



This Bill Analysis reflects the contents of the bill as it was presented in committee.

HOUSE BILL 555: Probation/Parole Officers Retirement

2015-2016 General Assembly

Committee:	House Pensions and Retirement, if favorable, Appropriations	Date:	April 13, 2015
Introduced by:	Reps. McNeill, Faircloth, Boles, Hurley	Prepared by:	Theresa Matula Committee Staff
Analysis of:	First Edition		

SUMMARY: House Bill 555 amends the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System (TSERS) definition of "Law Enforcement Officer" to also mean a "probation/parole officer" which increases or enhances the benefits for probation/parole officers.

BILL ANALYSIS:

House Bill 555 amends the definition section of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System (TSERS) statutes to provide a definition of "Probation/Parole Officer."

A "probation/parole officer" is defined as a full-time paid employee of the Division of Adult Correction of the Department of Public Safety whose duties include supervising, evaluating, or otherwise instructing offenders who have been placed on probation, parole, post-release supervision, or have been assigned to any other community-based program operated by the Division of Adult Correction.

The bill also amends the definition of "law enforcement officer" to include probation/parole officers as defined in G.S. 135-1 with respect to service rendered on or after July 1, 2015.

By defining probation/parole officers as "law enforcement officers," the bill provides or enhances the following benefits:

- Service Retirement (Unreduced Benefits) at age 55 with 5 years creditable service versus age 65 with 5 years creditable service or age 60 with 25 years creditable service.
- Early Retirement (Reduced Benefits) at age 50 with 15 years creditable service versus age 50 with 20 years creditable service or age 60 with 5 years creditable service.
- Provides a Separation Allowance
- Provides a Separate Insurance Benefits Plan
- Survivor's Alternate Benefit with 20 years, regardless of age, or age 50 with 15 years, or age 55 with 5 years, or 15 years of creditable service if killed in line of duty versus 20 years regardless of age, or age 60 with 5 years

EFFECTIVE DATE: This bill would become effective July 1, 2015, and apply to persons retiring on or after that date.

