By: Geren, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Van de Putte) H.B. No. 3634 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 12, 2009; May 13, 2009, read first time and referred to Committee on State Affairs; May 21, 2009, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; May 21, 2009, sent to printer.) 1-1 1-2 1**-**3 1**-**4 1-5

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A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

relating to creditable service in the Employees Retirement System of Texas and the transfer of that credit between classes of membership for certain state employees.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 813.201, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

A person who is a member or retiree of the elected class served in the house of representatives of this state and who holds a position as an employee of the house of representatives may accrue service credit for that position only if the person is a full-time employee. For purposes of this section, "full-time employee" means an employee designated by the house of representatives of this state as working 40 or more hours a week.

SECTION 2. Section 813.503, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

- (a) A member may establish in, or have transferred to, the employee class all service credited in the elected class, if the contributions made to establish the service in the elected class equal or exceed contributions required of a member of the employee class for the same amount of service during the same time and at the same rate of compensation. Subject to the requirements Subsection (e), a [A] member or retiree who has, or had at the time of retirement, at least eight years of service credit in the elected class of membership, exclusive of military service, may transfer service credit between classes before or after retirement.
- (e) A person who is a member or retiree of the elected class who served in the house of representatives of this state may transfer service credit between the employee class and the elected class only if with respect to service credited in the employee class the person provides documentation that the person performed the service:
- <u>(</u>1) as a full-time employee as that term is defined by Section 1551.003, Insurance Code; or

  (2) as an employee designated by

the representatives as an employee working 40 or more hours a week.

SECTION 3. Section 813.201(d), Government Code, as added by this Act, applies only to service credit accrued by a member of the Employees Retirement System of Texas for service performed on or after the effective date of this Act. Service credit accrued for service performed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 4. Section 813.503(e), Government Code, as added by this Act, applies only to a transfer of service credit under Section 813.503, as amended by this Act, by a member of the Employees Retirement System of Texas on or after the effective date of this Act. A transfer that occurs before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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