



## Weekly Legislative Report

---

### Overview

Agency Issues/ Awareness	3
Title 47	24

---

### Summary

#### Contact Us

Jim Potvin Executive Director, ERSGA 404-603-5602 [jim.potvin@ers.ga.gov](mailto:jim.potvin@ers.ga.gov)

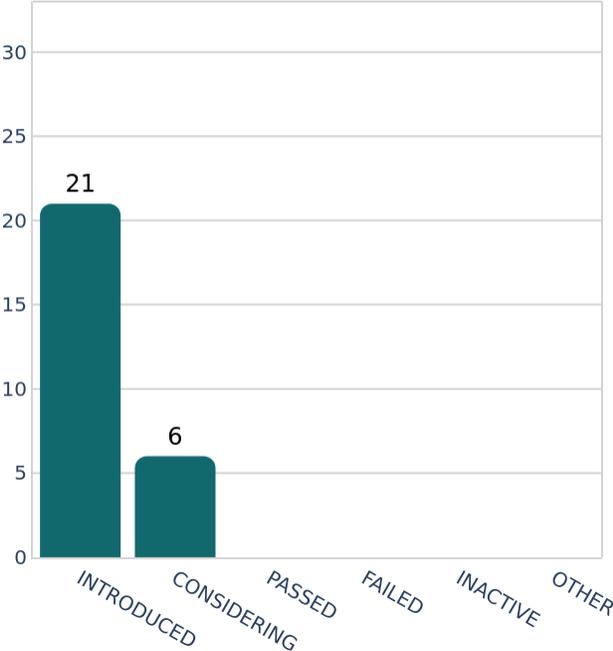
Kelly L. Moody Director, Legislative Affairs Division, ERSGA 404-603-5646  
[kelly.moody@ers.ga.gov](mailto:kelly.moody@ers.ga.gov)

Georgiana Pennell Legal and Policy Research Analyst, ERSGA 404-603-5616  
[georgiana.pennell@ers.ga.gov](mailto:georgiana.pennell@ers.ga.gov)

---

# Bills by Status

Bills in your Projects, grouped by status



## Policy List Groups

This is the list of policy items that you have added to your Projects.

### Agency Issues/Awareness

3

Legislation • United States • Georgia • Bill

#### [GA HB 969](#)

Georgia State Employees Post-employment Health Benefit Fund; certain fund beneficiaries to not be disqualified from postretirement health benefits; provide

#### **Last Action: February 18, 2026 - House Withdrawn, Recommitted**

In House • 2025-2026 Regular Session • Introduced: January 14, 2026

Sponsors: **Rick Townsend (R-GA)**, **Lee Hawkins (R)**, **Gerald E. Greene (R-GA)**, **Esther Panitch (D)**, **Tangie Herring (D-GA)**, **Karen Mathiak (R-GA)**

#### **Committee Assignments:**

House Committee on Retirement

#### **Summary**

*Bill assigned to the House Retirement Committee on 1/16/2026. Bill passed the House Retirement Committee on 2/12/2026. Bill was recommitted back to the House Retirement Committee by the House Rules Committee on 2/18/2026.*

---

Legislation • United States • Georgia • Bill

#### [GA SB 226](#)

Peach State Saves Programs; provide for creation

#### **Last Action: February 21, 2025 - Senate Read and Referred**

In Senate • 2025-2026 Regular Session • Introduced: February 20, 2025

Sponsors: **Chuck Hufstetler (R-GA)**, **Rick Williams (R-GA)**, **Max Burns (R-GA)**, **Carden Summers (R-GA)**, **John Albers (R)**, **Randy Robertson (R-GA)**, **Nan Orrock (D-GA)**, **Brian**

Strickland (R-GA), Mike Hodges (R-GA), Chuck Payne (R-GA), Sam Watson (R-GA), Sonya Halpern (D-GA), Elena C. Parent (D)

**Committee Assignments:**

Senate Committee on Retirement

**Summary**

This bill creates the Peach State Saves Program, a state-administered defined contribution retirement plan for private persons and businesses who employ 5 or more employees 18 years of age or older. These employers must automatically enroll their employees in the program at a 5% employee contribution to an individual Roth IRA account (percent and type of account adjustable by the program's Board), and employees can opt-out or adjust contribution rates at any time. Employers already offering a qualifying retirement plan would be exempt.

Employers who fail to enroll employees in a timely manner would owe \$250 per employee during the first year of noncompliance and \$500 per employee during subsequent years. These penalties can be waived if the employer corrects the violation within 90 days. Employers who fail to facilitate payroll deductions and remit contributions to the program in a timely manner would be subject to a \$500 penalty per violation.

Employers would not be responsible for investment decisions or program administration, and would be shielded from liability related to the program. The program would be administered by the ERSGA and managed by a Board consisting of the ERSGA Board of Trustees plus three additional members with relevant expertise who would be appointed by the Governor of Georgia.

The program's implementation schedule must be substantially completed on or before January 1, 2028.

***Bill assigned to the Senate Retirement Committee on 2/21/2025. Bill failed to make it out of the Senate Retirement Committee on 2/27/2025.***

---

Legislation • United States • Georgia • Bill

 **[GA HB 1096](#)**

Public Health, Department of; provide that if certain employees of a county board of health become employees of such department such employees will retain accrued annual and sick leave

**Last Action: February 19, 2026 - Senate Read and Referred**

In Senate • 2025-2026 Regular Session • Introduced: January 29, 2026

Sponsors: **Darlene K. Taylor (R-GA)**, **Matt Hatchett (R-GA)**, **Dexter Sharper (D-GA)**, **Angie O'Steen (R)**, **Sharon Cooper (R)**

**Committee Assignments:**

House Committee on Public and Community Health • Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

**Summary**

This bill provides that any employee of a County Board of Health, who is a member of the Employees' Retirement System (ERS), who is considered a state employee only for the purpose of membership in such retirement system, and who becomes an employee of the department, with no break between such positions of employment, shall retain accrued annual and sick leave possessed by such employee. No employee shall be paid accrued leave by the county board of health when transitioning to state employment.

