefits.
- (iv) If a member receives basic salary from two or more employers during any calendar month, the individual shall receive one service credit month's service credit during any calendar month in which multiple service for ninety or more hours is rendered; or one-half service credit month's service credit during any calendar month in which multiple service for at least seventy hours but less than ninety hours is rendered; or one-quarter service credit month during any calendar month in which multiple service for less than seventy hours is rendered.
- (v) Reduction efforts such as furloughs, reduced work hours, mandatory leave without pay, temporary layoffs, or other similar situations as contemplated by subsection (15)(c)(iii) of this section do not result in a reduction in service credit that otherwise would have been earned for that month of work, and the member shall receive

- the full service credit for the hours that were scheduled to be worked before the reduction.
- 3 (30) "Service credit month" means a full service credit month or 4 an accumulation of partial service credit months that are equal to 5 one.
- 6 (31) "Service credit year" means an accumulation of months of service credit which is equal to one when divided by twelve.
- 8 (32) "State actuary" or "actuary" means the person appointed 9 pursuant to RCW 44.44.010(2).
- 10 (33) "State elective position" means any position held by any 11 person elected or appointed to statewide office or elected or 12 appointed as a member of the legislature.
- 13 (34) "Surviving spouse" means the surviving widow or widower of a 14 member. "Surviving spouse" shall not include the divorced spouse of a 15 member except as provided in RCW 41.26.162.
- 16 **Sec. 4.** RCW 41.26.030 and 2023 c 77 s 1 are each amended to read 17 as follows:
- 18 As used in this chapter, unless a different meaning is plainly 19 required by the context:
- 20 (1) "Accumulated contributions" means the employee's contributions made by a member, including any amount paid under RCW 22 41.50.165(2), plus accrued interest credited thereon.

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- (2) "Actuarial reserve" means a method of financing a pension or retirement plan wherein reserves are accumulated as the liabilities for benefit payments are incurred in order that sufficient funds will be available on the date of retirement of each member to pay the member's future benefits during the period of retirement.
- (3) "Actuarial valuation" means a mathematical determination of the financial condition of a retirement plan. It includes the computation of the present monetary value of benefits payable to present members, and the present monetary value of future employer and employee contributions, giving effect to mortality among active and retired members and also to the rates of disability, retirement, withdrawal from service, salary and interest earned on investments.
- 35 (4)(a) "Basic salary" for plan 1 members, means the basic monthly 36 rate of salary or wages, including longevity pay but not including 37 overtime earnings or special salary or wages, upon which pension or 38 retirement benefits will be computed and upon which employer 39 contributions and salary deductions will be based.

- (b) "Basic salary" for plan 2 members, means salaries or wages earned by a member during a payroll period for personal services, including overtime payments, and shall include wages and salaries deferred under provisions established pursuant to sections 403(b), 414(h), and 457 of the United States Internal Revenue Code, but shall exclude lump sum payments for deferred annual sick leave, unused accumulated vacation, unused accumulated annual leave, or any form of severance pay. In any year in which a member serves in the legislature the member shall have the option of having such member's basic salary be the greater of:
  - (i) The basic salary the member would have received had such member not served in the legislature; or
- (ii) Such member's actual basic salary received for nonlegislative public employment and legislative service combined. Any additional contributions to the retirement system required because basic salary under (b)(i) of this subsection is greater than basic salary under (b)(ii) of this subsection shall be paid by the member for both member and employer contributions.
- (5)(a) "Beneficiary" for plan 1 members, means any person in receipt of a retirement allowance, disability allowance, death benefit, or any other benefit described herein.
  - (b) "Beneficiary" for plan 2 members, means any person in receipt of a retirement allowance or other benefit provided by this chapter resulting from service rendered to an employer by another person.
- (6)(a) "Child" or "children" means an unmarried person who is under the age of eighteen or mentally or physically disabled as determined by the department, except a person who is disabled and in the full time care of a state institution, who is:
  - (i) A natural born child;

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- (ii) A stepchild where that relationship was in existence prior 30 31 to the date benefits are payable under this chapter;
  - (iii) A posthumous child;
  - (iv) A child legally adopted or made a legal ward of a member prior to the date benefits are payable under this chapter; or
- (v) An illegitimate child legitimized prior to the date any 35 36 benefits are payable under this chapter.
- (b) A person shall also be deemed to be a child up to and 37 including the age of twenty years and eleven months while attending 38 39 any high school, college, or vocational or other educational institution accredited, licensed, or approved by the state, in which

- it is located, including the summer vacation months and all other normal and regular vacation periods at the particular educational institution after which the child returns to school.
- 4 (7) "Department" means the department of retirement systems 5 created in chapter 41.50 RCW.
  - (8) "Director" means the director of the department.

