



This year's legislative session is very busy. There are several bills that have the potential of impacting PERSI including PERSI's own legislative bills. As of this newsletter, the following bills are either signed by the Governor or active in the legislature.

PERSI'S LEGISLATION

H429 An active or inactive member who is vested may purchase up to forty-eight (48) months of membership service within ninety (90) days prior to the date of retirement as defined in section 1259-1302(28), Idaho Code. *Signed by Governor Little and will become effective July 1, 2024.*

H430 Adds School Employee class to the disability section of PERSI statute 59-1352. This correction to the statute will codify that the School Employee class has access to the same disability retirement benefit they had when they were members of the general class. *Signed by Governor Little and will become effective July 1, 2024.*

H431 PERSI amending statute 59-1352 to allow for Roth IRA contributions to the PERSI Choice 401(k) Plan. To comply with SECURE 2.0 catch-up contribution regulations, a qualified after-tax contribution investment option must be available to participate in catch-up contributions. Idaho Statute 59-1308(9) needs to be updated to allow for this type of investment option to be in compliance with federal law. *Signed by Governor Little and will become effective July 1, 2024.*

H432 PERSI is asking that the penalty for disclosing member confidential information be a felony. Any board member, director, deputy, employee, contractor, or any person formerly employed in any such position who knowingly violates any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a felony and, upon conviction, shall be punished by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100) nor more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or by imprisonment for not more than five (5) years.

Upon such conviction, such person shall also forfeit his office, employment, or contract, if any, and shall be ineligible to hold any public office in this state for a period of two (2) years. Nothing in this subsection shall limit the retirement system's ability to take any and all disciplinary actions authorized pursuant to chapter 53, title 67, Idaho Code. *Signed by Governor Little and will become effective July 1, 2024.*

LEGISLATION THAT WILL IMPACT PERSI

H508 The purpose of this legislation is to add Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) certified juvenile detention supervisors, juvenile probation supervisors, adult misdemeanor supervisors, emergency communications supervisors and Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections to the Rule of 80 retirement plan as is currently conducted with their adult counterparts. *Currently active in the legislature.*

S1283 This legislation amends the definition of "employee" for the purposes of PERSI enrollment to exclude seasonal employees of soil and water conservation districts in positions that do not exceed eight (8) consecutive months in a calendar year if the employer certifies in writing that the position is seasonal or casual and is affected by weather.

This definition already applies to seasonal golf course, park, or other positions in cities, counties, irrigation districts, cemetery districts, and mosquito abatement districts. *Currently active in the legislature.*

S1315 This legislation is to repeal language in Section 59-1356 Idaho Code that deals with first responders and the conditions under which they could retire and then return to work within thirty (30) days with no break in service.

Senate Bill 1054 passed in the 2023 session allowing first responders fifty (50) years of age and older to retire, then return to work within thirty (30) days while continuing to receive PERSI retirement benefits. *Currently active in the legislature.*

An update on the mentioned legislation and any other related news will be provided in the next newsletter.