

By: Representative Stringer

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 959

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-13-17, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROVIDE THAT MEMBERS OF THE HIGHWAY SAFETY PATROL RETIREMENT
3 SYSTEM SHALL RECEIVE CREDITABLE SERVICE FOR ALL ACTIVE DUTY
4 MILITARY SERVICE, NOT JUST MILITARY SERVICE DURING TIME OF WAR OR
5 MILITARY CONFLICT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

7 SECTION 1. Section 25-13-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 25-13-17. All persons who are covered under the terms of
10 this chapter on the date on which this retirement system is
11 established and who become members of the retirement system shall
12 cease to be members under the provisions of Sections 25-11-101
13 through 25-11-139 upon the effective date of this chapter, and
14 shall become members of this retirement system with full credit
15 for all prior service with the highway safety patrol.

16 In computing the period of service of a member of the highway
17 safety patrol, anything in this chapter to the contrary
18 notwithstanding, any member who served on active duty in the Armed
19 Forces of the United States, * * * or who served in maritime
20 service during periods of hostility in World War II, shall be
21 entitled to creditable service for his service on active duty in
22 the Armed Forces or in such maritime service, provided he entered
23 state service after his discharge from the Armed Forces or entered
24 state service after he completed such maritime service. The
25 maximum period for such creditable service for all military
26 service shall not exceed four (4) years unless * * * positive
27 proof can be furnished by such person that he was retained in the

28 Armed Forces during World War II or in maritime service during
29 World War II, by causes beyond his control and without opportunity
30 of discharge. The member shall furnish proof satisfactory to the
31 Board of Trustees of the Public Employees' Retirement System of
32 certification of military service or maritime service records
33 showing dates of entrance into active duty service and the date of
34 discharge. No creditable service shall be granted for any
35 military service or maritime service to a member who qualifies for
36 a retirement allowance in another public retirement system
37 administered by the Board of Trustees of the Public Employees'
38 Retirement System based in whole or in part on such military or
39 maritime service. In no case shall the member receive creditable
40 service if the member received a dishonorable discharge from the
41 Armed Forces of the United States.

42 The credit for military service granted in this section shall
43 apply to all persons who have retired from the Highway Patrol and
44 who qualify for credit as outlined above, whether they retired
45 before or after July 1, 1999; but this provision shall not operate
46 to require any back payments of retirement.

47 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
48 and after July 1, 1999.