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- 7 (9) "Disability board" for plan 1 members means either the county 8 disability board or the city disability board established in RCW 9 41.26.110.
- 10 (10) "Disability leave" means the period of six months or any portion thereof during which a member is on leave at an allowance equal to the member's full salary prior to the commencement of disability retirement. The definition contained in this subsection shall apply only to plan 1 members.
- 15 (11) "Disability retirement" for plan 1 members, means the period 16 following termination of a member's disability leave, during which 17 the member is in receipt of a disability retirement allowance.
  - (12) "Domestic partners" means two adults who have registered as domestic partners under RCW 26.60.020.
- 20 (13) "Employee" means any law enforcement officer or firefighter 21 as defined in subsections (17) and (19) of this section.
  - (14) (a) "Employer" for plan 1 members, means the legislative authority of any city, town, county, district, or regional fire protection service authority or the elected officials of any municipal corporation that employs any law enforcement officer and/or firefighter, any authorized association of such municipalities, and, except for the purposes of RCW 41.26.150, any labor guild, association, or organization, which represents the firefighters or law enforcement officers of at least seven cities of over 20,000 population and the membership of each local lodge or division of which is composed of at least sixty percent law enforcement officers or firefighters as defined in this chapter.
  - (b) "Employer" for plan 2 members, means the following entities to the extent that the entity employs any law enforcement officer and/or firefighter:
  - (i) The legislative authority of any city, town, county, district, public corporation, or regional fire protection service authority established under RCW 35.21.730 to provide emergency medical services as defined in RCW 18.73.030;
    - (ii) The elected officials of any municipal corporation;

1 (iii) The governing body of any other general authority law 2 enforcement agency;

- (iv) A four-year institution of higher education having a fully operational fire department as of January 1, 1996; or
- (v) The department of social and health services or the department of corrections when employing firefighters serving at a prison or civil commitment center on an island.
- (c) Except as otherwise specifically provided in this chapter, "employer" does not include a government contractor. For purposes of this subsection, a "government contractor" is any entity, including a partnership, limited liability company, for-profit or nonprofit corporation, or person, that provides services pursuant to a contract with an "employer." The determination whether an employer-employee relationship has been established is not based on the relationship between a government contractor and an "employer," but is based solely on the relationship between a government contractor's employee and an "employer" under this chapter.
- (15)(a) "Final average salary" for plan 1 members, means (i) for a member holding the same position or rank for a minimum of twelve months preceding the date of retirement, the basic salary attached to such same position or rank at time of retirement; (ii) for any other member, including a civil service member who has not served a minimum of twelve months in the same position or rank preceding the date of retirement, the average of the greatest basic salaries payable to such member during any consecutive twenty-four month period within such member's last ten years of service for which service credit is allowed, computed by dividing the total basic salaries payable to such member during the selected twenty-four month period by twenty-four; (iii) in the case of disability of any member, the basic salary payable to such member at the time of disability retirement; (iv) in the case of a member who hereafter vests pursuant to RCW 41.26.090, the basic salary payable to such member at the time of vesting.
- (b) "Final average salary" for plan 2 members, means the monthly average of the member's basic salary for the highest consecutive sixty service credit months of service prior to such member's retirement, termination, or death. Periods constituting authorized unpaid leaves of absence may not be used in the calculation of final average salary.
- 39 (c) In calculating final average salary under (a) or (b) of this 40 subsection, the department of retirement systems shall include:

