1	STATE OF OKLAHOMA
2	1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)
3	SENATE BILL 973 By: Garvin
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6	AS INTRODUCED
7	An Act relating to the Teachers' Retirement System of
8	Oklahoma; amending 62 O.S. 2011, Section 3103, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 120, O.S.L. 2018
9	(62 O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 3103), which relates to the Oklahoma Pension Legislation Actuarial Analysis
10	Act; modifying definitions; amending 70 O.S. 2011, Section 17-116.10, as last amended by Section 2,
11	Chapter 270, O.S.L. 2017 (70 O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 17-116.10), which relates to postretirement earnings
12	limitations; modifying restrictions with respect to postretirement employment; prescribing maximum amount
13	of postretirement earnings; prescribing requirements
14	related to postretirement earnings; modifying provision related to employee contributions;
15	prohibiting accrual of postretirement service credit; providing for applicability of certain provisions
16	regardless of certain election; amending Section 3, Chapter 394, O.S.L. 2013, as last amended by Section
17	1, Chapter 10, 2nd Extraordinary Session, O.S.L. 2018 (70 O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 18-114.14), which
18	relates to the minimum salary schedule; modifying provisions related to employment of retired teachers; providing school districts not subject to certain
19	pre-termination procedural requirements; prescribing maximum duration of postretirement contacts;
20	providing school districts not required to rehire certain persons based upon previous contract;
21	providing for codification; and providing effective dates.
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24 2 -	BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 62 O.S. 2011, Section 3103, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 120, O.S.L. 2020 (62 O.S. Supp. 3 2020, Section 3103), is amended to read as follows:

⁴ Section 3103. As used in the Oklahoma Pension Legislation ⁵ Actuarial Analysis Act:

⁶ 1. "Amendment" means any amendment, including a substitute
⁷ bill, made to a retirement bill by any committee of the House or
⁸ Senate, any conference committee of the House or Senate or by the
⁹ House or Senate;

10 2. "RB number" means that number preceded by the letters "RB" 11 assigned to a retirement bill by the respective staffs of the 12 Oklahoma State Senate and the Oklahoma House of Representatives when 13 the respective staff office prepares a retirement bill for a member 14 of the Legislature;

¹⁵ 3. "Legislative Actuary" means the firm or entity that enters ¹⁶ into a contract with the Legislative Service Bureau pursuant to ¹⁷ Section 452.15 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes to provide the ¹⁸ actuarial services and other duties provided for in the Oklahoma ¹⁹ Pension Legislation Actuarial Analysis Act;

4. "Nonfiscal amendment" means an amendment to a retirement bill having a fiscal impact, which amendment does not change any factor of an actuarial investigation specified in subsection A of Section 3109 of this title;

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5. "Nonfiscal retirement bill" means a retirement bill:

- a. which does not affect the cost or funding factors of a retirement system, or
 - b. which affects such factors only in a manner which does not:
 - grant a benefit increase under the retirement system affected by the bill,
 - (2) create an actuarial accrued liability for or increase the actuarial accrued liability of the retirement system affected by the bill, or
 - (3) increase the normal cost of the retirement system affected by the bill,
- 12 which authorizes the purchase by an active member of с. 13 the retirement system, at the actuarial cost for the 14 purchase as computed pursuant to the statute in effect 15 on the effective date of the measure allowing such 16 purchase, of years of service for purposes of reaching 17 a normal retirement date in the applicable retirement 18 system, but which cannot be used in order to compute 19 the number of years of service for purposes of 20 computing the retirement benefit for the member, 21 d. which provides for the computation of a service-22 connected disability retirement benefit for members of 23 the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System 24 pursuant to Section 2-305 of Title 47 of the Oklahoma