The State Personnel Board is authorized to promulgate, amend, or repeal rules and regulations for the implementation of this Code section.

*Bill assigned to the House Public and Community Health Committee on 2/2/2026.*

**Title 47**

Legislation • United States • Georgia • Bill

 **[GA SB 606](#)**

"District Attorney Compensation Reform Act"; enact

**Last Action: February 26, 2026 - Senate Read and Referred**

In Senate • 2025-2026 Regular Session • Introduced: February 25, 2026

Sponsors: **Bill Cowsert (R-GA)**, **Gregory Dolezal (R-GA)**, **Steve Gooch (R-GA)**

**Summary**

This bill would increase the state base pensionable pay for District Attorneys from \$138,473.00 to \$206,805.00 beginning on July 1, 2026, if appropriated for by the General Assembly. Companion bill to HB 1020. Similar legislation to HB 1028.

**Bill assigned to the Senate Special Committee on Investigations Committee on 2/26/2026.**

---

Legislation • United States • Georgia • Bill

 **[GA HB 1028](#)**

District Attorney Compensation Reform Act; enact

**Last Action: February 25, 2026 - House Withdrawn, Recommitted**

In House • 2025-2026 Regular Session • Introduced: January 27, 2026

Sponsors: **Matt Reeves (R-GA), Chuck Efstrotation (R-GA), Stan Gunter (R-GA), Trey Kelley (R-GA), Tyler Paul Smith (R-GA), Robert F. Leverett (R-GA)**

**Committee Assignments:**

House Committee on Judiciary

**Summary**

This bill would increase the state base pensionable pay for District Attorneys from \$138,473.00 to \$206,805.00 beginning on July 1, 2026, if appropriated for by the General Assembly. Companion bill to HB 1020.

***Bill assigned to House Judiciary Committee on 1/28/26. Bill passed House Judiciary Committee by Committee Substitute on 2/20/2026. Bill was recommitted back to House Judiciary Committee on 2/25/2026.***

---

Legislation • United States • Georgia • Bill

 **[GA HB 438](#)**

Employees' Retirement System of Georgia; allow certain sworn law enforcement officers to be eligible for retirement benefits at age 55; provisions

**Last Action: February 25, 2026 - House Committee Favorably Reported**

In House • 2025-2026 Regular Session • Introduced: February 12, 2025

Sponsors: **Clint Crowe (R-GA), Eddie Lumsden (R-GA), Deborah Silcox (R-GA), Bill Hitchens (R-GA), Shaw Blackmon (R-GA), Beth Camp (R-GA)**

## Committee Assignments:

House Committee on Retirement

## Summary

This bill expands the current retirement eligibility and benefits applying to certain law enforcement personnel who are ERS members so as to include members who are in service with the Department of Public Safety as a sworn law enforcement officer, noncommissioned officer, or trooper (no longer limited to officers of the Uniform Division); Officers and agents of the GBI (no longer limited to agents); Game wardens (replaces the outdated term "conservation manager") of the DNR; and adds the commissioner and the deputy commissioner of the Department of Public Safety.

Under this legislation, which would become effective July 1, 2026, such law enforcement groups under ERS would be eligible to retire with normal benefits at the age of 55 instead of 60 as long as they have at least 10 years of creditable service, and would also be eligible for Injury in the Line of Duty provisions as well as purchase of applicable, local creditable service.

This bill allows the above added law enforcement members of ERS to purchase up to five years of creditable service for certain prior service as a full time employee of a local governing authority in the State of Georgia beginning July 1, 2018. Creditable service would only be granted if the member (1) held a P.O.S.T. certified law enforcement position with the local governing authority, (2) is not eligible to receive a present or future benefits from a defined benefit or defined contribution retirement or pension plan in which member participated while employed by the local governing authority, and (3) has been a member of ERS for at least ten years.

Eligible members wishing to obtain such service may make application to the Board of Trustees and must pay an amount determined to be sufficient to cover the full actuarial cost of granting such service.

First year cost: \$661,000; UAAL increase \$1,250,000.

Similar proposed fiscal bills include: HB 612 (2021-22); HB 657 (2021-22); and HB 472 (2023-2024) with a first year cost of \$ 732,000.

***Bill was assigned to the House Retirement Committee on 2/13/2025. Bill was forwarded for actuarial study. Bill passed out of House Retirement Committee on 2/25/26.***

## **GA SB 339**

Employees' Retirement System of Georgia; semiannual postretirement benefit adjustments for all beneficiaries; provide

### **Last Action: February 26, 2026 - Senate Read Second Time**

In Senate • 2025-2026 Regular Session • Introduced: March 13, 2025

Sponsors: **Nan Orrock (D-GA), Chuck Hufstetler (R-GA), Sam Watson (R-GA), Clint Dixon (R-GA), William R. Hickman (R-GA), Carden Summers (R-GA), Derek J. Mallow (D-GA), Sally Harrell (D-GA), Jason Esteves (D), Kim Jackson (D-GA), Josh McLaurin (D-GA), Kenya Wicks (D-GA), Gail Davenport (D-GA), Tonya Anderson (D-GA), RaShaun Kemp (D-GA), Donzella James (D-GA), Randal Mangham (D-GA), Russ Goodman (R-GA), Sheikh Rahman (D-GA), Nabilah Islam Parkes (D-GA), Ed Harbison (D-GA), David E. Lucas (D), Michael A. Rhett (D-GA), Elena C. Parent (D)**

### **Committee Assignments:**

Senate Committee on Retirement

### **Summary**

This bill would enable members of the Employees' Retirement System (ERS), who joined on or after July 1, 2009 to be eligible to receive post retirement benefit adjustments granted on or after July 1, 2026.

This bill would also provide a post retirement benefit adjustment in the form of a 1.5% increase in beneficiaries' retirement allowance on July 1, 2026 and every 6 months after that.

