WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2024 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 729

By Senator Deeds

[Introduced February 9, 2024; referred

to the Committee on Pensions; and then to the

Committee on Finance]

A BILL to amend and reenact §5-10-20 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended,
authorizing sheriffs who are members of the public retirement system to retire upon
attaining the age of 62 with eight or more years of service.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 10. WEST VIRGINIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ACT.§5-10-20.VoluntaryRetirement.

1 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) §5-10-20(b) and (c) of this section code, any 2 member who has attained or attains age sixty years and has five or more years of credited service 3 in force, at least one year of which he or she was a contributing member of the retirement system, 4 may retire upon his or her written application filed with the board of trustees setting forth at what 5 time, not less than thirty days nor more than ninety days subsequent to the execution and filing 6 thereof the member desires to be retired: *Provided*, That on and after June 1, 1986, any person 7 who becomes a new member of this retirement system shall, in qualifying for retirement 8 hereunder, have five or more years of service, all of which years shall be actual, contributory ones. 9 Upon retirement, the member shall receive an annuity provided for in section twenty-two of this 10 article.

(b) Any person who first becomes a member of the retirement system on or after July 1,
2015, may retire upon written application as provided in subsection (a) §5-10-20(a) of this section
<u>code</u> upon attaining the age of sixty-two with ten or more years of service, all of which must be
actual, contributing years.

(c) A person who became a member of the retirement system by virtue of being elected as
sheriff of a county, and who is not participating in another retirement system administered by the
retirement board, may retire upon written application as provided in §5-10-20(a) of this code upon
attaining the age of 62 with eight or more years of service, all of which must be actual, contributing
years.

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NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to authorize sheriffs who are members of the public retirement system to retire upon attaining the age of sixty-two with eight or more years of service.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.