

HB 5472 amends the TRS article by allowing annuitants beginning July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 to accept employment as a teacher without impairing their retirement status provided that the employment is not within the school year during which service was terminated and does not exceed 140 paid days or 700 paid hours in each school year, but not more than 100 days in the same classroom. The bill specifies that this change is meant to assist with addressing the substitute teacher shortage that has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. The annuitant re-employment cap would revert to 120 paid days or 600 paid hours beginning on June 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

CTPF Annuitant Return-to Service

Under current law, the Chicago Teacher article allows annuitants to return to work as a teacher on a temporary, non-annual basis or on an hourly basis without impairing their retirement status, subject to certain limitations. For example, current law states that in the case of a retiree who is re-employed as a teacher on a temporary and non-annual basis or on an hourly basis, that teacher's pension shall not be cancelled so long the person does not work as a teacher for gross compensation for more than 120 days in a school year, or does not accept gross compensation in that school year in excess of \$30,000 or, in the case of an administrator or principal, an amount equal to the daily rate normally paid to retired principals multiplied by 100.

HB 5472 amends the Chicago Teacher article of the Pension Code such that a retired pensioner who is re-employed as a teacher or an administrator, rather than just a teacher, may be re-employed without impairment of retirement status given that the annuitant does not receive compensation for more than 140 days in a school year. The bill also removes the specified annual earnings caps mentioned above.

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