- (i) Any compensation forgone by a member employed by a state agency or institution during the 2009-2011 fiscal biennium as a result of reduced work hours, mandatory or voluntary leave without pay, temporary reduction in pay implemented prior to December 11, 2010, or temporary layoffs if the reduced compensation is an integral part of the employer's expenditure reduction efforts, as certified by the employer;
- (ii) Any compensation forgone by a member employed by the state or a local government employer during the 2011-2013 fiscal biennium as a result of reduced work hours, mandatory leave without pay, temporary layoffs, or reductions to current pay if the reduced compensation is an integral part of the employer's expenditure reduction efforts, as certified by the employer. Reductions to current pay shall not include elimination of previously agreed upon future salary increases; and
- (iii) Any compensation forgone by a member employed by the state or a local government employer during the 2019-2021 and 2021-2023 fiscal biennia as a result of reduced work hours, mandatory leave without pay, temporary layoffs, furloughs, reductions to current pay, or other similar measures resulting from the COVID-19 budgetary crisis, if the reduced compensation is an integral part of the employer's expenditure reduction efforts, as certified by the employer. Reductions to current pay shall not include elimination of previously agreed upon future salary increases.
- (16) "Fire department" includes a fire station operated by the department of social and health services or the department of corrections when employing firefighters serving a prison or civil commitment center on an island.
  - (17) "Firefighter" means:

- (a) Any person who is serving on a full time, fully compensated basis as a member of a fire department of an employer and who is serving in a position which requires passing a civil service examination for firefighter, and who is actively employed as such;
- (b) Anyone who is actively employed as a full time firefighter where the fire department does not have a civil service examination;
  - (c) Supervisory firefighter personnel;
- 37 (d) Any full time executive secretary of an association of fire 38 protection districts authorized under RCW 52.12.031. The provisions 39 of this subsection (17)(d) shall not apply to plan 2 members;

(e) The executive secretary of a labor guild, association or organization (which is an employer under subsection (14) of this section), if such individual has five years previous membership in a retirement system established in chapter 41.16 or 41.18 RCW. The provisions of this subsection (17)(e) shall not apply to plan 2 members;

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- (f) Any person who is serving on a full time, fully compensated basis for an employer, as a fire dispatcher, in a department in which, on March 1, 1970, a dispatcher was required to have passed a civil service examination for firefighter;
- (g) Any person who on March 1, 1970, was employed on a full time, fully compensated basis by an employer, and who on May 21, 1971, was making retirement contributions under the provisions of chapter 41.16 or 41.18 RCW; and
- (h) Any person who is employed on a full-time, fully compensated basis by an employer as an emergency medical technician that meets the requirements of RCW 18.71.200 or 18.73.030(13), and whose duties include providing emergency medical services as defined in RCW 18.73.030.
- (18) "General authority law enforcement agency" means any agency, department, or division of a municipal corporation, political subdivision, or other unit of local government of this state, the government of a federally recognized tribe, and any agency, department, or division of state government, having as its primary function the detection and apprehension of persons committing infractions or violating the traffic or criminal laws in general, but not including the Washington state patrol. Such an department, or division is distinguished from a limited authority law enforcement agency having as one of its functions the apprehension or detection of persons committing infractions or violating the traffic or criminal laws relating to limited subject areas, including but not limited to, the state departments of natural resources and social and health services, the state gambling commission, the state lottery commission, the state parks and recreation commission, the state utilities and transportation commission, the state liquor and cannabis board, and the state department of corrections. A general authority law enforcement agency under this chapter does not include a government contractor.
- (19) "Law enforcement officer" beginning January 1, 1994, means any person who is commissioned and employed by an employer on a full

time, fully compensated basis to enforce the criminal laws of the state of Washington generally, with the following qualifications:

