

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate House

Floor: WD/2R 04/30/2009 10:55 AM

Senator Lawson moved the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Subsections (10), (11), (18), (29), (39), (52), and (53) of section 121.021, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsections (63) and (64) are added to that section, to read:

121.021 Definitions.—The following words and phrases as used in this chapter have the respective meanings set forth unless a different meaning is plainly required by the context:

(10) "Employer" means any agency, branch, department, institution, university, institution of higher education, or

2 3

4

5

6

8

9

10

11

12

14 15

16 17

18 19

20

2.1 22

23

24

25 26

27 28

29

30

31

32 33

34

35

36 37

38

39

40 41



board of the state, or any county agency, branch, department, board, district school board, municipality, metropolitan planning organization, or special district of the state, or any city of the state which participates in the system for the benefit of certain of its employees, or a charter school or charter technical career center that participates as provided in s. 121.051(2)(d). Employers are not agents of the department, the state board, or the Division of Retirement, and the department, the state board, and the division are not responsible for erroneous information provided by representatives of employers.

- (11) "Officer or employee" means any person receiving salary payments for work performed in a regularly established position and, if employed by a municipality city, a metropolitan planning organization, or a special district, employed in a covered group. The term does not apply to state employees covered by a leasing agreement under s. 110.191, other public employees covered by a leasing agreement, or a co-employer relationship.
- (18) "Past service" of any member, as provided in s. 121.081(1), means the number of years and complete months and any fractional part of a month, recognized and credited by an employer and approved by the administrator, during which the member was in the active employ of a governmental an employer and for which the employee is not entitled to a benefit before prior to his or her date of participation.
- (29) "Normal retirement date" means the first day of any month following the date a member attains normal retirement age and is vested, which is determined as follows one of the



following statuses:

42

43 44

45

46 47

48

49 50

51

52

53

54 55

56 57

58

59

60

61

62 63

64 65

66

67

68

69

70

- (a) If a Regular Class member, a Senior Management Service Class member, or an Elected Officers' Class the member:
- 1. The first day of the month the member completes 6 or more years of creditable service and attains age 62; or
- 2. The first day of the month following the date the member completes 30 years of creditable service, regardless of age, which may include a maximum of 4 years of military service credit as long as such credit is not claimed under any other system.
 - (b) If a Special Risk Class member, the member:
- 1. The first day of the month the member completes 6 or more years of creditable service in the Special Risk Class and attains age 55;
- 2. The first day of the month following the date the member completes 25 years of creditable service in the Special Risk Class, regardless of age; or
- 3. The first day of the month following the date the member completes 25 years of creditable service and attains age 52, which service may include a maximum of 4 years of military service credit as long as such credit is not claimed under any other system and the remaining years are in the Special Risk Class.
- (c) If a Senior Management Service Class member, the member:
- 1. Completes 6 years of creditable service in the Senior Management Service Class and attains age 62; or
- 2. Completes 30 years of any creditable service, regardless of age, which may include a maximum of 4 years of military

72

73

74

75

76

77

78

79

80

81 82

83 84

85

86 87

88

89

90

91

92 93

94 95

96

97

98

99



service credit as long as such credit is not claimed under any other system.

- (d) If an Elected Officers' Class member, the member:
- 1. Completes 6 years of creditable service in the Elected Officers' Class and attains age 62; or
- 2. Completes 30 years of any creditable service, regardless of age, which may include a maximum of 4 years of military service credit as long as such credit is not claimed under any other system.

"Normal retirement age" is attained on the "normal retirement date."

- (39) (a) "Termination" occurs, except as provided in paragraph (b), when a member ceases all employment relationships with an employer, however: employers under this system, as defined in subsection (10), but in the event
- 1. For termination dates occurring before July 1, 2010, if a member is should be employed by any such employer within the next calendar month, termination shall be deemed not to have occurred. A leave of absence constitutes shall constitute a continuation of the employment relationship, except that a leave of absence without pay due to disability may constitute termination for a member, if such member makes application for and is approved for disability retirement in accordance with s. 121.091(4). The department or state board may require other evidence of termination as it deems necessary.
- 2. For termination dates occurring on or after July 1, 2010, if a member is employed by any such employer within the next 6 calendar months, termination shall be deemed not to have

101 102

103

104

105

106

107

108

109

110

111

112 113

114

115 116

117

118

119

120

121

122

123 124

125

126

127

128



occurred. A leave of absence constitutes a continuation of the employment relationship, except that a leave of absence without pay due to disability may constitute termination if such member makes application for and is approved for disability retirement in accordance with s. 121.091(4). The department or state board may require other evidence of termination as it deems necessary.

- (b) "Termination" for a member electing to participate in under the Deferred Retirement Option Program occurs when the Deferred Retirement Option program participant ceases all employment relationships with an employer employers under this system in accordance with s. 121.091(13), however: but
- 1. For termination dates occurring before July 1, 2010, if in the event the Deferred Retirement Option Program participant is should be employed by any such employer within the next calendar month, termination will be deemed not to have occurred, except as provided in s. 121.091(13)(b)4.c. A leave of absence shall constitute a continuation of the employment relationship.
- 2. For termination dates occurring on or after July 1, 2010, if the DROP participant becomes employed by any such employer within the next 6 calendar months, termination will be deemed not to have occurred, except as provided in s. 121.091(13)(b)4.c. A leave of absence constitutes a continuation of the employment relationship.
- (52) "Regularly established position" means is defined as follows:
- (a) With respect to In a state employer agency, the term means a position that which is authorized and established pursuant to law and is compensated from a salaries and benefits appropriation pursuant to s. 216.011(1)(mm)(dd), or an

130

131

132

133

134

135

136 137

138

139

140

141

142

143

144

145

146 147

148

149

150

151

152 153

154

155

156

157



established position that which is authorized pursuant to s. 216.262(1)(a) and (b) and is compensated from a salaries account as provided in s. 216.011(1)(nn) by rule.

- (b) With respect to In a local employer agency (district school board, county agency, community college, city, metropolitan planning organization, charter school, charter technical career center, or special district), the term means a regularly established position that $\frac{\text{which}}{\text{will}}$ will be in existence for a period beyond 6 consecutive months, except as provided by rule.
 - (53) "Temporary position" means is defined as follows:
- (a) With respect to In a state employer agency, a the term means an employment position that which is compensated from an other personal services (OPS) account, as provided for in s. 216.011(1)(dd).
- (b) With respect to $\frac{1}{1}$ a local employer $\frac{1}{2}$ a $\frac{1}{2}$ the term means an employment position that which will exist for less than 6 consecutive months, or other employment position as determined by rule of the division, regardless of whether it will exist for 6 consecutive months or longer.
 - (63) "State board" means the State Board of Administration.
- (64) "Trustees" means the Board of Trustees of the State Board of Administration.
- Section 2. Subsection (6) is added to section 121.031, Florida Statutes, to read:
- 121.031 Administration of system; appropriation; oaths; actuarial studies; public records.-
- (6) Unless prior written approval is obtained from the department or state board, any promotional materials or

159

160

161

162 163

164

165

166

167

168 169

170 171

172 173

174

175

176

177

178 179

180

181 182

183

184

185

186



advertisements that, directly or indirectly, refer to the "Florida Retirement System" or the "FRS" must contain a disclaimer that the information is not approved or endorsed by the Florida Retirement System.

Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) and paragraphs (c) and (f) of subsection (2) of section 121.051, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

121.051 Participation in the system.-

- (1) COMPULSORY PARTICIPATION. -
- (a) Participation in the Florida Retirement System is The provisions of this law shall be compulsory for as to all officers and employees, except elected officers who meet the requirements of s. 121.052(3), who are employed on or after December 1, 1970, by of an employer other than those referred to in paragraph (2) (b) ., and Each officer or employee, as a condition of employment, becomes shall become a member of the system on the as of his or her date of employment, except that a person who is retired from any state retirement system and is reemployed on or after December 1, 1970, may not renew his or her membership in any state retirement system except as provided in s. 121.091(4)(h) for a person who recovers from disability, and as provided in s. $121.053 ext{ s. } 121.091(9)(b)8.$ for a person who is elected to public office, and, effective July 1, 1991, as provided in s. 121.122 for all other retirees.
- 1. Officers and employees of the University Athletic Association, Inc., a nonprofit association connected with the University of Florida, employed on and after July 1, 1979, may shall not participate in any state-supported retirement system.
 - 2.1. Any person appointed on or after July 1, 1989, to a

188

189 190

191

192

193

194 195

196

197

198

199

200

201

202 203

204

205

206

207

208

209

210

211

212

213

214 215



faculty position in a college at the J. Hillis Miller Health Center at the University of Florida or the Medical Center at the University of South Florida which has a faculty practice plan adopted provided by rule adopted by the Board of Regents may not participate in the Florida Retirement System. Effective July 1, 2008, any person appointed thereafter to a faculty position, including clinical faculty, in a college at a state university that has a faculty practice plan authorized by the Board of Governors may not participate in the Florida Retirement System. A faculty member so appointed shall participate in the optional retirement program for the State University System notwithstanding the provisions of s. 121.35(2)(a).

- 2. For purposes of this subparagraph paragraph, the term:
- a. "Faculty position" means is defined as a position assigned the principal responsibility of teaching, research, or public service activities or administrative responsibility directly related to the academic mission of the college. The term
- b. "Clinical faculty" means is defined as a faculty position appointment in conjunction with a professional position in a hospital or other clinical environment at a college. The term
- c. "Faculty practice plan" includes professional services to patients, institutions, or other parties which are rendered by the clinical faculty employed by a college that has a faculty practice plan at a state university authorized by the Board of Governors.
 - (2) OPTIONAL PARTICIPATION.-
 - (c) Employees of public community colleges or charter

217

218

219

220

221

222

223 224

225

226

227

228

229

230 231

232

233 234

235

236

237

238

239

240

241

242

243 244



technical career centers sponsored by public community colleges, as designated in s. 1000.21(3), who are members of the Regular Class of the Florida Retirement System and who comply with the criteria set forth in this paragraph and in s. 1012.875 may elect, in lieu of participating in the Florida Retirement System, elect to withdraw from the Florida Retirement system altogether and participate in the State Community College System an Optional Retirement Program provided by the employing agency under s. 1012.875, to be known as the State Community College System Optional Retirement Program. Pursuant thereto:

- 1. Through June 30, 2001, the cost to the employer for such annuity equals shall equal the normal cost portion of the employer retirement contribution which would be required if the employee were a member of the Regular Class defined benefit program, plus the portion of the contribution rate required by s. 112.363(8) which that would otherwise be assigned to the Retiree Health Insurance Subsidy Trust Fund. Effective July 1, 2001, each employer shall contribute on behalf of each participant in the optional program an amount equal to 10.43 percent of the participant's gross monthly compensation. The employer shall deduct an amount to provide for the administration of the optional retirement program. The employer providing the optional program shall contribute an additional amount to the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund equal to the unfunded actuarial accrued liability portion of the Regular Class contribution rate.
- 2. The decision to participate in such an optional retirement program is shall be irrevocable for as long as the employee holds a position eligible for participation, except as

246

247

248

249

250

251

252

253

254

255

256

257

258

259

260

261

262

263

264

265

266

267

268

269

270 271

272

273



provided in subparagraph 3. Any service creditable under the Florida Retirement System is shall be retained after the member withdraws from the Florida Retirement system; however, additional service credit in the Florida Retirement system may shall not be earned while a member of the optional retirement program.

- 3. An employee who has elected to participate in the optional retirement program shall have one opportunity, at the employee's discretion, to choose to transfer from the optional retirement program to the defined benefit program of the Florida Retirement System or to the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program, subject to the terms of the applicable optional retirement program contracts.
- a. If the employee chooses to move to the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program, any contributions, interest, and earnings creditable to the employee under the State Community College System Optional Retirement Program is shall be retained by the employee in the State Community College System Optional Retirement Program, and the applicable provisions of s. 121.4501(4) shall govern the election.
- b. If the employee chooses to move to the defined benefit program of the Florida Retirement System, the employee shall receive service credit equal to his or her years of service under the State Community College System Optional Retirement Program.
- (I) The cost for such credit is the shall be an amount representing the present value of the that employee's accumulated benefit obligation for the affected period of service. The cost shall be calculated as if the benefit

275

276

277

278 279

280

281

282

283

284

285

286

287

288

289

290

291

292

293

294

295

296

297

298

299

300

301

302



commencement occurs on the first date the employee becomes would become eligible for unreduced benefits, using the discount rate and other relevant actuarial assumptions that were used to value the Florida Retirement System defined benefit plan liabilities in the most recent actuarial valuation. The calculation must shall include any service already maintained under the defined benefit plan in addition to the years under the State Community College System Optional Retirement Program. The present value of any service already maintained must under the defined benefit plan shall be applied as a credit to total cost resulting from the calculation. The division shall ensure that the transfer sum is prepared using a formula and methodology certified by an enrolled actuary.

