Proponent Testimony
HB 2195 - AN ACT concerning retirement and pensions; relating to the Kansas public employees retirement system; employment after retirement; increasing the amount of retirant compensation subject to the statutory employer contribution rate; requiring participating employers to pay only the statutory employer contribution rate on all compensation of a retirant employed in a covered position for a period commencing July 1, 2023, and ending December 31, 2024; amending K.S.A. 74-4937 and K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 74-4914 and repealing the existing sections.

Presented to the House Committee on Financial Institutions and Pensions
Wednesday, February 15, 2023
by
Ann Mah and Dr. Deena Horst, Legislative Liaisons
Kansas State Board of Education

CHAIRMAN HOHEISEL AND COMMITTEE:

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to the Committee today in support of HB 2195.

Schools across Kansas are dealing with an unprecedented shortage of qualified teachers. Many factors have contributed to the decline in the number of people wanting to remain within the teaching profession. This problem was greatly exacerbated by the COVID pandemic. One source of relief is our pool of retired teachers. Averaging almost 900 retirees per year, Kansas has seen more than 2,800 educators retire since 2019.

We believe HB 2195 provides a means of helping retirees to re-enter the profession and the schools wanting to hire them. The Kansas State Board of Education appreciates this legislative effort in support of Kansas education.

We thank you for the opportunity to support HB 2195 and ask the Committee to send the bill to the full House for its consideration.

Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.