- (a) No person who is serving in a position that is basically clerical or secretarial in nature, and who is not commissioned shall be considered a law enforcement officer;
- (b) Only those deputy sheriffs, including those serving under a different title pursuant to county charter, who have successfully completed a civil service examination for deputy sheriff or the equivalent position, where a different title is used, and those persons serving in unclassified positions authorized by RCW 41.14.070 except a private secretary will be considered law enforcement officers;
- (c) Only such full time commissioned law enforcement personnel as have been appointed to offices, positions, or ranks in the police department which have been specifically created or otherwise expressly provided for and designated by city charter provision or by ordinance enacted by the legislative body of the city shall be considered city police officers;
- (d) The term "law enforcement officer" also includes the executive secretary of a labor guild, association or organization (which is an employer under subsection (14) of this section) if that individual has five years previous membership in the retirement system established in chapter 41.20 RCW. The provisions of this subsection (19) (d) shall not apply to plan 2 members;
- (e) The term "law enforcement officer" also includes a person employed on or after January 1, 1993, as a public safety officer or director of public safety, so long as the job duties substantially involve only either police or fire duties, or both, and no other duties in a city or town with a population of less than ten thousand. The provisions of this subsection (19)(e) shall not apply to any public safety officer or director of public safety who is receiving a retirement allowance under this chapter as of May 12, 1993; ((and))
- (f) The term "law enforcement officer" also includes a person who is employed on or after January 1, 2024, on a full-time basis by the government of a federally recognized tribe within the state of Washington that meets the terms and conditions of RCW 41.26.565, is employed in a police department maintained by that tribe, and who is currently certified as a general authority peace officer under chapter 43.101 RCW; and

- (g) Beginning July 1, 2024, the term "law enforcement officer"
  also includes any person who is commissioned and employed by an
  employer on a fully compensated basis to enforce the criminal laws of
  the state of Washington generally, on a less than full-time basis,
  with the qualifications in (a) through (e) of this subsection.
  - (20) "Medical services" for plan 1 members, shall include the following as minimum services to be provided. Reasonable charges for these services shall be paid in accordance with RCW 41.26.150.
- 9 (a) Hospital expenses: These are the charges made by a hospital, 10 in its own behalf, for
- (i) Board and room not to exceed semiprivate room rate unless private room is required by the attending physician due to the condition of the patient.
- 14 (ii) Necessary hospital services, other than board and room, 15 furnished by the hospital.
  - (b) Other medical expenses: The following charges are considered "other medical expenses," provided that they have not been considered as "hospital expenses."
    - (i) The fees of the following:

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- 20 (A) A physician or surgeon licensed under the provisions of 21 chapter 18.71 RCW;
- 22 (B) An osteopathic physician and surgeon licensed under the 23 provisions of chapter 18.57 RCW;
- (C) A chiropractor licensed under the provisions of chapter 18.25 RCW.
  - (ii) The charges of a registered graduate nurse other than a nurse who ordinarily resides in the member's home, or is a member of the family of either the member or the member's spouse.
- 29 (iii) The charges for the following medical services and 30 supplies:
  - (A) Drugs and medicines upon a physician's prescription;
  - (B) Diagnostic X-ray and laboratory examinations;
  - (C) X-ray, radium, and radioactive isotopes therapy;
  - (D) Anesthesia and oxygen;
- 35 (E) Rental of iron lung and other durable medical and surgical again equipment;
  - (F) Artificial limbs and eyes, and casts, splints, and trusses;
- 38 (G) Professional ambulance service when used to transport the 39 member to or from a hospital when injured by an accident or stricken 40 by a disease;

- 1 (H) Dental charges incurred by a member who sustains an 2 accidental injury to his or her teeth and who commences treatment by 3 a legally licensed dentist within ninety days after the accident;
  - (I) Nursing home confinement or hospital extended care facility;
  - (J) Physical therapy by a registered physical therapist;

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- 6 (K) Blood transfusions, including the cost of blood and blood 7 plasma not replaced by voluntary donors;
- 8 (L) An optometrist licensed under the provisions of chapter 18.53 9 RCW.
  - (21) "Member" means any firefighter, law enforcement officer, or other person as would apply under subsection (17) or (19) of this section whose membership is transferred to the Washington law enforcement officers' and firefighters' retirement system on or after March 1, 1970, and every law enforcement officer and firefighter who is employed in that capacity on or after such date.
- 16 (22) "Plan 1" means the law enforcement officers' and 17 firefighters' retirement system, plan 1 providing the benefits and 18 funding provisions covering persons who first became members of the 19 system prior to October 1, 1977.
  - (23) "Plan 2" means the law enforcement officers' and firefighters' retirement system, plan 2 providing the benefits and funding provisions covering persons who first became members of the system on and after October 1, 1977.
- 24 (24) "Position" means the employment held at any particular time, 25 which may or may not be the same as civil service rank.
- 26 (25) "Regular interest" means such rate as the director may 27 determine.
  - (26) "Retiree" for persons who establish membership in the retirement system on or after October 1, 1977, means any member in receipt of a retirement allowance or other benefit provided by this chapter resulting from service rendered to an employer by such member.
- 33 (27) "Retirement fund" means the "Washington law enforcement 34 officers' and firefighters' retirement system fund" as provided for 35 herein.
- 36 (28) "Retirement system" means the "Washington law enforcement 37 officers' and firefighters' retirement system" provided herein.
- 38 (29)(a) "Service" for plan 1 members, means all periods of 39 employment for an employer as a firefighter or law enforcement 40 officer, for which compensation is paid, together with periods of

