

2026 -- H 8143

LC005478

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

A N A C T

RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- RETIREMENT OF MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES

Introduced By: Representatives Casimiro, Donovan, Spears, Read, Potter, Alzate, and Shallcross Smith

Date Introduced: February 27, 2026

Referred To: House Municipal Government & Housing

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 45-21 of the General Laws entitled "Retirement of Municipal
2 Employees" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **45-21-54.1. Optional post-retirement employment for certain public safety**
4 **administrators.**

5 (a) Definitions. As used in this section:

6 (1) "Administrative position" means a police chief, deputy chief, assistant chief, fire chief,
7 deputy chief, assistant chief, fire marshal, public safety director, town manager, city manager, or
8 other department-head position designated as administrative by the retirement board by rule or
9 regulation.

10 (2) "Optional post-retirement employment election" means an affirmative written election
11 made by a public safety retiree under this section.

12 (3) "Public safety retiree" means a retired member of the municipal employees' retirement
13 system who retired from service as a police officer or firefighter and is receiving a service
14 retirement allowance pursuant to this chapter.

15 (b) Optional election. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 45-21-54 or any general or
16 special law to the contrary, a public safety retiree may elect to be reemployed by a municipal
17 employer in an administrative position without limitation on the number of days worked or the
18 compensation earned, in lieu of the post-retirement employment limitations otherwise applicable
19 under this chapter.

1 (c) No additional retirement benefit. A retiree participating under this section:

2 (1) Shall not accrue additional service credit in the municipal employees' retirement
3 system;

4 (2) Shall not be eligible for recalculation, enhancement, or increase of retirement benefits
5 as a result of such reemployment;

6 (3) Shall remain subject to all applicable federal tax requirements, including bona fide
7 termination of employment prior to retirement.

8 (d) Contribution requirement.

9 (1) A public safety retiree who elects optional post-retirement employment under this
10 section shall remit a contribution equal to five percent (5%) of the compensation earned during the
11 period of reemployment.

12 (2) The contribution shall be remitted to the employees' retirement system of Rhode Island
13 by the employer in a manner prescribed by the retirement board.

14 (3) Contributions made pursuant to this subsection shall not be credited toward service
15 credit or used in the calculation of any retirement benefit.

16 (4) The contribution required under this subsection may be paid by the retiree, the
17 employer, or shared between the parties as determined by agreement.

18 (e) Age limitation. A public safety retiree shall not participate in optional post-retirement
19 employment under this section after attaining sixty-eight (68) years of age.

20 (f) Same position restriction. A retiree shall not retire and be reemployed under this section
21 in the same position held immediately prior to retirement.

22 (g) Rules and regulations. The retirement board shall promulgate such rules and regulations
23 as are necessary to implement and administer the provisions of this section, including verification
24 of eligible administrative positions, reporting procedures, contribution remittance, and compliance
25 with federal law.

26 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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1 This act would provide for the re-employment of public safety retirees under certain
2 conditions.

3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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