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	Statutes if the members were unable to complete twenty
	(20) years of service as a result of the disability,
e.	which requires membership in the defined benefit plan
	authorized by Section 901 et seq. of Title 74 of the
	Oklahoma Statutes for persons whose first elected or
	appointed service occurs on or after November 1, 2018,
	if such persons had any prior service in the Oklahoma
	Public Employees Retirement System prior to November
	1, 2015,
f.	which provides for a one-time increase in retirement
	benefits if the increase in retirement benefits is not
	a permanent increase in the gross annual retirement
	benefit payable to a member or beneficiary, occurs
	only once pursuant to a single statutory authorization
	and does not exceed:
	(1) the lesser of two percent (2%) of the gross
	annual retirement benefit of the member or One
	Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) and requires that
	the benefit may only be provided if the funded
	ratio of the affected retirement system would not
	be less than sixty percent (60%) but not greater
	than eighty percent (80%) after the benefit
	increase is paid,
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1	(2)	the lesser of two percent (2%) of the gross
2		annual retirement benefit of the member or One
3		Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$1,200.00) and
4		requires that the benefit may only be provided if
5		the funded ratio of the affected retirement
6		system would be greater than eighty percent (80%)
7		but not greater than one hundred percent (100%)
8		after the benefit increase is paid,
9	(3)	_
10		annual retirement benefit of the member or One
11		Thousand Four Hundred Dollars (\$1,400.00) and
12		requires that the benefit may only be provided if
13		the funded ratio of the affected retirement
14		system would be greater than one hundred percent
15		(100%) after the benefit increase is paid, or
16	(4)	
17		annual retirement benefit of the volunteer
18		firefighter or One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for
19		persons who retired from the Oklahoma
20		Firefighters Pension and Retirement System as
21		volunteer firefighters and who did not retire
22		-
23		from the Oklahoma Firefighters Pension and
24		Retirement System as a paid firefighter.
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- As used in this subparagraph, "funded ratio" means the figure derived by dividing the actuarial value of assets of the applicable retirement system by the actuarial accrued liability of the applicable retirement system, or
- 9 g. which modifies the disability pension standard for police officers who are members of the Oklahoma Police Pension and Retirement System as provided by Section 3 of this act.
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 h.
 which modifies the postretirement earnings limit

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 pursuant to Section 17-116.10 of Title 70 of the

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 Oklahoma Statutes, or
- i. which modifies the postretirement provisions of the
 minimum salary schedule, pursuant to subsection F of
 Section 18-114.14 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma
 Statutes.

A nonfiscal retirement bill shall include any retirement bill that has as its sole purpose the appropriation or distribution or redistribution of monies in some manner to a retirement system for purposes of reducing the unfunded liability of such system or the earmarking of a portion of the revenue from a tax to a retirement system or increasing the percentage of the revenue earmarked from a tax to a retirement system;

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6. "Reduction-in-cost amendment" means an amendment to a retirement bill having a fiscal impact which reduces the cost of the bill as such cost is determined by the actuarial investigation for the bill prepared pursuant to Section 3109 of this title;

7. "Retirement bill" means any bill or joint resolution introduced or any bill or joint resolution amended by a member of the Oklahoma Legislature which creates or amends any law directly affecting a retirement system. A retirement bill shall not mean a bill or resolution that impacts the revenue of any state tax in which a portion of the revenue generated from such tax is earmarked for the benefit of a retirement system;

12 8. "Retirement bill having a fiscal impact" means any 13 retirement bill creating or establishing a retirement system and any 14 other retirement bill other than a nonfiscal retirement bill; and

9. "Retirement system" means the Teachers' Retirement System of
Oklahoma, the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System, the
Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges, the Oklahoma
Firefighters Pension and Retirement System, the Oklahoma Police
Pension and Retirement System, the Oklahoma Law Enforcement
Retirement System, or a retirement system established after January
1, 2006.

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 SECTION 2.
 AMENDATORY
 70 O.S. 2011, Section 17-116.10,

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 as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 270, O.S.L. 2017 (70 O.S.