If the revenue collected in the most recent fiscal year decreases by 3% or more below the revenue estimate, or if the state experiences a decline in revenue collected for 3 consecutive months in the fiscal year, the Governor may suspend the next two post retirement benefit adjustments via executive order, but not more frequent than 2 consecutive calendar years, or more than 3 times within 10 consecutive years. Each executive order would also be subject to revocation, revision, or extension by the General Assembly via the adoption of a joint resolution.

This bill would become effective on July 1, 2026.

First year cost: \$500,870,000; UAAL increase: \$4,304,419,000.

***Bill was assigned to the Senate Retirement Committee on 3/18/2025. Bill forwarded for actuarial study on 3/25/2025. Bill passed out of Senate Retirement Committee on 2/25/26.***

---

Legislation • United States • Georgia • Bill

 **GA HB 905**

Employees' Retirement System; any member shall be eligible to transfer funds to Judicial Retirement System; provide

**Last Action: February 25, 2026 - House Committee Favorably Reported By Substitute**

In House • 2025-2026 Regular Session • Introduced: April 02, 2025

Sponsors: **Gary Richardson (R-GA), Stan Gunter (R-GA), Robert F. Leverett (R-GA), Chuck Efstraction (R-GA), James Burchett (R-GA), Brian Prince (D-GA)**

**Committee Assignments:**

House Committee on Retirement

**Summary**

This bill would allow any member of the Judicial Retirement System (JRS) who was previously an active member of the Employees' Retirement System (ERS) to have all contributions transferred to JRS not later than December 31, 2026, or within 90 days of first becoming a member of JRS, or within 90 days after entering service in a covered position, whichever is later.

This act would become effective July 1, 2026.

First year cost: \$350,000; UAAL increase: \$2,269,000.

***Bill assigned to House Retirement Committee 4/4/25. Bill was forward for actuarial study by Committee Substitute by the House Retirement Committee on 6/16/2025. Bill passed House Retirement Committee by Committee Substitute on 2/25/26.***

---

Legislation • United States • Georgia • Bill

 **GA HB 974**

General appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027

**Last Action: January 16, 2026 - House Second Readers**

In House • 2025-2026 Regular Session • Introduced: January 15, 2026

Sponsors: **Jon G. Burns (R-GA)**, **Jan Jones (R-GA)**, **Chuck Efstration (R-GA)**, **Matt Hatchett (R-GA)**

**Committee Assignments:**

House Committee on Appropriations

**Summary**

The Governor's Request includes: \$26.75 million to be paid in one-time payments to eligible ERS retirees in Fiscal Year 2027; \$5.2 million in funds for eligible GSEPS Law Enforcement Officer employees to support an enhanced 401(k) match, up to 15% of pay.

***Bill was assigned to the House Appropriations Committee on 1/16/2026.***

---

Legislation • United States • Georgia • Bill

 **[GA HB 1113](#)**

Georgia Defined Contribution Plan; exclude part-time students from membership

**Last Action: February 12, 2026 - House Committee Favorably Reported**

In House • 2025-2026 Regular Session • Introduced: January 29, 2026

Sponsors: **Carter Barrett (R)**, **Charles Martin (R-GA)**, **Rick Jasperse (R-GA)**, **Brent Cox (R)**, **Debbie G. Buckner (D-GA)**

**Committee Assignments:**

House Committee on Retirement

**Summary**

This bill excludes part-time students from membership in the Georgia Defined Contribution Plan (GDGP) beginning on July 1, 2026.

***Bill assigned to the House Retirement Committee on 2/2/2026. Bill passed the House Retirement Committee on 2/12/2026.***

---

Legislation • United States • Georgia • Bill

## [GA HB 818](#)

Georgia Judicial Retirement System; membership for each judge employed full time in the Georgia Tax Court; provide

### **Last Action: February 18, 2026 - Senate Read and Referred**

In Senate • 2025-2026 Regular Session • Introduced: March 21, 2025

Sponsors: **Charles Martin (R-GA), Robert F. Leverett (R-GA), Stan Gunter (R-GA), Shaw Blackmon (R-GA), Stacey G. Evans (D-GA)**

### **Committee Assignments:**

Senate Committee on Retirement • House Committee on Retirement

## **Summary**

This bill extends Judicial Retirement System (JRS) membership eligibility to include persons employed full-time as a judge in the Georgia Tax Court on or after July 1, 2026.

Each such member's earnable monthly compensation shall be the full rate of the regular monthly compensation paid from state funds for his or her working full time.

Each individual who becomes a member of JRS under this bill would be eligible to transfer his or her creditable service from the Employees' Retirement System (ERS) upon notification to the board within one year of becoming a JRS member and the payment of the full actuarial cost of the transfer of service.

Persons employed in this role as of June 30, 2026, who are members of ERS, will remain an ERS member unless they elect to become a JRS member on or before June 30, 2027. Such person must notify the board and pay full actuarial cost to the retirement system associated with their transfer of service.

This Act would become effective July 1, 2026.

First year cost: \$0; UAAL increase: \$498,000.

***Assigned to House Retirement Committee 3/25/25. Bill was forwarded for actuarial study by the House Retirement Committee on 6/16/2025. Bill passed the House Retirement Committee on 2/12/2026. Bill passed the House Rules Committee on 2/17/2026. Bill passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 160 to 2 on 2/17/2026. Bill assigned to Senate Retirement Committee on 2/18/2026.***

## **GA SB 216**

Georgia Judicial Retirement System; membership in the system for individuals employed as the director of the Prosecuting Attorneys Qualifications Commission; provide

### **Last Action: February 26, 2026 - Senate Read Second Time**

In Senate • 2025-2026 Regular Session • Introduced: February 19, 2025

Sponsors: **Randy Robertson (R-GA), Blake Tillery (R-GA), Brian Strickland (R-GA), Max Burns (R-GA), Ed Setzler (R-GA), William R. Hickman (R-GA), Kay Kirkpatrick (R-GA), Chuck Payne (R-GA), Marty Harbin (R-GA), Russ Goodman (R-GA), Shawn Still (R-GA)**

### **Committee Assignments:**

Senate Committee on Retirement

### **Summary**

This bill extends Judicial Retirement System (JRS) membership to include persons employed as the director of the Prosecuting Attorneys Qualifications Commission on or after July 1, 2026.