- (II) The employee must transfer from his or her State Community College System Optional Retirement Program account and from other employee moneys as necessary, a sum representing the present value of the that employee's accumulated benefit obligation immediately following the time of such movement, determined assuming that attained service equals the sum of service in the defined benefit program and service in the State Community College System Optional Retirement Program.
- 4. Participation in the optional retirement program is shall be limited to those employees who satisfy the following eligibility criteria:
- a. The employee must be otherwise eligible for membership or renewed membership in the Regular Class of the Florida Retirement System, as provided in s. 121.021(11) and (12) or s. 121.122.
 - b. The employee must be employed in a full-time position



classified in the Accounting Manual for Florida's Public Community Colleges as:

(I) Instructional; or

303

304

305

306

307

308

309

310

311

312

313

314

315 316

317

318 319

320

321

322

323

324

325

326

327

328

329

330

331

- (II) Executive Management, Instructional Management, or Institutional Management, if a community college determines that recruiting to fill a vacancy in the position is to be conducted in the national or regional market, and:
- (A) the duties and responsibilities of the position include either the formulation, interpretation, or implementation of policies, + or
- (B) The duties and responsibilities of the position include the performance of functions that are unique or specialized within higher education and that frequently involve the support of the mission of the community college.
- c. The employee must be employed in a position not included in the Senior Management Service Class of the Florida Retirement System, as described in s. 121.055.
- 5. Participants in the program are subject to the same reemployment limitations, renewed membership provisions, and forfeiture provisions as are applicable to regular members of the Florida Retirement System under ss. 121.091(9), 121.122, and 121.091(5), respectively. A participant who receives a program distribution funded by employer contributions shall be deemed to be retired from a state-administered retirement system if the participant is subsequently employed with an employer that participates in the Florida Retirement System.
- 6. Eligible community college employees are shall be compulsory members of the Florida Retirement System until, pursuant to the procedures set forth in s. 1012.875, a written

333 334

335

336 337

338 339

340

341

342

343

344 345

346

347

348 349

350

351

352

353

354

355

356

357

358

359

360



election to withdraw from the Florida Retirement system and to participate in the State Community College System Optional Retirement Program is filed with the program administrator and received by the division.

- a. A Any community college employee whose program eligibility results from initial employment must shall be enrolled in the State Community College System Optional Retirement Program retroactive to the first day of eligible employment. The employer retirement contributions paid through the month of the employee plan change shall be transferred to the community college to for the employee's optional program account, and, effective the first day of the next month, the employer shall pay the applicable contributions based upon subparagraph 1.
- b. A Any community college employee whose program eligibility is results from a change in status due to the subsequent designation of the employee's position as one of those specified in subparagraph 4., or due to the employee's appointment, promotion, transfer, or reclassification to a position specified in subparagraph 4., must shall be enrolled in the program on upon the first day of the first full calendar month that such change in status becomes effective. The employer retirement contributions paid from the effective date through the month of the employee plan change must shall be transferred to the community college to for the employee's optional program account, and, effective the first day of the next month, the employer shall pay the applicable contributions based upon subparagraph 1.
 - 7. Effective July 1, 2003, through December 31, 2008, any

362

363 364

365

366

367

368

369

370

371 372

373

374

375

376

377

378

379

380

381

382 383

384

385

386

387

388

389



participant of the State Community College System Optional Retirement Program who has service credit in the defined benefit plan of the Florida Retirement System for the period between his or her first eligibility to transfer from the defined benefit plan to the optional retirement program and the actual date of transfer may, during his or her employment, elect to transfer to the optional retirement program a sum representing the present value of the accumulated benefit obligation under the defined benefit retirement program for the such period of service credit. Upon such transfer, all such service credit previously earned under the defined benefit program of the Florida Retirement System during this period is shall be nullified for purposes of entitlement to a future benefit under the defined benefit program of the Florida Retirement System.

(f)1. If Whenever an employer that participates in the Florida Retirement System undertakes the transfer, merger, or consolidation of governmental services or assumes the functions and activities of an employing governmental entity that was not an employer under the system, the employer must notify the department at least 60 days before prior to such action and shall provide documentation as required by the department. The transfer, merger, or consolidation of governmental services or assumption of governmental functions and activities must occur between public employers. The current or former employer may pay the employees' past service cost, unless prohibited under this chapter. This subparagraph does not apply to the transfer, merger, or consolidation of governmental services or assumption of functions and activities of a public entity under a leasing agreement having a co-employer relationship. Employers and

391

392

393

394

395

396 397

398

399

400

401

402

403

404

405

406

407

408

409

410

411

412

413

414

415

416

417

418



employees of a public governmental employer whose service is covered by a leasing agreement under s. 110.191, any other leasing agreement, or a co-employer relationship are not eligible to participate in the Florida Retirement System.

2. If When the agency to which a member's employing unit is transferred, merged, or consolidated does not participate in the Florida Retirement System, a member may shall elect in writing to remain in the Florida Retirement System or to transfer to the local retirement system operated by the such agency. If the such agency does not participate in a local retirement system, the member shall continue membership in the Florida Retirement System. In either case, the membership continues shall continue for as long as the member is employed by the agency to which his or her unit was transferred, merged, or consolidated.

Section 4. Paragraph (f) of subsection (2) and paragraph (e) of subsection (3) of section 121.052, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

- 121.052 Membership class of elected officers.-
- (2) MEMBERSHIP.—The following holders of elective office, hereinafter referred to as "elected officers," whether assuming elective office by election, reelection, or appointment, are members of the Elected Officers' Class, except as provided in subsection (3):
- (f) Any elected officer of a municipality or special district assuming office on or after July 1, 1997, through June 30, 2009, as provided in subsection (3) paragraph (3)(e). On or after July 1, 2010, an elected officer shall become a member only if the governing body of the municipality or special district, at the time it joins the Florida Retirement System for

420

421

422

423

424

425

426

42.7

428

429

430

431

432

433

434

435

436

437

438

439

440 441

442

443

444 445

446

447



its elected officers, elects, by majority vote, to include all its elected positions in the Elected Officers' Class.

- (3) PARTICIPATION AND WITHDRAWAL, GENERALLY.-Effective July 1, 1990, participation in the Elected Officers' Class shall be compulsory for elected officers listed in paragraphs (2)(a)-(d) and (f) assuming office on or after said date, unless the elected officer elects membership in another class or withdraws from the Florida Retirement System as provided in paragraphs (3)(a)-(d):
- (e) Effective July 1, 2001, The governing body of a municipality or special district may, by majority vote, elect to designate all its elected positions for inclusion in the Elected Officers' Class.
- 1. Effective July 1, 1997, such election must be made between July 1, 1997, and December 31, 1997, and is irrevocable. The designation of such positions is effective the first day of the month following receipt by the department of the ordinance or resolution passed by the governing body.
- 2. Effective July 1, 2001, such election must shall be made between July 1, 2001, and December 31, 2001, and is shall be irrevocable. The designation of such positions is shall be effective the first day of the month following receipt by the department of the ordinance or resolution passed by the governing body.
- 3. Effective July 1, 2009, such election must be made between July 1, 2009, and December 31, 2009, and is irrevocable. The designation of such positions is effective the first day of the month following receipt by the department of the ordinance or resolution passed by the governing body.



