

3 Senate Bill No. 615

4 SENATE BILL NO. 615 - By: LERBLANCE of the Senate and MASS of the  
5 House.

6 An Act relating to retirement; amending 11 O.S. 2001,  
7 Section 49-101.1, which relates to the Oklahoma Firefighters  
8 Pension and Retirement System; deleting date; allowing  
9 opportunity to purchase certain credited service; extending  
10 period before prior credited service not purchased shall  
11 expire; providing an effective date; and declaring an  
12 emergency.

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

14 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 11 O.S. 2001, Section 49-101.1, is  
15 amended to read as follows:

16 Section 49-101.1. An eligible employer joining the Oklahoma  
17 Firefighters Pension and Retirement System ~~on or after July 1, 2000,~~  
18 may purchase up to five (5) years of credited service for each  
19 volunteer member of a volunteer fire department at the annual  
20 contribution rate in effect as of the date of the purchase, provided  
21 verifiable evidence of active firefighter service for the purchased  
22 years for each individual is provided to the System. Even though  
23 the participating municipality is exempt from contributions,  
24 contributions must be paid for a volunteer firefighter to receive  
25 purchased credited service. Payment for purchased credited service  
26 must be received by the System within six (6) months of the date the  
27 eligible employer becomes a participating municipality, or six (6)

1 months from the effective date of this act, whichever is later, and  
2 may be paid by the individual member. Six (6) months from the date  
3 the eligible employer becomes a participating municipality, or six  
4 (6) months from the effective date of this act, whichever is later,  
5 any eligible prior credited service not purchased shall expire and  
6 not be available for determining benefits. Eligibility to receive  
7 purchased credited service shall be limited to those members of the  
8 new volunteer fire department enrolled at the time the eligible  
9 employer applies for affiliation with the System pursuant to Section  
10 49-105.2 of ~~Title 11 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title.

11 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2005.

12 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
13 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby  
14 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
15 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

16 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON RETIREMENT AND GROUP HEALTH, dated  
17 2-8-05 - DO PASS, As Coauthored.