



One Hundred First Legislature - First Session - 2009
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 188

Chairperson: Dave Pankonin
Committee: Nebraska Retirement Systems
Date of Hearing: February 11, 2009

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 188 was introduced on behalf of the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems. It includes the following:

- Extends the window for State/County members to apply for vesting credit from 30 days to 180 days for years of participation in another Nebraska government plan in which credit was earned;
- Clarifies that State/County members employed and participating in retirement system prior to January 1, 2003 who terminate but return to work after 120 days but before 5 years will be enrolled in the Cash Balance Benefit;
- Provides a moratorium on Required Minimum Distributions for members of defined contribution plans who have terminated and reached the age of 70 ½ for the calendar year 2009. This change is pursuant to the Worker, Retiree, and Employer Recovery Act of 2008 recently passed by Congress and is intended to give relief to those defined contribution plan members who have likely suffered declines in their investments due to market conditions. The 1 year moratorium would allow those persons to wait for the markets to recover somewhat before being forced to cash out the Required Minimum Distribution amount.
- Extends window from 120 to 180 days of death for beneficiaries to file death benefit applications under State/County plans;
- Provides that records received by the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems from the Department of Administrative Services and other employers for purpose of administering various retirement systems are not subject to the public records act and may be withheld from the public. Information considered a public record includes: the member's name, the retirement system in which the member is a participant, the date the member's participation in the retirement system commenced, and the date the member's participation in the retirement system ended, if applicable; and
- Allows State plan members to transfer account to deferred compensation plan after termination.

Principal Introducer:

Dave Pankonin, Chairperson
Committee on Nebraska Retirement Systems