Section 5. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 121.053, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

121.053 Participation in the Elected Officers' Class for retired members.-

(1)

448

449 450

451

452

453

454

455

456

457

458

459

460

461

462

463

464

465

466

467

468 469

470

471

472

473

474

475 476

- (b) A Any retired member of the Florida Retirement System, or an any existing system as defined in s. 121.021(2), who, on or after July 1, 1990, serves in is serving in, or is elected or appointed to, an elective office covered by the Elected Officers' Class shall be enrolled in the appropriate subclass of the Elected Officers' Class of the Florida Retirement System, and applicable contributions shall be paid into the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund as provided in s. 121.052(7). Pursuant thereto:
- 1. The Any such retired member may shall be eligible to continue to receive retirement benefits as well as compensation for the elected officer service if for as long as he or she remains in an elective office covered by the Elected Officers' Class.
- 2. If the any such member serves in an elective office covered by the Elected Officers' Class and becomes vested under that class, he or she is shall be entitled to receive an additional retirement benefit for the such elected officer service.
- 3. The Such member is shall be entitled to purchase additional retirement credit in the Elected Officers' Class for any postretirement service performed in an elected position eligible for the Elected Officers' Class before prior to July 1, 1990, or in the Regular Class for any postretirement service

478

479

480

481

482

483

484

485

486

487

488

489

490

491

492

493

494 495

496

497

498

499

500

501

502

503

504

505



performed in any other regularly established position before prior to July 1, 1991, by paying the applicable Elected Officers' Class or Regular Class employee and employer contributions for the period being claimed, plus 4 percent interest compounded annually from the first year of service claimed until July 1, 1975, and 6.5 percent interest compounded thereafter, until full payment is made to the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund. The contribution for postretirement Regular Class service between July 1, 1985, and July 1, 1991, for which the reemployed retiree contribution was paid, is shall be the difference between the such contribution and the total applicable contribution for the period being claimed, plus interest. The employer of such member may pay the applicable employer contribution in lieu of the member. If a member does not wish to claim credit for all of the postretirement service for which he or she is eliqible, the service the member claims must be the most recent service. Any retiree who served in an elective office before July 1, 1990, suspended his or her retirement benefits, and had his or her Florida Retirement System membership reinstated shall, upon retirement from such office, have his or her retirement benefit recalculated to include the additional service and compensation earned.

4. Creditable service for which credit was received, or which remained unclaimed, at retirement may not be claimed or applied toward service credit earned following renewed membership. However, service earned in accordance with the renewed membership provisions of in s. 121.122 may be used in conjunction with creditable service earned under this paragraph, if provided applicable vesting requirements and other existing

507

508

509

510 511

512 513

514

515

516

517

518 519

520

521

522

523

524

525

526

527

528

529

530

531

532

533

534



statutory conditions required by this chapter are met.

- 5. A member An elected officer who is elected or appointed to an elective office and is participating in the Deferred Retirement Option Program before July 1, 2010, is not subject to termination as provided in s. 121.021(39)(b), or reemployment limitations as provided in s. 121.091(9), until the end of his or her current term of office or, if the officer is consecutively elected or reelected to an elective office eligible for coverage under the Florida Retirement System, until he or she no longer holds such an elective office, as follows:
 - a. At the end of the 60-month DROP period:
- (I) The officer's DROP account may not shall accrue no additional monthly benefits, but shall continue to earn interest as provided in s. 121.091(13). However, an officer whose DROP participation begins on or after July 1, 2010, may not continue to earn interest as provided in s. 121.091(13).
- (II) No Retirement contributions are not shall be required of the employer of the elected officer and no additional retirement credit may not shall be earned under the Florida Retirement System.
- b. Nothing herein shall prevent An elected officer may from voluntarily terminate terminating his or her elective office at any time and electing to receive his or her DROP proceeds. However, until termination requirements are fulfilled as defined provided in s. 121.021(39) occurs, an any elected officer whose termination limitations are extended by this section is shall be ineligible for renewed membership in the system and may not shall receive no pension payments, DROP lump sum payments, or any other state payment other than the statutorily determined



salary, travel, and per diem for the elective office.

Upon termination, the officer shall receive his or her accumulated DROP account, plus interest, and shall accrue and commence receiving monthly retirement benefits, which must shall be paid on a prospective basis only.

539 540 541

542 543

544

545

546

547

548

549 550

551

552

553

554 555

556

557

558

559

560

561

562 563

535

536

537

538

However, an officer electing to participate in the Deferred Retirement Option Program on or before June 30, 2002, is shall not be required to terminate and remains shall remain subject to the provisions of this subparagraph as adopted in section 1 of chapter 2001-235, Laws of Florida.

Section 6. Paragraph (f) of subsection (1) and paragraph (e) of subsection (6) of section 121.055, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

121.055 Senior Management Service Class.—There is hereby established a separate class of membership within the Florida Retirement System to be known as the "Senior Management Service Class," which shall become effective February 1, 1987.

(1)

- (f) Effective July 1, 1997:
- 1. An Any elected state officer eligible for membership in the Elected Officers' Class under s. 121.052(2)(a), (b), or (c) who elects membership in the Senior Management Service Class under s. 121.052(3)(c) may, within 6 months after assuming office or within 6 months after this act becomes a law for serving elected state officers, elect to participate in the Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program, as provided in subsection (6), in lieu of membership in the Senior Management Service Class.



- 2. An Any elected county officer of a local agency employer eligible for membership in the Elected Officers' Class under s. 121.052(2)(d) who elects membership in the Senior Management Service Class under s. 121.052(3)(c) may, within 6 months after assuming office, or within 6 months after this act becomes a law for serving elected county officers of a local agency employer, elect to withdraw from the Florida Retirement System participate in a lifetime monthly annuity program, as provided in subparagraph (b)2., in lieu of membership in the Senior Management Service Class.
 - (6)

565

566

567

568

569 570

571

572

573 574

575 576

577

578

579

580

581 582

583

584

585

586

587

588

589

590

591

592

- (e) Benefits.-
- 1. Benefits shall be payable under the Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program only to participants in the program, or their beneficiaries as designated by the participant in the contract with a provider company, and such benefits shall be paid by the designated company in accordance with the terms of the annuity contract or contracts applicable to the participant. A participant must be terminated from all employment with all Florida Retirement System employers as provided in s. 121.021(39) to begin receiving the employerfunded benefit. Benefits funded by employer contributions shall be payable under the terms of the contract only as a lifetime annuity to the participant, his or her beneficiary, or his or her estate, in addition to except for:
- a. A lump-sum payment to the beneficiary upon the death of the participant;
- b. A cash-out of a de minimis account upon the request of a former participant who has been terminated for a minimum of 6