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 Supp. 2020, Section 17-116.10), is amended to read as follows:

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Section 17-116.10. A. Subject to the requirements of Section 6-101.2 of this title and any other applicable requirements of law, a member with twenty-five (25) or more years of service may enter into postretirement employment with a public school of Oklahoma and still receive monthly retirement benefits subject to the following limitations:

7 1. A retired member is not eligible to be employed by the 8 public schools of Oklahoma, in any capacity, for sixty (60) calendar 9 days between the retiree's last day of preretirement public 10 education employment and any postretirement public education 11 employment. For purposes of this section, the term "last day of 12 preretirement employment" shall mean the last day the employee is 13 required to be physically present on the job to complete the terms 14 of the employment contract or agreement. An employee on paid leave 15 is still considered to be employed for purposes of this section. 16 Employment under any conditions during this time, volunteer services 17 for the purpose of obtaining a paid position at a later date, or 18 payment at a later time for services performed during this time 19 period shall cause the forfeiture of all retirement benefits 20 received during the period;

21 2. Unless otherwise provided in paragraph 3 of this subsection, 22 carnings from the public schools may not exceed one-half (1/2) of 23 the member's final average salary used in computing retirement 24 benefits, or the Earnings Limitation for employees allowed by the

1	Social Security Administration, whichever is less. For retired
2	members under the age of sixty-two (62) years, the limit on allowed
3	carnings from the public schools of Oklahoma for employment for the
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5	performance of duties ordinarily performed by classified or
	nonclassified personnel shall be the lesser of Fifteen Thousand
6	Dollars (\$15,000.00) or one-half (1/2) of the member's final average
7	salary used in computing retirement benefits unless the earnings
8	limitation allowed by the Social Security Administration would be
9	greater than Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00). For retired
10	members sixty-two (62) years of age or older the limit on allowed
11	earnings from the public schools of Oklahoma for the performance of
12	duties ordinarily performed by classified or nonclassified personnel
13	shall be the lesser of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00) or one-
14	half (1/2) of the member's final average salary used in computing
15	retirement benefits. For purposes of this paragraph, the following
16	shall apply:
17	a. earnings shall mean "regular annual compensation" as
18	defined in paragraph (25) of Section 17-101 of this
19	title, and shall include any payment by a public
20	school for services rendered by a retired member who
21	is employed for any purpose whatsoever. Supplemental
22	retirement payments paid by a former public school
23	employer pursuant to subsection 9 of Section 17-105 of
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1		this title or other state law shall not be considered
2		as earnings,
3	b.	the Earnings Limitation for employees allowed by the
4		Social Security Administration to workers between the
5		age of sixty-two (62) years and sixty-five (65) years
6		shall apply to retired members below the age of sixty-
7		two (62) years,
8	c.	the limit on allowed earnings from the public schools
9		shall be automatically adjusted effective the first
10		day of January of each year to reflect the current
11		Earnings Limitation for employees as determined from
12		time to time by the Social Security Administration,
13	d.	the earnings limit for the calendar year in which a
14		member retires shall be one-twelfth (1/12) of the
15		annual limit multiplied by the number of months the
16		member is eligible to work and receive payments from
17		the public schools of Oklahoma,
18	e.	earnings in excess of the maximum limit on allowed
19		earnings from public schools of Oklahoma shall result
20		in a loss of future retirement benefits for the year
21		the postretirement employment was performed of One
22		Dollar (\$1.00) for each One Dollar (\$1.00) earned over
23		the maximum allowed earnings amount,
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1	f. for those members age seventy (70) years and over, the
2	earnings in excess of the maximum limit allowed
3	earnings from public schools of Oklahoma shall be one-
4	half (1/2) the member's final average salary used in
5	computing retirement benefits. However, any retired
6	member receiving benefits from the Retirement System
7	who reached age seventy (70) years prior to July 1,
8	1991, shall not be restricted by the earnings limits
9	pursuant to this subparagraph until January 1, 1994.
10	To qualify for the provisions of this subparagraph,
11	the member must be employed less than one-half (1/2)
12	time compared to other full-time employees in similar
13	positions;
14	3. Notwithstanding paragraph 2 of this subsection, a retired
15	classified or nonclassified member who has been retired for thirty-
16	six (36) or more months and who is employed by a public school to
17	perform duties ordinarily performed by classified or nonclassified
18	personnel shall be able to receive annualized earnings from the
19	public school with no reduction in retirement benefits regardless of
20	the amount of annualized earnings. For a period of three (3) years
21	beginning July 1, 2017, members who have retired as of July 1, 2017,
22	as active classroom teachers, who have been retired and receiving a
23	benefit for at least one (1) year, and who have not been employed by
24 2 -	any public school during that one-year period, shall be eligible to

