House File 2300 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE BY R. OLSON Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays ___ Nays ___ A BILL FOR 1 An Act relating to mandatory retirement for senior judges. 2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA: 3 TLSB 6385HH 82 4 ec/rj/24PAG LIN Section 1. Section 602.9202, Code 2007, is amended by 1 2 adding the following new subsection:
3 NEW SUBSECTION. 3A. "Senior judge retirement age" means
4 seventy=eight years of age or, if the senior judge is
5 reappointed as a senior judge for an additional two=year term 6 upon attaining seventy=eight years of age pursuant to section 7 602.9203, eighty years of age. 8 Sec. 2. Section 602.720 9 amended to read as follows: Sec. 2. Section 602.9203, subsection 5, Code 2007, is 5. a. A senior judge may be reappointed to additional 1 10 1 11 two=year terms, at the discretion of the supreme court, if the 1 12 judicial officer meets the requirements of subsection 2. b. A senior judge may be reappointed to an additional 1 13 14 two=year term upon attaining seventy=eight years of age, at 1 15 the discretion of the supreme court, if the judicial officer 1 16 meets the requirements of subsection 2. Sec. 3. Section 602.9204, subsection 1, Code 2007, is 1 18 amended to read as follows: 1. A judge who retires on or after July 1, 1994, and who 1 20 is appointed a senior judge under section 602.9203 shall be 1 21 paid a salary as determined by the general assembly. A senior 1 22 judge or retired senior judge shall be paid an annuity under 1 23 the judicial retirement system in the manner provided in 1 24 section 602.9109, but computed under this section in lieu of 1 25 section 602.9107, as follows: The annuity paid to a senior 1 26 judge or retired senior judge shall be an amount equal to the 1 27 applicable percentage multiplier of the basic senior judge 1 28 salary, multiplied by the judge's years of service prior to 1 29 retirement as a judge of one or more of the courts included 1 30 under this article, for which contributions were made to the 1 31 system, except the annuity of the senior judge or retired 1 32 senior judge shall not exceed an amount equal to the 33 applicable specified percentage of the basic senior judge 1 34 salary used in calculating the annuity. However, following 1 35 the twelve=month period during which the senior judge or 1 retired senior judge attains seventy-eight years of senior
2 judge retirement age, the annuity paid to the person shall be
3 an amount equal to the applicable percentage multiplier of the 4 basic senior judge salary cap, multiplied by the judge's years 5 of service prior to retirement as a judge of one or more of 6 the courts included under this article, for which 7 contributions were made to the system, except that the annuity 8 shall not exceed an amount equal to the applicable specified 9 percentage of the basic senior judge salary cap. A senior 2 10 judge or retired senior judge shall not receive benefits
2 11 calculated using a basic senior judge salary established after
2 12 the twelve=month period in which the senior judge or retired
2 13 senior judge attains seventy=eight years of senior judge 14 retirement age. The state shall provide, regardless of age, 2 15 to an active senior judge or a senior judge with six years of 2 16 service as a senior judge and to the judge's spouse, and pay 2 17 for medical insurance until the judge attains the senior judge 18 retirement age of seventy=eight years.

Sec. 4. Section 602.9204, subsection 2, paragraphs d and

d. "Basic senior judge salary cap" means the basic senior

2 20 e, Code 2007, is amended to read as follows:

2 22 judge salary, at the end of the twelve=month period during 2 23 which the senior judge or retired senior judge attained 2 24 seventy=eight years of senior judge retirement age, of the 2 25 office in which the person last served as a judge before 2 26 retirement as a judge or senior judge.

e. "Escalator" means the difference between the current 28 basic salary, as of the time each payment is made up to and 29 including the twelve=month period during which the senior 30 judge or retired senior judge attains seventy-eight years of 31 <u>senior judge retirement</u> age, of the office in which the senior 32 judge last served as a judge before retirement as a judge or 33 senior judge, and the basic annual salary which the judge is 34 receiving at the time the judge becomes separated from 35 full=time service as a judge of one or more of the courts included in this article, as would be used in computing an 2 annuity pursuant to section 602.9107 without service as a 3 senior judge. 4 Sec. 5.

Section 602.9207, subsection 1, Code 2007, is 5 amended to read as follows:

1. A senior judge shall cease to be a senior judge upon completion of the twelve=month period during which the judge 8 attains seventy=eight years of senior judge retirement age. 9 The clerk of the supreme court shall make a notation of the 10 retirement of a senior judge in the roster of senior judges, 11 at which time the senior judge shall become a retired senior 3 12 judge.

Sec. 6. Section 602.9208, subsection 1, Code 2007, is 3 14 amended to read as follows:

1. A senior judge, at any time prior to the end of the 3 16 twelve=month period during which the judge attains 17 seventy-eight years of senior judge retirement age, may submit 3 18 to the clerk of the supreme court a written request that the 3 19 judge's name be stricken from the roster of senior judges. 20 Upon the receipt of the request the clerk shall strike the 21 name of the person from the roster of senior judges, at which 3 22 time the person shall cease to be a senior judge. A person 23 who relinquishes a senior judgeship as provided in this 24 subsection may be assigned to temporary judicial duties as 3 25 provided in section 602.1612.

EXPLANATION

This bill allows a senior judge who reaches age 78 to be 28 reappointed to an additional two=year term as a senior judge, 3 29 thereby increasing the mandatory retirement age for senior 30 judges from 78 to 80 years of age. Current benefit provisions 31 made applicable to senior judges are made subject to the 3 32 increased retirement age.

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