594

595

596

597

598

599

600

601

602

603

604

605

606

607

608

609

610 611

612

613

614

615

616

617

618

619

620

621



months from the employment that entitled him or her to optional annuity program participation. A de minimis account is an account with a provider company containing employer contributions and accumulated earnings of not more than \$5,000 made under the provisions of this chapter. Such cash-out must be a complete liquidation of the account balance with that company and is subject to the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code;

c. A mandatory distribution of a de minimis account of a former participant who has been terminated for a minimum of 6 months from the employment that entitled him or her to optional annuity program participation as authorized by the department; or

d.e. A lump-sum direct rollover distribution whereby all accrued benefits, plus interest and investment earnings, are paid from the participant's account directly to the custodian of an eligible retirement plan, as defined in s. 402(c)(8)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code, on behalf of the participant.

As used in this subparagraph, a "de minimis account" means an account with a provider company containing employer contributions and accumulated earnings of not more than \$5,000 made under this chapter.

- 2. The benefits payable to any person under the Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program, and any contribution accumulated under such program, shall not be subject to assignment, execution, or attachment or to any legal process whatsoever.
- 3. Except as provided in subparagraph 4., a participant who terminates employment $\underline{\text{and}}$ receives optional annuity program

623

624

625

626

627

628

629

630

631

632

633

634 635

636 637

638

639 640

641

642

643

644

645

646

647

648

649

650



benefits funded by employer contributions shall be deemed to be retired from a state-administered retirement system in the event of subsequent employment with any employer that participates in the Florida Retirement System.

4. A participant who receives optional annuity program benefits funded by employer contributions as a mandatory distribution of a de minimis account authorized by the department will not be considered a retiree.

Section 7. Paragraph (a) of subsection (6) of section 121.071, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

121.071 Contributions.—Contributions to the system shall be made as follows:

(6) (a) Required employee contributions for all service other than current service, including, but not limited to, prior service, past service, military service, leave-of-absence service, out-of-state service, and certain non-Florida Retirement System in-state service, shall be paid by cash, personal check, cashier's check, or money order, or a direct rollover or transfer from a qualified plan as provided under the Internal Revenue Code. The payment must only; shall be accompanied by a statement identifying the service for which payment is made; and shall be made in a lump sum for the total amount due or in annual payments of not less than \$100, except for the final payment if less than \$100, unless another method of payment is authorized by law or rule.

Section 8. Paragraphs (a), (b), (e), (f), and (h) of subsection (1) of section 121.081, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

121.081 Past service; prior service; contributions.-

652

653

654

655

656

657

658

659

660

661

662

663 664

665 666

667

668 669

670

671

672

673

674

675

676

677

678 679



Conditions under which past service or prior service may be claimed and credited are:

(1)(a) Past service, as defined in s. $121.021 \cdot (18)$, may be claimed as creditable service by officers or employees of a municipality city, metropolitan planning organization, charter school, charter technical career center, or special district who that become a covered group under this system. The governing body of a covered group in compliance with s. 121.051(2)(b) may elect to provide benefits for with respect to past service earned before prior to January 1, 1975, in accordance with this chapter, and the cost for such past service is shall be established by applying the following formula: The member contribution for both regular and special risk members is shall be 4 percent of the gross annual salary for each year of past service claimed, plus 4-percent employer matching contribution, plus 4-percent interest thereon compounded annually, figured on each year of past service, with interest compounded from date of annual salary earned until July 1, 1975, and 6.5-percent interest compounded annually thereafter until date of payment. Once the total cost for a member has been figured to date, then after July 1, 1975, 6.5-percent compounded interest shall be added each June 30 thereafter on any unpaid balance until the cost of such past service liability is paid in full. The following formula shall be used in calculating past service earned before prior to January 1, 1975: (Annual gross salary multiplied by 8 percent) multiplied by the 4-percent or 6.5percent compound interest table factor, as may be applicable. The resulting product equals cost to date for each particular year of past service.

681

682 683

684

685

686 687

688

689

690

691

692

693

694

695

696

697

698

699

700

701

702

703

704

705

706

707 708



- (b) Past service earned after January 1, 1975, may be claimed by officers or employees of a municipality city, metropolitan planning organization, charter school, charter technical career center, or special district who become that becomes a covered group under this system. The governing body of a covered group may elect to provide benefits for with respect to past service earned after January 1, 1975, in accordance with this chapter, and the cost for such past service is shall be established by applying the following formula: The employer shall contribute an amount equal to the contribution rate in effect at the time the service was earned, multiplied by the employee's gross salary for each year of past service claimed, plus 6.5-percent interest thereon, compounded annually, figured on each year of past service, with interest compounded from date of annual salary earned until date of payment.
- (e) Past service, as defined in s. 121.021 (18), may be claimed as creditable service by a member of the Florida Retirement System who formerly was an officer or employee of a municipality city, metropolitan planning organization, charter school, charter technical career center, or special district, notwithstanding the status or form of the retirement system, if any, of that municipality city, metropolitan planning organization, charter school, charter technical career center, or special district and irrespective of whether such officers or employees of that city, metropolitan planning organization, or special district now or hereafter become a covered group under the Florida Retirement System. Such member may claim creditable service and be entitled to the benefits accruing to the regular class of members as provided for the past service claimed under

710

711

712

713

714

715

716 717

718

719

720

721

722

723

724

725

726

727

728

729

730

731

732

733

734 735

736 737



this paragraph by paying into the retirement trust fund an amount equal to the total actuarial cost of providing the additional benefit resulting from such past-service credit, discounted by the applicable actuarial factors to date of retirement.

(f) If When any person, either prior to this act or hereafter, becomes entitled to and participates does participate in one of the retirement systems under consolidated within or created by this chapter through the consolidation or merger of governments or the transfer of functions between units of government, either at the state or local level or between state and local units, or through the assumption of functions or activities by a state or local unit from an employing governmental entity that which was not an employer under the system, and such person becomes a member of the Florida Retirement System, such person is shall be entitled to receive past-service credit as defined in s. 121.021(18) for the time the such person performed services for, and was an employee of, such state or local unit or other governmental employing entity before prior to the transfer, merger, consolidation, or assumption of functions and activities. Past-service credit allowed by this paragraph is shall also be available to any person who becomes a member of an existing system before, as defined in s. 121.021(2), prior to December 1, 1970, through the transfer, merger, consolidation, or assumption of functions and activities set forth in this paragraph and who subsequently becomes a member of the Florida Retirement System. However, credit for the past service may not be granted until contributions are made in the manner provided in this

739

740

741

742

743

744

745

746

747

748

749

750

751

752

753

754

755

756

757

758

759

760

761

762

763

764

765 766



subsection. If a person rejected Florida Retirement System membership at the time of the transfer, merger, or consolidation, or assumption of governmental functions and activities, the required contributions shall be at total actuarial cost as specified in paragraph (e). Such contributions or accrued interest may not be paid from any public state funds.