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suspension not exceeding thirty days in duration. For the purposes of this chapter service shall also include service in the armed forces of the United States as provided in RCW 41.26.190. Credit shall be allowed for all service credit months of service rendered by a member from and after the member's initial commencement of employment as a firefighter or law enforcement officer, during which the member worked for seventy or more hours, or was on disability leave or disability retirement. Only service credit months of service shall be counted in the computation of any retirement allowance or other benefit provided for in this chapter. 

- (i) For members retiring after May 21, 1971 who were employed under the coverage of a prior pension act before March 1, 1970, "service" shall also include (A) such military service not exceeding five years as was creditable to the member as of March 1, 1970, under the member's particular prior pension act, and (B) such other periods of service as were then creditable to a particular member under the provisions of RCW 41.18.165, 41.20.160, or 41.20.170. However, in no event shall credit be allowed for any service rendered prior to March 1, 1970, where the member at the time of rendition of such service was employed in a position covered by a prior pension act, unless such service, at the time credit is claimed therefor, is also creditable under the provisions of such prior act.
- (ii) A member who is employed by two employers at the same time shall only be credited with service to one such employer for any month during which the member rendered such dual service.
- (iii) Reduction efforts such as furloughs, reduced work hours, mandatory leave without pay, temporary layoffs, or other similar situations as contemplated by subsection (15)(c)(iii) of this section do not result in a reduction in service credit that otherwise would have been earned for that month of work, and the member shall receive the full service credit for the hours that were scheduled to be worked before the reduction.
- (b) (i) "Service" for plan 2 members, means periods of employment by a member for one or more employers for which basic salary is earned for ninety or more hours per calendar month which shall constitute a service credit month. Periods of employment by a member for one or more employers for which basic salary is earned for at least seventy hours but less than ninety hours per calendar month shall constitute one-half service credit month. Periods of employment by a member for one or more employers for which basic salary is

earned for less than seventy hours shall constitute a one-quarter service credit month.

- (ii) Members of the retirement system who are elected or appointed to a state elective position may elect to continue to be members of this retirement system.
- (iii) Service credit years of service shall be determined by dividing the total number of service credit months of service by twelve. Any fraction of a service credit year of service as so determined shall be taken into account in the computation of such retirement allowance or benefits.
- (iv) If a member receives basic salary from two or more employers during any calendar month, the individual shall receive one service credit month's service credit during any calendar month in which multiple service for ninety or more hours is rendered; or one-half service credit month's service credit during any calendar month in which multiple service for at least seventy hours but less than ninety hours is rendered; or one-quarter service credit month during any calendar month in which multiple service for less than seventy hours is rendered.
- (v) Reduction efforts such as furloughs, reduced work hours, mandatory leave without pay, temporary layoffs, or other similar situations as contemplated by subsection (15)(c)(iii) of this section do not result in a reduction in service credit that otherwise would have been earned for that month of work, and the member shall receive the full service credit for the hours that were scheduled to be worked before the reduction.
- (30) "Service credit month" means a full service credit month or an accumulation of partial service credit months that are equal to one.
- 30 (31) "Service credit year" means an accumulation of months of 31 service credit which is equal to one when divided by twelve.
- 32 (32) "State actuary" or "actuary" means the person appointed 33 pursuant to RCW 44.44.010(2).
  - (33) "State elective position" means any position held by any person elected or appointed to statewide office or elected or appointed as a member of the legislature.
- 37 (34) "Surviving spouse" means the surviving widow or widower of a 38 member. "Surviving spouse" shall not include the divorced spouse of a 39 member except as provided in RCW 41.26.162.

