

1 HB29  
2 164421-1  
3 By Representative Wood  
4 RFD: Ways and Means General Fund  
5 First Read: 03-MAR-15  
6 PFD: 02/18/2015

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, a member of the  
9 Employees' Retirement System who is away from work  
10 because of a job related injury and is receiving  
11 workers' compensation benefits is not allowed to  
12 make a contribution to the retirement system to  
13 make up for the retirement contribution he or she  
14 lost while away from his or her job.

15 This bill would allow a member of the  
16 retirement system to purchase this service at  
17 actuarial cost.

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19 A BILL  
20 TO BE ENTITLED  
21 AN ACT

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23 Relating to the Employees' Retirement System of  
24 Alabama; to allow a member of the retirement system who is  
25 away from work because of a job related injury and is  
26 receiving workers' compensation benefits pursuant to Section  
27 25-5-1, Code of Alabama 1975, to purchase this service.

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

2 Section 1. (a) Notwithstanding any other laws, any  
3 active and contributing member of the Employees' Retirement  
4 System of Alabama may purchase up to two years of service  
5 credit for the time he or she was receiving benefits pursuant  
6 to the Alabama Workers' Compensation Act, commencing with  
7 Section 25-5-1, Code of Alabama 1975, and was absent from work  
8 due to a work related and compensable injury; provided that  
9 the member returned to work with his or her covered employer  
10 within one year following cessation of workers' compensation  
11 benefits. The Board of Control of the Employees' Retirement  
12 System shall adopt rules and regulations for the  
13 administration of this section including verification of the  
14 service that the member desires to purchase credit for in the  
15 system. The member shall receive credit for the service when  
16 he or she remits to the system the contributions required by  
17 subsection (b). Notwithstanding the foregoing language, no  
18 member of the Employees' Retirement System shall be eligible  
19 to receive credit for any period of time that the member is  
20 already credited with in the system or in any other retirement  
21 plan, with the exception of the federal Social Security  
22 program.

23 (b) Any member who is eligible to purchase service  
24 credit in the Employees' Retirement System under subsection  
25 (a) shall pay to the Secretary-Treasurer of the system within  
26 two years from the end of the disability period for which  
27 credit is sought for the claimed service, a lump sum equal to

1 the full actuarially required cost for each year of service  
2 credit purchased as determined by the actuary for the system.

3 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the  
4 first day of the third month following its passage and  
5 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.