Persons employed in this role as of June 30, 2026, who are members of Employees' Retirement System (ERS), will remain an ERS member unless they elect to become a JRS member on or before June 30, 2027. Such person must notify the board and pay full actuarial cost to the retirement system associated with their transfer of service.

Upon this election, the individual will become a JRS member, and ERSGA shall transfer all employer and employee contributions paid by or on behalf of the individual together with regular interest, and the individual will receive service in JRS towards vesting in the full amount of service accrued during their time as an ERS member.

Each such member's earnable monthly compensation shall be the full rate of the regular monthly compensation paid from state funds for his or her working full time.

This Act would become effective July 1, 2026.

First year cost: \$0; UAAL increase: \$86,000.

***Bill assigned to the Senate Retirement Committee on 2/20/2025. Bill was forwarded for actuarial study on 3/25/2025. Bill passed out of Senate Retirement Committee 2/25/26.***

## **GA SB 198**

Georgia Legislative Retirement System; board of trustees of the system to increase benefit multipliers for members; provide

### **Last Action: February 19, 2026 - Senate Read Second Time**

In Senate • 2025-2026 Regular Session • Introduced: February 19, 2025

Sponsors: **John Albers (R)**, **Kay Kirkpatrick (R-GA)**, **Rick Williams (R-GA)**, **Carden Summers (R-GA)**, **Bill Cowsert (R-GA)**, **Ed Setzler (R-GA)**, **William R. Hickman (R-GA)**, **Max Burns (R-GA)**, **Marty Harbin (R-GA)**, **Mike Hodges (R-GA)**, **Frank Ginn (R-GA)**, **Larry Walker (R-GA)**, **Shawn Still (R-GA)**, **David E. Lucas (D)**, **Freddie Powell Sims (D-GA)**, **Gail Davenport (D-GA)**, **Nan Orrock (D-GA)**

### **Committee Assignments:**

Senate Committee on Retirement

### **Summary**

This bill provides the Legislative Retirement System (LRS) Board with the authority to increase the benefit multiplier for members of LRS in relation to the Funded Ratio of the System being at 120 percent.

Any benefit increases granted would first be awarded to LRS retirees who currently have a lower benefit multiplier (\$36) than the multiplier (\$50) established in by Act 747 in 2022. Once retirees benefit multiplier is equal to active members, future increases could then be granted to both active and retired members based on the Funded Ratio of the System being at 120 percent. The minimum increase shall not be less than \$1.

The legislation provides for increases in the member contributions that are proportional to any increase in the benefit multiplier.

Such provisions would become effective July 1, 2026.

First year cost: \$275,140; UAAL increase: \$2,914,835.

***Bill assigned to Senate Retirement Committee on 2/20/2025. Bill was forwarded for actuarial study by the Senate Retirement Committee 2/25/25. Bill passed Senate Retirement Committee on 2/18/2026.***

## [GA HB 891](#)

Georgia State Employees' Pension and Savings; increase the benefits payable for service after July 1, 2026

### **Last Action: April 04, 2025 - House Second Readers**

In House • 2025-2026 Regular Session • Introduced: March 31, 2025

Sponsors: **Noel Williams (R-GA), Matt Hatchett (R-GA), John Carson (R-GA), Steven Meeks (R-GA), Trey Rhodes (R-GA), Lehman Franklin (R-GA)**

### **Committee Assignments:**

House Committee on Retirement

## **Summary**

This bill increases the Tier 3 (ERS GSEPS) employee contributions from 1 ¼% of earnable compensation to between 3 – 4% of earnable compensation as determined by the Board of Trustees.

Under this bill, members would receive a retirement allowance of 1% for each year of creditable service earned prior to July 1, 2026 and 1.5% for each year of creditable service earned after July 1, 2026.

This Act would become effective July 1, 2026.

First year cost: \$26,720,000; UAAL increase: \$290,751,000.

***Bill assigned to the House Retirement Committee on 4/2/2025. Bill was forwarded for actuarial study on 6/16/2025.***

---

Legislation • United States • Georgia • Bill

## [GA HB 1020](#)

Judicial Retirement System; payment of monthly retirement benefits for creditable service as a district attorney at the age of 65 years; provide

### **Last Action: February 20, 2026 - Senate Read and Referred**

In Senate • 2025-2026 Regular Session • Introduced: January 27, 2026

Sponsors: **Matt Reeves (R-GA), Chuck Efstrotation (R-GA), Stan Gunter (R-GA), Trey Kelley (R-GA), Tyler Paul Smith (R-GA), Robert F. Leverett (R-GA)**

**Committee Assignments:**

Senate Committee on Retirement • House Committee on Retirement

**Summary**

This bill would increase the retirement age of District Attorneys from 60 to 65 for any District Attorney who becomes a Judicial Retirement System (JRS) member on or after July 1, 2026.

Any person who first becomes a member after July 1, 2026 may still retire at age 60; however, their retirement benefits will be reduced by any service time earned as a District Attorney. Once such person reaches age 65, their retirement benefit will be adjusted to account for all years of service. Companion bill to HB 1028.

***Bill assigned to House Retirement Committee 1/28/26. Bill passed the House Retirement Committee by Committee Substitute on 2/12/2026. Bill passed House Rules on 2/19/2026 and will be debated by the House on 2/19/2026. Bill passed the House by a vote of 164 to 0 on 2/19/2026. Bill assigned to the Senate Retirement Committee on 2/20/2026.***

---

Legislation • United States • Georgia • Bill

 [\*\*GA HB 895\*\*](#)

Legislative Retirement System; increase retirement benefit amounts payable to certain legislators upon retirement

**Last Action: April 04, 2025 - House Second Readers**

In House • 2025-2026 Regular Session • Introduced: March 31, 2025

Sponsors: **Patty Marie Stinson (D-GA)**

**Committee Assignments:**

House Committee on Retirement

**Summary**

This bill increases Legislative Retirement System (LRS) members' monthly benefit payable at retirement by increasing the multiplier from \$50 to \$75.

