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By: Watson

(In the Senate - Filed February 23, 2009; March 13, 2009, read first time and referred to Committee on State Affairs; April 16, 2009, reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute by the following retar Value (Committee Substitute Committee Comm 1-2 1-3 1-4 1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0; April 16, 2009,

1-6 sent to printer.)

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COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1063 1-7

By: Duncan

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED 1-9 AN ACT

relating to the powers of certain hospital districts and to the retirement benefits of employees of the districts and related 1-10 1-11 1-12

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

SECTION 1. Section 803.203, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a), (c), and (e) and adding Subsection (h) to read as follows:

- (a) Except as provided by Subsection (g), a person who is a  $\hbox{member of a retirement system participating in the program provided} \\$ by this chapter may reestablish service credit, including prior service credit if applicable, previously canceled in another retirement system that is participating in the program provided by this chapter if the person:
- is not a current member of the system under which (1)the service was performed; [or]
- (2) in the case of the Texas County and District System, does not have an open account with the Retirement subdivision for which the person performed the service for which the credit is sought; or
- (3) in the case of an employee to whom Section 803.204 applies, does not have an open account with the employing hospital district, charitable organization, or administrative agency, as applicable, for which the person performed the service for which the credit is sought.
- (c) Except as provided by Subsection (f), the retirement system in which the service credit was originally credited shall grant the service credit after receiving an application and a certification required by Subsection (b) and:
- (1) to reestablish service credit other than in the Texas County and District Retirement System, [or the retirement system in which a hospital district, charitable organization, or administrative agency described by Section 803.204 participates, a contribution in the amount generally required to reestablish service credit in the system, including any applicable interest and membership fees;
- (2) to reestablish service credit in the Texas County and District Retirement System, [or] the Texas Municipal Retirement System, or the retirement system in which a hospital district, charitable organization, or administrative agency described by Section 803.204 participates, a statement that the applicant does not wish to make a contribution for the service credit; or
- at the applicant's option, to reestablish current service credit in the Texas County and District Retirement System, the actuarial present value of the additional standard service benefits that would be attributable to the credit based on rates and tables recommended by the actuary and adopted by the board of trustees of the system.
- 1-57 (e) Service credit [reestablished] in the Texas County and District Retirement System, [or] the Texas Municipal Retirement System, or the retirement system in which a hospital district, charitable organization, or administrative agency described by Section 803.204 participates that is reestablished under 1-58 1-59 1-60 1-61 Subsection (c)(2) may be used only to meet eligibility requirements 1-62 1-63 for benefits. Service credit reestablished in the Texas County and

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District Retirement System or the Texas Municipal Retirement System [either system] under Subsection (c)(3) or (d) has the same value as service credit performed for the particular subdivision or municipality at the time of deposit. The credit is creditable to the member's and employer's accounts in each subdivision or municipality for which the service was performed.

(h) This section applies to an employee described by Section 803.204 on the date the federal government establishes as the effective date of the transfer of federally qualified health center status from a municipality described by Section 803.0021(1) to a hospital district, charitable organization, or administrative agency described by Section 803.204.

SECTION 2. Section 803.204, Government Code, is amended by

SECTION 2. Section 803.204, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

(a) This section applies only to an employee who:

(1) is a member of a municipal retirement system described by Section 803.0021(1);

(2) is employed by a hospital district, a charitable organization supervised, overseen, and effectively controlled [created] by the hospital district, or an administrative agency created under Section 791.013, either before or after being employed by the employing municipality located in the same county as the hospital district, charitable organization, or administrative agency; and

(3) participates in a public retirement system:

(A) that is determined to be a qualified plan under Section 401(a), Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. Section 401(a)), of a hospital district, charitable organization, or administrative agency that is determined to be a governmental unit, or an agency or an instrumentality of a governmental unit; and (B) that records and reports service credit as defined by Section 803.001.

(d) For purposes of this section, a charitable organization supervised, overseen, and effectively controlled by a hospital district or an administrative agency created under Section 791.013 is an agency or instrumentality of a governmental unit.

SECTION 3. Section 61.056, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

(d) A hospital district created in a county with a population of more than 800,000 that was not included in the boundaries of a hospital district before September 1, 2003, may provide or arrange to provide health care services for eligible residents through the purchase of health coverage or other health benefits, including benefits described by Chapter 75. For purposes of this subsection, the board of managers of the district has the powers and duties provided to the commissioners court of a county under Chapter 75.

SECTION 4. 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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