

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

3 SENATE BILL 917

By: Jett

4
5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to retirement benefits; restricting
8 access to certain benefit by certain public employee
9 following felony charge; directing notice to be
10 provided to retirement system; providing for
11 revocation process; providing for hearings upon
12 certain charges; requiring rejection of certain claim
13 for payment; construing provision; providing for
14 codification; and providing an effective date.

15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

16 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
17 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 24.1A of Title 51, unless there
18 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

19 A. Any state or education employee who is charged with a felony
20 by a court of competent jurisdiction shall forfeit all benefits of
21 the office or employment, including, but not limited to, retirement
22 benefits provided by law. Upon a felony charge, the employee shall
23 forfeit the right to access, withdraw from, or liquidate the
24 retirement benefits of the member.

25 B. 1. The state prosecutor responsible for the employee's
26 charge or charges shall notify the employer and the retirement

1 system of which the employee is a member within three (3) days of
2 the filed charge. Upon notification, the system shall immediately
3 implement the requirements of this section.

4 2. Upon receipt of the notice required by this subsection, the
5 retirement system shall immediately suspend all benefits of the
6 employee and notify the employee of his or her right to a hearing to
7 review whether the charge qualifies for forfeiture of benefits under
8 this section. If the charge occurs in federal court or the notice
9 of forfeiture is not forthcoming from the state prosecutor, the
10 retirement system may investigate and gather court documents and
11 contact prosecutors to determine whether the charge qualifies under
12 this section. Upon obtaining sufficient documentation of the
13 charge, the retirement system shall immediately suspend all benefits
14 of the employee and notify the employee of his or her right to a
15 hearing to review whether the charge qualifies for forfeiture of
16 benefits under this section.

17 C. Any claims for payment to a member upon being charged with a
18 felony shall be rejected by the system pursuant to this section.

19 D. Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit access
20 to retirement benefits by a member who is found not guilty in a
21 court of competent jurisdiction. If the member is found not guilty,
22 retirement benefits shall be reinstated, and the member shall regain
23 access to such benefits. No credit shall be accrued for the time
24 that benefits are forfeited.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.

2
3 60-1-1304 RD 1/19/2025 5:45:57 AM
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25