- (h) The following provisions apply to the purchase of past service:
- 1. Notwithstanding any of the provisions of this subsection, past-service credit may not be purchased under this chapter for any service that is used to obtain a pension or benefit from a any local retirement system. Eligibility to receive or the receipt of contributions to a retirement plan made by the employer on behalf of the employee is considered a benefit.
- 2. A member may not receive past service credit under paragraphs (a), (b), (e), or (f) for any leaves of absence without pay, except that credit for active military service leaves of absence may be claimed under paragraphs (a), (b), and (f), in accordance with s. 121.111(1).
- 3. A member may not receive past service credit for coemployer service. Co-employer service or a co-employer relationship is employment in a single position simultaneously covered and reported by both a public employer and a private employer.
- 4.3. If a member does not want desire to receive credit for all of his or her past service, the period the member claims must be the most recent past service prior to his or her participation in the Florida Retirement System.

768

769 770

771

772

773

774

775

776

777

778

779

780

781

782 783

784

785

786

787

788

789

790

791

792

793

794

795



- 5.4. The cost of past service purchased by an employing agency for its employees may be amortized over the such period of time as is provided in the agreement, but not to exceed 15 years, calculated in accordance with rule 60S-1.007(5)(f), Florida Administrative Code.
- 6.5. The retirement account of each member for whom past service is being provided by his or her employer shall be credited with all past service the employer agrees to purchase as soon as the agreement between the employer and the department is executed. Pursuant thereto:
- a. Each such member's account shall also be posted with the total contribution his or her employer agrees to make on in the member's behalf for past service earned before prior to October 1, 1975, excluding those contributions representing the employer's matching share and the compound interest calculation on the total contribution. However, a portion of any contributions paid by an employer for past service credit earned on and after October 1, 1975, may not be posted to the $\frac{a}{a}$ member's account.
- b. A refund of contributions payable after an employer has made a written agreement to purchase past service for employees of the covered group includes shall include contributions for past service which are posted to the a member's account. However, contributions for past service earned on and after October 1, 1975, are not refundable.

Section 9. Subsections (9), (13), and (14) of section 121.091, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

121.091 Benefits payable under the system.—Benefits may not be paid under this section unless the member has terminated

797

798 799

0.08

801

802

803

804

805

806

807

808

809

810

811

812

813 814

815

816

817

818

819 820

821

822

823

824



employment as provided in s. 121.021(39)(a) or begun participation in the Deferred Retirement Option Program as provided in subsection (13), and a proper application has been filed in the manner prescribed by the department. The department may cancel an application for retirement benefits when the member or beneficiary fails to timely provide the information and documents required by this chapter and the department's rules. The department shall adopt rules establishing procedures for application for retirement benefits and for the cancellation of such application when the required information or documents are not received.

- (9) EMPLOYMENT AFTER RETIREMENT; LIMITATION.-
- (a) Any person who is retired under this chapter, except under the disability retirement provisions of subsection (4), may be employed by an employer that does not participate in a state-administered retirement system and may receive compensation from that employment without limiting or restricting in any way the retirement benefits payable to that person.
- (b) 1. Any person whose retirement is effective before July 1, 2010, or whose participation in the Deferred Retirement Option Program terminates before July 1, 2010, who is retired under this chapter, except under the disability retirement provisions of subsection (4) or as provided in s. 121.053, may be reemployed by an any private or public employer that participates in a state-administered retirement system after retirement and receive retirement benefits and compensation from that his or her employer without any limitations, except that the a person may not be reemployed by an employer receive both a

826

827

828

829

830

831

832

833

834

835

836

837

838

839

840

841

842

843

844

845

846

847 848

849

850

851

852

853



salary from reemployment with any agency participating in the Florida Retirement System and retirement benefits under this chapter for a period of 12 calendar months immediately subsequent to the date of retirement. However, a DROP participant shall continue employment and receive a salary during the period of participation in the Deferred Retirement Option Program, as provided in subsection (13).

1.2. A retiree Any person to whom the limitation in subparagraph 1. applies who violates such reemployment limitation and who is reemployed with any agency participating in the Florida Retirement System before completion of the 12month limitation period must shall give timely notice of this fact in writing to the employer and to the Division of Retirement or the state board and shall have his or her retirement benefits suspended for the balance of the 12-month limitation period. A retiree Any person employed in violation of this paragraph and an employer who any employing agency which knowingly employs or appoints such person are without notifying the Division of Retirement to suspend retirement benefits shall be jointly and severally liable for reimbursement to the retirement trust fund, including the Florida Retirement Systme Trust Fund and the Public employee Optional Retirement Program Trust Fund, from which the benefits were paid of any benefits paid during the reemployment limitation period. The employer must To avoid liability, such employing agency shall have a written statement from the retiree that he or she is not retired from a state-administered retirement system. Any retirement benefits received while reemployed during this reemployment limitation period shall be repaid to the retirement trust fund,

855

856

857

858

859

860

861

862 863

864

865

866 867

868

869

870

871

872

873

874

875

876

877

878

879

880

881 882



and Retirement benefits shall remain suspended until such repayment has been made. Benefits suspended beyond the reemployment limitation shall apply toward repayment of benefits received in violation of the reemployment limitation.

a.3. A district school board may reemploy a retiree retired member as a substitute or hourly teacher, education paraprofessional, transportation assistant, bus driver, or food service worker on a noncontractual basis after he or she has been retired for 1 calendar month, in accordance with s. 121.021(39). A district school board may reemploy a retiree retired member as instructional personnel, as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a), on an annual contractual basis after he or she has been retired for 1 calendar month, in accordance with s. 121.021(39). Any other retired member who is reemployed within 1 calendar month after retirement shall void his or her application for retirement benefits. District school boards reemploying such teachers, education paraprofessionals, transportation assistants, bus drivers, or food service workers are subject to the retirement contribution required by subparagraph 2. 7.

b.4. A community college board of trustees may reemploy a retiree retired member as an adjunct instructor, that is, an instructor who is noncontractual and part-time, or as a participant in a phased retirement program within the Florida Community College System, after he or she has been retired for 1 calendar month, in accordance with s. 121.021(39). A Any retired member who is reemployed within 1 calendar month after retirement shall void his or her application for retirement benefits. Boards of trustees reemploying such instructors are