Presiding officers will have their monthly benefit payable at retirement increased by increasing the multiplier from \$200 to \$300.

Such increases would only apply to those individuals who were contributing members on January 1, 2026 or who first becomes an LRS member after January 1, 2026.

This Act would become effective July 1, 2026.

First year cost: \$660,126; UAAL increase: \$4,308,376.

***Bill assigned to House Retirement Committee 4/2/25. Bill was forwarded for actuarial study by the House Retirement Committee on 6/16/2025.***

---

Legislation • United States • Georgia • Bill

### [GA HB 924](#)

Legislative Retirement System; match benefit amounts payable to former and current retired legislators to benefits payable to legislators who were in office on or after January 1, 2022

#### **Last Action: January 12, 2026 - House Second Readers**

In House • 2025-2026 Regular Session • Introduced: April 04, 2025

Sponsors: **Lehman Franklin (R-GA), Butch Parrish (R-GA), Ron Stephens (R-GA), Jon G. Burns (R-GA), Tyler Paul Smith (R-GA)**

#### **Committee Assignments:**

House Committee on Retirement

### **Summary**

This bill raises benefits for retired and former LRS members who served on or before January 1, 2022 to match the current amounts for LRS members who joined on or after January 1, 2022.

This bill allows for all retired and vested former members of LRS to have a benefit multiplier of \$50 per month for each year of creditable service and an additional \$200 per month for each year for service as presiding members.

This bill would become effective on July 1, 2026.

First year cost: \$706,078; UAAL increase: \$7,480,193.

***Bill was assigned to the House Retirement Committee on 4/4/2025. Bill was forwarded for actuarial study by the House Retirement Committee on 6/16/2025.***

---

Legislation • United States • Georgia • Bill

## [GA HB 1347](#)

Public Retirement Systems Investment Authority Law; provide certain retirement systems the option to invest in real estate

### **Last Action: February 19, 2026 - House Second Readers**

In House • 2025-2026 Regular Session • Introduced: February 17, 2026

Sponsors: **Brad Thomas (R-GA), John Carson (R-GA), Chris Erwin (R-GA), Lehman Franklin (R-GA)**

### **Committee Assignments:**

House Committee on Retirement

## **Summary**

This bill would amend the current Public Retirement System Investment Authority Law. "Large retirement systems" (*other than the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia (ERSGA) and the Teachers Retirement System (TRS)*) would be authorized to invest up to 10 percent of assets in real estate investments.

This bill would also authorize "large retirement systems" (*other than the ERSGA and the TRS*) to invest up to 15 percent of their assets in alternative investments. The bill clarifies that ERSGA will continue to be allowed to invest up to 10 percent of their assets in alternative investments and that TRS will continue to be allowed to invest up to 5 percent of their assets in alternative investments, which was previously set by statute.

***Bill assigned to the House Retirement Committee on 2/18/2026.***

---

Legislation • United States • Georgia • Bill

## [GA SB 452](#)

Retirement and Pension; maximum employer contribution to a 401(k) for certain state law enforcement officers; increase

### **Last Action: February 19, 2026 - House Second Readers**

In House • 2025-2026 Regular Session • Introduced: February 02, 2026

Sponsors: **Bo Hatchett (R-GA), Randy Robertson (R-GA), Brian Strickland (R-GA), Blake Tillery (R-GA), John Albers (R), Steve Gooch (R-GA), Jason R. Anavitarte (R), Matt F. Brass**

(R-GA), Timothy Bearden (R), Russ Goodman (R-GA), Benjamin L. Watson (R), William R. Hickman (R-GA), Mike Hodges (R-GA), Jason T. Dickerson (R-GA), Max Burns (R-GA), Chuck Payne (R-GA), Drew Echols (R-GA), Chuck Hufstetler (R-GA), Gregory Dolezal (R-GA), Lee Anderson (R-GA), Kay Kirkpatrick (R-GA), Shawn Still (R-GA), Frank Ginn (R-GA), Clint Dixon (R-GA), Larry Walker (R-GA), Bill Cowsert (R-GA), Ed Setzler (R-GA), Marty Harbin (R-GA), Sam Watson (R-GA), Rick Williams (R-GA), Carden Summers (R-GA)

#### Committee Assignments:

House Committee on Retirement • Senate Committee on Retirement

### Summary

Under the provisions of this bill, state law enforcement officer is defined as: a peace officer, as such term is defined in Code Section 35-8-2, employed by the Department of Community Supervision, and a sworn law enforcement officer certified by the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council who, by virtue of his or her office or public employment giving rise to his or her membership under this article, is vested by law with the duties of a peace officer, as such term is defined in Code Section 16-1-3.

Beginning July 1, 2026, such eligible state law enforcement officers, who are members of the Employees' Retirement System (ERS) GSEPS Tier 3, would become eligible to receive an additional two percent employer contribution match in their 401(k) for each year of creditable service once such member surpasses five years of service, provided that the member is contributing five percent at the time the match is calculated. The additional employer contribution would be capped after 10 years of creditable service, thus allowing for a maximum employer contribution of 15 percent from that point forward, as long as the member is contributing five percent at the time the match is calculated.

