46-159. **Legislator's absence from employment to be treated as continuous service for retirement purposes.** When a member of the legislature is or has been absent or on leave from such member's employment on or after January 1, 1977, due to attendance at a regular or special session of the legislature or at a legislative committee or subcommittee meeting authorized by law or by the legislative coordinating council, the period of time the member is so absent or on leave shall be treated by the member's employer as a period of continuous employment for which the member shall receive full credit as service for the purpose of any pension, retirement or retired pay, annuity or other similar periodic payment plan based on the member's service in employment.

**History:** L. 1980, ch. 151, § 1; April 26.