1 be reemployed as an active classroom teacher in common or career 2 tech school districts, with no limitations on earnings. The one-3 year period starts with the retiree's last day of preretirement 4 public education employment. Members returning under this section 5 shall not be subject to any earning limitations following the end of 6 the three-year period described in this paragraph. Members 7 returning under this section shall only be employed pursuant to a 8 temporary contract; and

9 4. A member shall be considered to be employed by a school 10 district to perform the duties ordinarily performed by classified or 11 nonclassified personnel if the member is hired by the school 12 district in the member's individual capacity to perform the duties 13 or if the member performs the duties through employment with a 14 proprietorship, partnership, corporation, limited liability company 15 or partnership, or any other business structure that has agreed or 16 contracted to provide the services to the school district;

17 <u>3. For the first year a retired member is employed full-time by</u> 18 <u>a public school district, the maximum compensation amount shall be</u> 19 <u>Thirty-six Thousand Six Hundred One Dollars (\$36,601.00). For all</u> 20 <u>years of service after the first twelve (12) months after a member</u> 21 <u>retires from the System, there shall be no minimum salary</u> 22 <u>requirement and the provisions of Section 18-114.14 of this title</u> 23 <u>shall not be applicable to compensation paid by a public school</u> 24

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1 district to a retired member of the System for full-time employment;
2 and

3	4. For the second and subsequent years that a retired member is
4	employed full-time by a public school district, the maximum
5	compensation amount shall be Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) and
6	the provisions of Section 18-114.14 of this title shall not be
7	applicable to compensation paid by a public school district for
8	full-time employment to a retired member of the System.
9	B. A public school district that employs a retired member shall
10	be required to make contributions to the System for the retired
11	member in an amount as required in Section 17-108.1 and in paragraph
12	3 of subsection B of Section 17-116.2 of this title. <u>A retired</u>
13	member employed pursuant to the provisions of this section shall not
14	accrue any additional service credit in the Teachers' Retirement
15	System of Oklahoma resulting from performance of postretirement
16	employment with a school district. The provisions of this section
17	for payment of employer contribution amounts and the provisions
18	prohibiting accrual of additional service credit shall be applicable
19	regardless of whether the member is receiving his or her retirement
20	benefit or not and shall not depend upon any election the member
21	might exercise to suspend or delay receipt of the retirement benefit
22	amount.
23	C. For purposes of this section, postretirement employment of

C. For purposes of this section, postretirement employment of less than one thousand (1,000) hours per year with the Governor, the State Senate, the House of Representatives or the Legislative Service Bureau shall not be considered as postretirement employment with a public school of Oklahoma.

D. The Board of Trustees of the Teachers' Retirement System of
 Oklahoma shall promulgate such rules as are necessary to implement
 the provisions of this section.