884

885 886

887

888

889

890

891

892

893

894

895

896

897

898

899

900

901

902

903

904 905

906

907

908

909

910

911



subject to the retirement contribution required in subparagraph 2. 7. A retiree retired member may be reemployed as an adjunct instructor for no more than 780 hours during the first 12 months of retirement. A retiree Any retired member reemployed for more than 780 hours during the first 12 months of retirement must shall give timely notice in writing to the employer and to the Division of Retirement or the state board of the date he or she will exceed the limitation. The division shall suspend his or her retirement benefits for the remainder of the first 12 months of retirement. Any retiree person employed in violation of this sub-subparagraph subparagraph and any employer who employing agency which knowingly employs or appoints such person without notifying the division of Retirement to suspend retirement benefits are shall be jointly and severally liable for reimbursement to the retirement trust fund of any benefits paid during the reemployment limitation period. The employer must To avoid liability, such employing agency shall have a written statement from the retiree that he or she is not retired from a state-administered retirement system. Any retirement benefits received by the retiree a retired member while reemployed in excess of 780 hours during the first 12 months of retirement must shall be repaid to the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund, and retirement benefits shall remain suspended until repayment is made. Benefits suspended beyond the end of the retiree's retired member's first 12 months of retirement shall apply toward repayment of benefits received in violation of the 780-hour reemployment limitation.

c.5. The State University System may reemploy a retiree retired member as an adjunct faculty member or as a participant

913 914

915

916

917

918 919

920

921

922

923

924

925

926

927

928

929

930

931

932

933

934

935

936

937

938

939

940



in a phased retirement program within the State University System after the retiree retired member has been retired for 1 calendar month, in accordance with s. 121.021(39). A Any retired member who is reemployed within 1 calendar month after retirement shall void his or her application for retirement benefits. The State University System is subject to the retired contribution required in subparagraph 2. 7., as appropriate. A retiree retired member may be reemployed as an adjunct faculty member or a participant in a phased retirement program for no more than 780 hours during the first 12 months of his or her retirement. A retiree Any retired member reemployed for more than 780 hours during the first 12 months of retirement must shall give timely notice in writing to the employer and to the Division of Retirement or the state board of the date he or she will exceed the limitation. The division shall suspend his or her retirement benefits for the remainder of the first 12 months of retirement. Any retiree person employed in violation of this sub-subparagraph subparagraph and any employer who employing agency which knowingly employs or appoints such person without notifying the division of Retirement to suspend retirement benefits are shall be jointly and severally liable for reimbursement to the retirement trust fund of any benefits paid during the reemployment limitation period. The employer must To avoid liability, such employing agency shall have a written statement from the retiree that he or she is not retired from a state-administered retirement system. Any retirement benefits received by the retiree a retired member while reemployed in excess of 780 hours during the first 12 months of retirement must shall be repaid to the Florida Retirement System Trust

942

943 944

945

946

947

948 949

950

951

952

953

954

955

956

957

958

959

960

961

962

963 964

965

966

967

968

969



Fund, and retirement benefits shall remain suspended until repayment is made. Benefits suspended beyond the end of the retiree's retired member's first 12 months of retirement shall apply toward repayment of benefits received in violation of the 780-hour reemployment limitation.

d.6. The Board of Trustees of the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind may reemploy a retiree retired member as a substitute teacher, substitute residential instructor, or substitute nurse on a noncontractual basis after he or she has been retired for 1 calendar month, in accordance with s. 121.021(39). Any retired member who is reemployed within 1 calendar month after retirement shall void his or her application for retirement benefits. The Board of Trustees of the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind reemploying such teachers, residential instructors, or nurses is subject to the retirement contribution required by subparagraph 2. 7. Reemployment of a retired member as a substitute teacher, substitute residential instructor, or substitute nurse is limited to 780 hours during the first 12 months of his or her retirement. Any retired member reemployed for more than 780 hours during the first 12 months of retirement shall give timely notice in writing to the employer and to the division of the date he or she will exceed the limitation. The division shall suspend his or her retirement benefits for the remainder of the first 12 months of retirement. Any person employed in violation of this subparagraph and any employing agency which knowingly employs or appoints such person without notifying the division of Retirement to suspend retirement benefits shall be jointly and severally liable for reimbursement to the retirement trust

971

972 973

974

975 976

977

978

979

980

981 982

983

984

985

986

987

988

989

990

991

992

993

994

995

996

997

998



fund of any benefits paid during the reemployment limitation period. To avoid liability, such employing agency shall have a written statement from the retiree that he or she is not retired from a state-administered retirement system. Any retirement benefits received by a retired member while reemployed in excess of 780 hours during the first 12 months of retirement shall be repaid to the Retirement System Trust Fund, and his or her retirement benefits shall remain suspended until payment is made. Benefits suspended beyond the end of the retired member's first 12 months of retirement shall apply toward repayment of benefits received in violation of the 780-hour reemployment limitation.

- e. A developmental research school may reemploy a retiree as a substitute or hourly teacher or an education paraprofessional as defined in s. 1012.01(2) on a noncontractual basis after he or she has been retired for 1 calendar month. A developmental research school may reemploy a retiree as instructional personnel, as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a), on an annual contractual basis after he or she has been retired for 1 calendar month after retirement. Any member who is reemployed within 1 calendar month voids his or her application for retirement benefits. A developmental research school that reemploys retired teachers and education paraprofessionals is subject to the retirement contribution required by subparagraph 2.
- f. A charter school may reemploy a retiree as a substitute or hourly teacher on a noncontractual basis after he or she has been retired for 1 calendar month. A charter school may reemploy a retired member as instructional personnel, as defined in s.

1000

1001

1002

1003

1004

1005

1006

1007 1008

1009

1010

1011 1012

1013

1014

1015

1016 1017

1018 1019

1020

1021

1022

1023

1024

1025

1026 1027



1012.01(2)(a), on an annual contractual basis after he or she has been retired for 1 calendar month after retirement. Any member who is reemployed within 1 calendar month voids his or her application for retirement benefits. A charter school that reemploys such teachers is subject to the retirement contribution required by subparagraph 2.

2.7. The employment by an employer of a any retiree or DROP participant of a any state-administered retirement system does not affect shall have no effect on the average final compensation or years of creditable service of the retiree or DROP participant. Before Prior to July 1, 1991, upon employment of any person, other than an elected officer as provided in s. 121.053, who is has been retired under a any state-administered retirement program, the employer shall pay retirement contributions in an amount equal to the unfunded actuarial liability portion of the employer contribution which would be required for regular members of the Florida Retirement System. Effective July 1, 1991, contributions shall be made as provided in s. 121.122 for retirees who have with renewed membership or, as provided in subsection (13), for with respect to DROP participants.