***Bill was assigned to the Senate Retirement Committee on 2/3/2026. Bill passed the Senate Retirement Committee on 2/11/2026. Bill passed Senate Rules on 2/12/2026 and will be debated by the Senate on 2/17/2026. Bill passed the Senate by a vote of 49 to 0 on 2/17/2026. Bill assigned to the House Retirement Committee on 2/18/2026.***

---

Legislation • United States • Georgia • Bill

### [GA SB 157](#)

Retirement; certain members or former members of the General Assembly to buy into the Georgia Legislative Retirement System; provide

**Last Action: February 12, 2026 - Senate Read Second Time**

In Senate • 2025-2026 Regular Session • Introduced: February 12, 2025

Sponsors: **Rick Williams (R-GA), Max Burns (R-GA), Marty Harbin (R-GA), Larry Walker (R-GA), Brian Strickland (R-GA)**

**Committee Assignments:**

Senate Committee on Retirement

**Summary**

This bill allows a member or former member of the General Assembly to make an irrevocable election to become a member of the Legislative Retirement System (LRS) who served on or after January 12, 1981, and to obtain creditable service for prior service as a member of the General Assembly as long as the member has served, at the time of the application, at least four years or two full terms as a member of the General Assembly. Persons who wish to earn such creditable service would be required to pay to full actuarial cost of the service granted to the board of trustees at submission of the member's application.

No creditable service shall be granted or obtained pursuant to this subsection if such service may be used to calculate creditable service under any other public retirement system created by this title.

This bill would require the Employees' Retirement System to physically mail a one-time notice in writing to the latest reported mailing address of all eligible members or former members of the General Assembly who meet the above criteria by September 1, 2026.

Any member of the General Assembly who obtains creditable service for prior service as a member of the General Assembly whose service concluded before January 1, 2022, shall receive the monthly pension amount provided in O.C.G.A. 47-6-80(d); and every member whose service concluded on or after January 1, 2022, shall receive the monthly pension amount provided in subsection O.C.G.A. 47-6-80(c.1).

This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2026 if funds are appropriated.

First year cost: \$0; UAAL increase: \$0.

***Bill was assigned to Senate Retirement Committee on 2/13/2025. Bill was forwarded for actuarial study by Committee Substitute by the Senate Retirement Committee. Bill passed the Senate Retirement Committee on 2/11/2026.***

## **GA SB 11**

Retirement; creditable service for certain military service; provide

### **Last Action: February 19, 2026 - Senate Read Second Time**

In Senate • 2025-2026 Regular Session • Introduced: January 15, 2025

Sponsors: **Michael A. Rhett (D-GA), Ed Harbison (D-GA), Chuck Payne (R-GA), Rick Williams (R-GA), William R. Hickman (R-GA), Jason R. Anavitarte (R), Harold V. Jones (D-GA), Matt F. Brass (R-GA), Marty Harbin (R-GA), Shawn Still (R-GA), Kay Kirkpatrick (R-GA), Kenya Wicks (D-GA), Ed Setzler (R-GA)**

### **Committee Assignments:**

Senate Committee on Retirement

### **Summary**

This bill allows ERS members with at least ten years of membership service to obtain up to 36 months of creditable service, awarded month for month, for active military service in the U.S. armed forces performed on or after January 1, 1990.

In order to obtain such credit, the member shall: (1) Apply in a method or manner pro

Members shall not receive such creditable service:

- If such member was not honorably discharged;
- For reserve duty;
- For any period of time for which he or she obtained ERS membership service; or
- For any portion of such member's active military service in the U.S. armed forces that has been or will be used in the determination of eligibility for retirement benefits or allowances from any other state or federal retirement program, excluding social security.

First year cost: \$0; UAAL increase:\$0.

Similar fiscal bills from previous sessions include:

SB 149 (2015-16), with a \$3,120,000 first year cost; SB 150 (2015-16); SB 10 (2017-18); SB 129 (2017-18), with \$0 cost since full actuarial cost; and SB 47 (2019-20), with \$0 cost since full actuarial cost, SB 85 (2023-2024), with \$0 cost since full actuarial cost.

***Assigned to Senate Retirement Committee 1/16/25. Bill was forwarded for actuarial study by the Senate Retirement Committee 2/4/25. Bill passed Senate Retirement Committee on 2/18/2026.***

## **GA SB 23**

Retirement; total percentage of funds that the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia may invest in alternative investments; raise the limit

### **Last Action: April 04, 2025 - House Withdrawn, Recommitted**

In House • 2025-2026 Regular Session • Introduced: January 17, 2025

Sponsors: **John Albers (R)**, **Matt F. Brass (R-GA)**, **Randy Robertson (R-GA)**, **Bo Hatchett (R-GA)**, **Shawn Still (R-GA)**, **Mike Hodges (R-GA)**, **Gregory Dolezal (R-GA)**, **Sam Watson (R-GA)**, **Brian Strickland (R-GA)**, **Blake Tillery (R-GA)**, **Larry Walker (R-GA)**, **Lehman Franklin (R-GA)**

### **Committee Assignments:**

Senate Committee on Retirement • House Committee on Retirement

### **Summary**

This bill would amend provisions relating to the Public Retirement Systems Investment Authority Law. Current law authorizes the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia to a five percent investment in alternative investments. If this legislation is enacted, the limitation currently placed on the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia would be removed and the System would be authorized to invest up to 10 percent of their assets in alternative investments.

Such provisions would become effective July 1, 2025.

***Assigned to Senate Retirement Committee 2/3/25. Bill received a Do Pass recommendation from Senate Retirement Committee 2/5/2025. Bill received a Do Pass recommendation from the Senate Rules Committee on 2/6/2025 and will be debated by the full Senate on 2/10/2025. Bill passed the Senate on 2/10/2025 with a vote of 47 yeas and 8 nays. Assigned to House Retirement Committee 2/11/2025. Bill passed the House Retirement Committee by Substitute on 3/25/2025.***

## [GA HB 1234](#)

State Employees' Assurance Department; assignment of certain group term life insurance benefits to pay for funeral services of a deceased individual who was a member of certain retirement systems; provisions

### **Last Action: February 25, 2026 - House Committee Favorably Reported**

In House • 2025-2026 Regular Session • Introduced: February 06, 2026

Sponsors: **Darlene K. Taylor (R-GA), Lauren W. McDonald (R-GA), Danny Mathis (R-GA), Mary Ann Santos (D), Patty Marie Stinson (D-GA)**

### **Committee Assignments:**

House Committee on Retirement

## **Summary**

This bill allows persons who are the beneficiaries of Group Term Life Insurance (GTLI) for members of the Employees' Retirement System (ERS), the Judicial Retirement System (JRS), and the Legislative Retirement System (LRS) to assign GTLI benefits they are due to Funeral Homes or Embalmers to pay for the cost of the funeral beginning on July 1, 2026.