7 E. A member who has entered into postretirement employment with 8 a participating employer of the Teachers' Retirement System of 9 Oklahoma must fully comply with all the provisions of the rules 10 promulgated by the Board of Trustees pursuant to this section in 11 order to continue receiving his or her monthly retirement benefit. 12 SECTION 3. Section 3, Chapter 394, O.S.L. AMENDATORY 13 2013, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 10, 2nd Extraordinary 14 Session, O.S.L. 2018 (70 O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 18-114.14), is 15 amended to read as follows: 16 Section 18-114.14 A. Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, 17 certified personnel, as defined in Section 26-103 of this title, in 18 the public schools of Oklahoma shall receive in salary and/or fringe 19 benefits not less than the amounts specified in the following 20 schedule: 21 MINIMUM SALARY SCHEDULE

National

Certification

Board

Bachelor's

Degree

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Experience

Years of

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Degree

Doctor's

Master's

Degree

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1	0	\$36,601	\$37 , 759	\$37,991	\$39 , 381
2	1	\$37 , 035	\$38,193	\$38,425	\$39,815
3	2	\$37 , 469	\$38,628	\$38,859	\$40,249
4	3	\$37 , 904	\$39,062	\$39,294	\$40,684
5	4	\$38,338	\$39,496	\$39,728	\$41,118
6	5	\$38,810	\$39,968	\$40,200	\$41 , 590
7	6	\$39 , 273	\$40,432	\$40,663	\$42,054
8	7	\$39 , 737	\$40 , 895	\$41,127	\$42 , 517
9	8	\$40,200	\$41 , 358	\$41,590	\$42,980
10	9	\$40 , 663	\$41,822	\$42,054	\$43,444
11	10	\$41,684	\$42,844	\$43,568	\$45 , 945
12	11	\$42 , 177	\$43,336	\$44,061	\$46,438
13	12	\$42 , 670	\$43,829	\$44,554	\$46,931
14	13	\$43,162	\$44,322	\$45,047	\$47,424
15	14	\$43 , 655	\$44,815	\$45,539	\$47 , 916
16	15	\$44,167	\$45 , 327	\$46,052	\$48,430
17	16	\$44,660	\$45,820	\$46,545	\$48,923
18	17	\$45,153	\$46,313	\$47,038	\$49,416
19	18	\$45,646	\$46,806	\$47,531	\$49,909
20	19	\$46,139	\$47 , 299	\$48,024	\$50 , 402
21	20	\$46,652	\$47,813	\$48,538	\$50 , 917
22	21	\$47,145	\$48,306	\$49,031	\$51 , 410
23	22	\$47,639	\$48,799	\$49,524	\$51 , 903
24	23	\$48,132	\$49,292	\$50,018	\$52 , 397

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1	24	\$48,625	\$49,785	\$50 , 511	\$52 , 890
2	25	\$50,049	\$51 , 232	\$51 , 971	\$54 , 395
3		Master's Degr	ee +		
4	Years of	National Boar	ď		
5	Experience	Certification			
6	0	\$39,149			
7	1	\$39 , 583			
8	2	\$40,018			
9	3	\$40,452			
10	4	\$40,886			
11	5	\$41 , 358			
12	6	\$41,822			
13	7	\$42 , 285			
14	8	\$42 , 749			
15	9	\$43,212			
16	10	\$44,728			
17	11	\$45,221			
18	12	\$45,713			
19	13	\$46,206			
20	14	\$46,699			
21	15	\$47,212			
22	16	\$47 , 705			
23	17	\$48,198			
24 23	18	\$48,691			

1	19	\$49,184
2	20	\$49,698
3	21	\$50 , 192
4	22	\$50,685
5	23	\$51 , 178
6	24	\$51 , 671
7	25	\$53 , 153

8 1. When determining the Minimum Salary Schedule, "fringe в. 9 benefits" shall mean all or part of retirement benefits, excluding 10 the contributions made pursuant to subsection A of Section 17-108.1 11 of this title and the flexible benefit allowance pursuant to Section 12 26-105 of this title from the flexible benefit allowance funds 13 disbursed by the State Board of Education and the State Board of 14 Career and Technology Education pursuant to Section 26-104 of this 15 title.

