

SENATE BILL NO. 154

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATOR MCGUIRE

Introduced: 3/18/09

Referred: Labor and Commerce, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act adding state wildland fire and resource technicians to the definition of peace
2 officer or fire fighter under the defined contribution plan of the public employees'
3 retirement system and under the defined benefit plan of the public employees'
4 retirement system; and providing for an effective date."

5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

6 * **Section 1.** AS 39.35.680(30) is amended to read:

7 (30) "peace officer" or "fire fighter" means an employee occupying a
8 position as a peace officer, chief of police, regional public safety officer, correctional
9 officer, correctional superintendent, fire fighter, fire chief, wildland fire and resource
10 technician, or probation officer, but does not include a village public safety officer
11 employed by a village public safety officer program established under AS 18.65.670;

12 * **Sec. 2.** AS 39.35.990(20) is amended to read:

13 (20) "peace officer" or "fire fighter" means an employee occupying a
14 position as a peace officer, chief of police, regional public safety officer, correctional

1 officer, correctional superintendent, fire fighter, fire chief, **wildland fire and resource**
2 **technician**, or probation officer, but does not include a village public safety officer
3 employed by a village public safety officer program established under AS 18.65.670;

4 * **Sec. 3.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
5 read:

6 **CONVERSION OF CREDITED SERVICE.** An employee who was employed as a
7 wildland fire and resource technician in the public employees' retirement system before the
8 effective date of this Act may convert the credited service for that position to credited service
9 as a peace officer by claiming the service as peace officer service before the member is
10 appointed to retirement. When the member claims this retroactive credited service, an
11 indebtedness of the member to the system shall be established. The indebtedness is equal to
12 the contributions to the system that the wildland fire and resource technician would have
13 made if the service had counted as peace officer service less the contributions to the system
14 that the wildland fire and resource technician actually made. Interest as prescribed by
15 regulation accrues on this indebtedness beginning July 1, 2010. Any outstanding indebtedness
16 that exists at the time a person is appointed to retirement will require an actuarial adjustment
17 to the benefits payable based on the wildland fire and resource technician service.

18 * **Sec. 4.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).