Beginning July 1, 2026, a beneficiary wishing to assign such GTLI benefits must provide the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia (ERSGA) with a notarized copy of the contract between the two parties, along with a copy of the death certificate. Upon receipt of such information, ERSGA would pay the amount due to the Funeral Home or Embalmer in accordance with the contract, but only to the extent that such amounts are owed to the beneficiary who completed the assignment.

***Bill was assigned the House Retirement Committee on 2/9/2026. Bill passed out of House Retirement Committee on 2/25/26.***

---

Legislation • United States • Georgia • Bill

## [GA HB 808](#)

State Law Enforcement Officer Plan or 'SLEO Plan'; establish

### **Last Action: March 25, 2025 - House Second Readers**

In House • 2025-2026 Regular Session • Introduced: March 20, 2025

Sponsors: **John Carson (R-GA), Alan Powell (R-GA), Clint Crowe (R-GA)**

**Committee Assignments:**

House Committee on Retirement

**Summary**

This bill establishes the State Law Enforcement Officer (SLEO) Plan under the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia (ERS). The bill amends the definition of a 'State law enforcement officer to mean those certified as peace officers under Code Section 35-8-2 employed by the Department of Community Supervision; or any sworn police officers certified by the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council employed to perform the duties of a peace officer, as such term is defined in Code Section 16-1-3, by the Department of Corrections, Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, Office of the Attorney General, Georgia Board of Dentistry, Georgia Composite Medical Board, Department of Driver Services, Department of Transportation, Office of the Inspector General, Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of the State of Georgia, State Board of Workers' Compensation, Department of Juvenile Justice, State Board of Pardons and Paroles, Georgia Public Safety Training Center, Public Service Commission, Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Department of Natural Resources, Department of Agriculture, Department of Revenue, Georgia Drugs and Narcotics Agency, State Forestry Commission, Office of Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner, Georgia Ports Authority, Georgia World Congress Center Police; and Department of Public Safety.

Eligible State law enforcement officers must notify ERS of such irrevocable election into the SLEO Plan within 90 days of becoming a State law enforcement officer, or July 1, 2026, whichever is later, after which point they will be considered an "electing officer." This bill also provides that no "electing officer" shall be eligible to retire at any point prior to July 1, 2031, and if they should do so before such date, he or she will not be entitled to any of the enhanced benefits provided under the SLEO Plan.

Members of the SLEO Plan will be entitled to the same benefits currently granted to law enforcement officers or members under ERS. In addition, they will be required to contribute five percent (5%) of his or her earnable compensation and receive enhanced retirement benefits based on their years of service. The following outlines the benefit structure for "electing officers" within the SLEO Plan:

Years of Creditable Service % of Average Final Compensation

- 10 10%
- 11 13%
- 12 16%
- 13 19%
- 14 22%
- 15 25%

16 30%  
17 35%  
18 40%  
19 45%  
20 50%  
21 56%  
22 62%  
23 68%  
24 74%  
25 80%

After an SLEO member reaches 25 years of creditable service, they will not be required to make further contributions to the Plan and their retirement benefit will be calculated based upon his or her average final compensation at such time. If such member does not elect to retire after obtaining 25 years of creditable service, their retirement benefit, in addition to any postretirement benefit adjustments granted, will be paid into a Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) account until such member retires.

Lastly, this bill requires ERS to create DROP accounts for each eligible "electing officer," where the related benefit amounts deposited earn interest at a market rate, to be determined by the ERS Board. Upon retirement, members of the SLEO Plan with a DROP account are entitled to receive a lump sum, a partial lump sum, or an annuity payment from such funds in her or her account. Additionally, the Board can make available options to roll such DROP account funds into certain tax-advantaged retirement accounts.

First year cost: \$183,249,000; UAAL Increase: 1,548,570,000.

***Bill was assigned to the House Retirement Committee on 3/21/2025. Bill was forwarded for actuarial study on 6/16/2025.***

---

Legislation • United States • Georgia • Bill

 **[GA HB 337](#)**

State Law Enforcement Officer Plan' or 'SLEO Plan'; enact

**Last Action: February 11, 2025 - House Second Readers**

In House • 2025-2026 Regular Session • Introduced: February 06, 2025

Sponsors: **John Carson (R-GA), Bill Hitchens (R-GA), Alan Powell (R-GA), Eddie Lumsden (R-GA), Martin Momtahan (R-GA), Lauren W. McDonald (R-GA)**

**Committee Assignments:**

House Committee on Retirement

**Summary**

This bill establishes the State Law Enforcement Officer (SLEO) Plan under the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia (ERS). It provides for "State law enforcement officers" to make an irrevocable election to participate into the SLEO Plan instead of any other retirement system, plan, or program established under ERS. The term "State law enforcement officer" is defined as any member employed by the:

- Uniform Division of the Department of Public Safety as an officer, a noncommissioned officer, or a trooper;
- Georgia Bureau of Investigation as an officer or agent;
- Department of Natural Resources as a game warden;
- Department of Revenue as an alcohol and tobacco officer or agent or as an officer of the Special Investigation Unit;
- Motor Carrier Compliance Division as a sworn law enforcement officer; or
- Capitol Police Division of the Department of Public Safety as a sworn law enforcement officer.

Eligible State law enforcement officers must notify ERS of such irrevocable election into the SLEO Plan within 90 days of becoming a State law enforcement officer, or July 1, 2026, whichever is later, after which point they will be considered an "electing officer." This bill also provides that no "electing officer" shall be eligible to retire at any point prior to July 1, 2031, and if they should do so before such date, he or she will not be entitled to any of the enhanced benefits provided under the SLEO Plan.

