

Chapter 227

(House Bill 1274)

AN ACT concerning

**Employees' Retirement and Pension Systems – Reemployment Earnings
Limitation – COVID-19 Exemption**

FOR the purpose of exempting certain retirees of the Employees' Retirement and Pension Systems from a certain earnings limitation when the retiree is reemployed by a certain previous employer for a certain time period to assist with the administration of certain grants or projects related to the COVID-19 pandemic; providing for the retroactive application of this Act; and generally relating to a reemployment earnings limitation in the Employees' Retirement and Pension Systems.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That:

(a) Except for individuals whose retirement allowance is subject to a reduction as provided under § 22-406(c)(1)(iii) and (3) or § 23-407(c)(1)(iii) and (3) of the State Personnel and Pensions Article, the reduction of a retirement allowance under § 22-406 or § 23-407 of the State Personnel and Pensions Article does not apply to an individual who was previously employed by the State of Maryland, retired, and is rehired by the Maryland Department of Health for a period not to exceed ~~3~~ 5 years to:

(1) assist in the administration of federally funded grants related to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic; or

(2) work, as a member of the COVID Unified Command, on projects directly related to COVID-19 staffing support or contact tracing.

(b) The provisions of subsection (a) of this section shall be construed to apply retroactively to January 1, 2020.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is enacted. It shall remain effective through December 31, 2024, and, at the end of December 31, 2024, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved by the Governor, April 24, 2023.