**Sec. 5.** RCW 43.101.010 and 2023 c 168 s 1 are each amended to read as follows:

When used in this chapter:

- (1) "Applicant" means an individual who has received a conditional offer of employment with a law enforcement or corrections agency.
- (2) "Chief for a day program" means a program in which commissioners and staff partner with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, hospitals, and the community to provide a day of special attention to chronically ill children. Each child is selected and sponsored by a law enforcement agency. The event, "chief for a day," occurs on one day, annually or every other year and may occur on the grounds and in the facilities of the commission. The program may include any appropriate honoring of the child as a "chief," such as a certificate swearing them in as a chief, a badge, a uniform, and donated gifts such as games, puzzles, and art supplies.
- (3) "Commission" means the Washington state criminal justice training commission.
- (4) "Convicted" means at the time a plea of guilty, nolo contendere, or deferred sentence has been accepted, or a verdict of guilty or finding of guilt has been filed, notwithstanding the pendency of any future proceedings, including but not limited to sentencing, posttrial or postfact-finding motions and appeals. "Conviction" includes all instances in which a plea of guilty or nolo contendere is the basis for conviction, all proceedings in which there is a case disposition agreement, and any equivalent disposition by a court in a jurisdiction other than the state of Washington.
- (5) "Correctional personnel" means any employee or volunteer who by state, county, municipal, or combination thereof, statute has the responsibility for the confinement, care, management, training, treatment, education, supervision, or counseling of those individuals whose civil rights have been limited in some way by legal sanction.
- (6) "Corrections officer" means any corrections agency employee whose primary job function is to provide for the custody, safety, and security of adult persons in jails and detention facilities in the state. "Corrections officer" does not include individuals employed by state agencies.
- 39 (7) "Criminal justice personnel" means any person who serves as a 40 peace officer, reserve officer, or corrections officer.

(8) "Finding" means a determination based on a preponderance of the evidence whether alleged misconduct occurred; did not occur; occurred, but was consistent with law and policy; or could neither be proven or disproven.

- (9) "Law enforcement personnel" means any person elected, appointed, or employed as a general authority Washington peace officer as defined in RCW 10.93.020 or as a limited authority Washington peace officer as defined in RCW 10.93.020 who as a normal part of their duties has powers of arrest and carries a firearm. For the purposes of this chapter, "law enforcement personnel" does not include individuals employed by the department of corrections.
- (10) "Peace officer" has the same meaning as a general authority Washington peace officer as defined in RCW 10.93.020. Commissioned officers of the Washington state patrol, whether they have been or may be exempted by rule of the commission from the basic training requirement of RCW 43.101.200, are included as peace officers for purposes of this chapter. Fish and wildlife officers with enforcement powers for all criminal laws under RCW 77.15.075 are peace officers for purposes of this chapter. Limited authority Washington peace officers as defined in RCW 10.93.020, who have powers of arrest and carry a firearm as part of their normal duty, are peace officers for purposes of this chapter. For the purposes of this chapter, "peace officer" does not include individuals employed by the department of corrections.
- (11) "Reserve officer" ((means any person who does not serve as a peace officer of this state on a full-time basis, but who, when called by an agency into active service, is fully commissioned on the same basis as full-time officers to enforce the criminal laws of this state and includes:
  - (a))) has the same meaning as provided in RCW 10.93.020.
- 31 (12) "Specially commissioned Washington peace officer((s as defined))" has the same meaning as provided in RCW 10.93.020(( $\div$ 
  - (b) Persons employed as security by public institutions of higher education as defined in RCW 28B.10.016; and
- 35 (c) Persons employed for the purpose of providing security in the K-12 Washington state public school system as defined in RCW 28A.150.010 and who are authorized to use force in fulfilling their responsibilities)).

- 1  $((\frac{(12)}{(13)}))$  "Tribal police officer" means any person employed
- 2 and commissioned by a tribal government to enforce the criminal laws
- 3 of that government.
- 4 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 6.** Section 3 of this act expires July 1,
- 5 2025.
- 6 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 7.** Section 4 of this act takes effect July 1,
- 7 2025.

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