16 2. If a school district intends to provide retirement benefits 17 to a teacher such that the teacher's salary would be less than the 18 amounts set forth in the minimum salary schedule specified in 19 subsection A of this section, the district shall be required to 20 provide written notification to the teacher prior to his or her 21 employment or, if already employed by the district, no later than 22 thirty (30) days prior to the date the district elects to provide 23 retirement benefits such that the teacher's salary would be less 24 than the minimum salary schedule. _ _

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1 C. Any of the degrees referred to in this section shall be from 2 a college recognized by the State Board of Education. The Board 3 shall accept teaching experience from out-of-state school districts 4 that are accredited by the state board of education or appropriate 5 state accrediting agency for the districts. The Board shall accept 6 teaching experience from out-of-country schools that are accredited 7 or otherwise endorsed by the appropriate national or regional 8 accrediting or endorsement authority. Out-of-country certification 9 documentation in a language other than English shall be analyzed by 10 an educational credential evaluation service in accordance with 11 industry standards and guidelines and approved by the State 12 Department of Education. The person seeking to have credit granted 13 for out-of-country teaching experience shall be responsible for all 14 costs of the analysis by a credential evaluation service. The Board 15 shall accept teaching experience from primary and secondary schools 16 that are operated by the United States Department of Defense or are 17 affiliated with the United States Department of State.

D. For the purpose of state salary increments and retirement, no teacher shall be granted credit for more than five (5) years of active duty in the military service or out-of-state or out-ofcountry teaching experience as a certified teacher or its equivalent. Nothing in this section shall prohibit boards of education from crediting more years of experience on district salary schedules than those allowed for state purposes.

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E. The State Board of Education shall recognize, for purposes of certification and salary increments, all the years of experience of a:

⁴ 1. Certified teacher who teaches in the educational program of ⁵ the Department of Corrections, beginning with fiscal year 1981;

Vocational rehabilitation counselor under the Department of
Human Services if the counselor was employed as a certified teacher
by the State Department of Education when the Division of Vocational
Rehabilitation was transferred from the State Board of Career and
Technology Education or the State Board of Education to the Oklahoma
Public Welfare Commission on July 1, 1968;

12 3. Vocational rehabilitation counselor which were completed 13 while employed by the Department of Human Services if such counselor 14 was certified as a teacher or was eligible for certification as a 15 teacher in Oklahoma;

16 4. Certified teacher which were completed while employed by the 17 Department of Human Services Child Study Center at University 18 Hospital, if the teacher was certified as a teacher in Oklahoma; and

S. Certified school psychologist or psychometrist which were completed while employed as a doctoral intern, psychological assistant, or psychologist with any agency of the State of Oklahoma if the experience primarily involved work with persons of school- or preschool-age and if the person was, at the time the experience was

1 acquired, certified as, or eligible for certification as, a school
2 psychologist or psychometrist.

F. The provisions of this section shall not apply to teachers who have retired from the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma and who have entered into postretirement employment with a public school in Oklahoma and are still receiving a monthly retirement benefit.

8 G. If a person employed as certified personnel, as defined in 9 Section 26-103 of this title, by a school district during the 2017-10 2018 school year was receiving a salary above the step level 11 indicated by the State Minimum Salary Schedule for the 2017-2018 12 school year, the person shall receive a salary increase amount equal 13 to the amount indicated in subsection A of this section for the step 14 level indicated for the person, provided they remain employed by the 15 same district, unless the hours or the duties of the certified 16 personnel are reduced proportionately.

SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6-101.6c of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. A school district, as defined in Section 1-108 of Title 70
 of the Oklahoma Statutes, that employs a retired member of the
 Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma shall not be subject to any
 provisions of law related to pre-termination procedures.

1	B. 1. All postretirement employment contracts shall be for a
2	period agreed to by the school district and the retired member of
3	the System, not to exceed twelve (12) months. No school district
4	shall be obligated to rehire a retired member with whom the district
5	has previously entered into a postretirement employment contract.
6	2. A school district shall not have any legal obligation to
7	enter into any postretirement employment contract with a retired
8	member of the System.
9	SECTION 5. Section 1 of this act shall become effective October
10	1, 2021.
11	SECTION 6. Sections 2, 3 and 4 of this act shall become
12	effective November 1, 2021.
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