Members of the SLEO Plan will be entitled to the same benefits currently granted to law enforcement officers under ERS. In addition, they will be required to contribute five percent (5%) of his or her earnable compensation and receive enhanced retirement benefits based on their years of service. The following outlines the benefit structure for "electing officers" within the SLEO Plan:

Years of Creditable Service % of Average Final Compensation

- 10 10%
- 11 13%
- 12 16%
- 13 19%
- 14 22%
- 15 25%
- 16 30%
- 17 35%

18 40%  
19 45%  
20 50%  
21 56%  
22 62%  
23 68%  
24 74%  
25 80%

After an SLEO member reaches 25 years of creditable service, they will not be required to make further contributions to the Plan and their retirement benefit will be calculated based upon his or her average final compensation at such time. If such member does not elect to retire after obtaining 25 years of creditable service, their retirement benefit, in addition to any postretirement benefit adjustments granted, will be paid into a Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) account until such member retires.

Lastly, this bill requires ERS to create DROP accounts for each eligible "electing officer," where the related benefit amounts deposited earn interest at a market rate, to be determined by the ERS Board. Upon retirement, members of the SLEO Plan with a DROP account are entitled to receive a lump sum, a partial lump sum, or an annuity payment from such funds in her or her account. Additionally, the Board can make available options to roll such DROP account funds into certain tax-advantaged retirement accounts.

First year cost: \$32,457,000; UAAL increase: 253,415,000. Prior similar bill cost - HB 824: First year cost: \$23,760,000; UAAL increase \$192,719,000.

***Bill was assigned to the House Retirement Committee on 2/10/2025. Bill was forwarded for actuarial study by the House Retirement Committee on 6/16/2025.***

---

Legislation • United States • Georgia • Bill

 **[GA HB 973](#)**

Supplemental appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

**Last Action: February 25, 2026 - House Sent to Governor**

Passed Senate • 2025-2026 Regular Session • Introduced: January 15, 2026

Sponsors: **Jon G. Burns (R-GA), Jan Jones (R-GA), Chuck Efstrotation (R-GA), Matt Hatchett (R-GA), Blake Tillery (R-GA)**

## Committee Assignments:

Senate Committee on Appropriations • House Committee on Appropriations

## Summary

The Governor's AFY 2026 recommendation includes: \$36.75 million paid in one-time payments to eligible ERS retirees in December 2025 and \$2,000 for a one-time salary supplement to eligible state employees.

The House's AFY 2026 recommendation includes: \$36.75 million paid in one-time payments to eligible ERS retirees in December 2025, \$2,000 for a one-time salary supplement to eligible state employees, and \$50 million to provide funds to strategically invest in increasing the funded ratio in order to improve long-term financial viability of the pension system and support state retirees.

The Senate's AFY 2026 recommendation includes: \$36.75 million paid in one-time payments to eligible ERS retirees in December 2025, \$1,250 for a one-time salary supplement to eligible state employees, and \$100 million to provide funds to strategically invest in increasing the funded ratio in order to improve long-term financial viability of the pension system and support state retirees.

The final Conference Committee recommendation includes: \$36.75 million paid in one-time payments to eligible ERS retirees in December 2025, \$2,000 for a one-time salary supplement to eligible state employees, \$100 million to increase funds to strategically invest in increasing the funded ratio in order to improve long-term financial viability of the pension system with the goal of restoring Cost-of-Living-Adjustments.

***Bill was assigned to the House Appropriations Committee on 1/16/2026. Bill passed the House Appropriations Committee by Committee Substitute on 2/4/2026. Bill passed the House Rules Committee on 2/4/2026 and was placed on the House debate calendar for 2/5/2026. Bill passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 167-5 on 2/5/2026. Bill assigned to the Senate Appropriations Committee on 2/5/26. Bill passed the Senate Appropriations Committee by Committee Substitute on 2/18/2026. Bill passed the Senate Rules Committee on 2/19/2026 and will debated by the Senate on 2/20/2026. Bill passed the Senate by a vote of 49 to 1 on 2/20/2026 and was immediately transmitted to the House where they insisted on their position. A conference committee was appointed by both the House and Sente on 2/20/2026. The House and Senate agreed to the Conference Committee Report on 2/25/2026 and bill was immediately transmitted to the Governor.***

## **GA SB 209**

Teachers Retirement System of Georgia; members of the Public School Employees Retirement System to make an irrevocable election to become members; permit certain persons

### **Last Action: February 20, 2025 - Senate Read and Referred**

In Senate • 2025-2026 Regular Session • Introduced: February 19, 2025

Sponsors: **Russ Goodman (R-GA), Rick Williams (R-GA), Drew Echols (R-GA), Elena C. Parent (D), William R. Hickman (R-GA), Michael A. Rhett (D-GA), Harold V. Jones (D-GA), Sam Watson (R-GA), Freddie Powell Sims (D-GA)**

### **Committee Assignments:**

Senate Committee on Retirement

### **Summary**

This bill provides an option for public school permanent employees employed no less than half time, who are hired on or after September 2, 2026, who would have otherwise been a Public School Employees Retirement System (PSERS) member, to make a one-time irrevocable election to become a Teachers Retirement System (TRS) member.

Members who make this election would not be eligible for any transfer of creditable service other than actual TRS membership service or military creditable service.

Vested persons who transfer into TRS may elect to keep their accumulated contributions with PSERS and receive their earned pension upon reaching normal retirement age. Vested members who elect to withdraw accumulated contributions from PSERS would forfeit any right to a future benefit. Nonvested members who transfer into TRS would be required to withdraw their accumulated contributions from PSERS.

This Act would become effective July 1, 2026.

First year cost reduction to PSERS: \$5,655,000; UAAL increase to PSERS: \$0.

***Bill assigned to Senate Retirement Committee on 2/20/2025. Bill was forwarded for actuarial study by the Senate Retirement Committee on 3/25/25.***