8. Any person who has previously retired and who is holding an elective public office or an appointment to an elective public office eligible for the Elected Officers' Class on or after July 1, 1990, shall be enrolled in the Florida Retirement System as provided in s. 121.053(1)(b) or, if holding an elective public office that does not qualify for the Elected Officers' Class on or after July 1, 1991, shall be enrolled in the Florida Retirement System as provided in s. 121.122, and

1029

1030 1031

1032

1033

1034 1035

1036 1037

1038

1039

1040

1041

1042

1043 1044

1045

1046

1047

1048

1049 1050

1051 1052

1053 1054

1055

1056



shall continue to receive retirement benefits as well as compensation for the elected officer's service for as long as he or she remains in elective office. However, any retired member who served in an elective office prior to July 1, 1990, suspended his or her retirement benefit, and had his or her Florida Retirement System membership reinstated shall, upon retirement from such office, have his or her retirement benefit recalculated to include the additional service and compensation earned.

3.9. Any person who is holding an elective public office which is covered by the Florida Retirement System and who is concurrently employed in nonelected covered employment may elect to retire while continuing employment in the elective public office if, provided that he or she terminates shall be required to terminate his or her nonelected covered employment. Such Any person who exercises this election shall receive his or her retirement benefits in addition to the compensation of the elective office without regard to the time limitations otherwise provided in this subsection. A No person who seeks to exercise the provisions of this subparagraph, as they the same existed before prior to May 3, 1984, may not be shall be deemed to be retired under those provisions, unless such person is eligible to retire under the provisions of this subparagraph, as amended by chapter 84-11, Laws of Florida.

10. The limitations of this paragraph apply to reemployment in any capacity with an "employer" as defined in s. 121.021(10), irrespective of the category of funds from which the person is compensated.

11. An employing agency may reemploy a retired member as a

1058

1059 1060

1061

1062

1063

1064

1065

1066 1067

1068

1069

1070

1071

1072

1073

1074 1075

1076

1077

1078

1079

1080

1081

1082

1083

1084

1085



firefighter or paramedic after the retired member has been retired for 1 calendar month, in accordance with s. 121.021(39). Any retired member who is reemployed within 1 calendar month after retirement shall void his or her application for retirement benefits. The employing agency reemploying such firefighter or paramedic is subject to the retired contribution required in subparagraph 8. Reemployment of a retired firefighter or paramedic is limited to no more than 780 hours during the first 12 months of his or her retirement. Any retired member reemployed for more than 780 hours during the first 12 months of retirement shall give timely notice in writing to the employer and to the division of the date he or she will exceed the limitation. The division shall suspend his or her retirement benefits for the remainder of the first 12 months of retirement. Any person employed in violation of this subparagraph and any employing agency which knowingly employs or appoints such person without notifying the Division of Retirement to suspend retirement benefits shall be jointly and severally liable for reimbursement to the Retirement System Trust Fund of any benefits paid during the reemployment limitation period. To avoid liability, such employing agency shall have a written statement from the retiree that he or she is not retired from a state-administered retirement system. Any retirement benefits received by a retired member while reemployed in excess of 780 hours during the first 12 months of retirement shall be repaid to the Retirement System Trust Fund, and retirement benefits shall remain suspended until repayment is made. Benefits suspended beyond the end of the retired member's first 12 months of retirement shall apply toward repayment of benefits received

1087

1088

1089

1090

1091

1092

1093

1094

1095

1096

1097

1098

1099

1100

1101

1102

1103

1104

1105

1106

1107

1108

1109

1110

1111 1112

1113 1114



in violation of the 780-hour reemployment limitation.

(c) Any person whose retirement is effective on or after July 1, 2010, or whose participation in the Deferred Retirement Option Program terminates on or after July 1, 2010, except as provided under the disability retirement provisions of subsection (4) or under s. 121.053, may be reemployed by an employer that participates in a state-administered retirement system and receive retirement benefits and compensation from that his or her employer without limitation, except that the person may not be reemployed by an employer participating in the Florida Retirement System for 6 calendar months immediately subsequent to the date of retirement. However, a DROP participant shall continue employment and receive a salary during the period of participation in the Deferred Retirement Option Program, as provided in subsection (13). A retiree initially reemployed in violation of this paragraph and an employer that employs or appoints such person are jointly and severally liable for reimbursement of any retirement benefits paid to the retirement trust fund from which the benefits were paid, including the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund and the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program Trust Fund, as appropriate. The employer must have a written statement from the employee that he or she is not retired from a state-administered retirement system.

(d) (c) The provisions of this subsection apply to retirees, as defined in s. $121.4501(2)\frac{(j)}{(j)}$, of the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program created in part II, subject to the following conditions:

1. The Such retirees may not be reemployed with an employer

1116

1117

1118

1119

1120

1121

1122 1123

1124

1125

1126

1127 1128

1129

1130

1131

1132

1133

1134

1135

1136

1137 1138

1139

1140

1141

1142 1143



participating in the Florida Retirement System as provided in paragraph (b) until such person has been retired for 6 3 calendar months, unless the participant has reached the normal retirement requirements of the defined benefit plan as provided in s. 121.021(29).

- 2. A Such retiree employed in violation of this subsection and an employer any employing agency that knowingly employs or appoints such person are shall be jointly and severally liable for reimbursement of any benefits paid to the retirement trust fund from which the benefits were paid, including the Retirement System Trust Fund and the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program Trust Fund, as appropriate. The employer To avoid liability, such employing agency must have a written statement from the retiree that he or she is not retired from a stateadministered retirement system.
- (e) The limitations of this subsection apply to reemployment in any capacity irrespective of the category of funds from which the person is compensated.
- (13) DEFERRED RETIREMENT OPTION PROGRAM. In general, and subject to the provisions of this section, the Deferred Retirement Option Program, hereinafter referred to as the DROP, is a program under which an eligible member of the Florida Retirement System may elect to participate, deferring receipt of retirement benefits while continuing employment with his or her Florida Retirement System employer. The deferred monthly benefits shall accrue in the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund on behalf of the participant, plus interest compounded monthly, for the specified period of the DROP participation, as provided in paragraph (c). Upon termination of employment, the

1145 1146

1147 1148

1149 1150

1151

1152

1153

1154

1155

1156

1157

1158

1159

1160

1161 1162

1163

1164

1165

1166 1167

1168

1169

1170

1171

1172



participant shall receive the total DROP benefits and begin to receive the previously determined normal retirement benefits. Participation in the DROP does not guarantee employment for the specified period of DROP. Participation in the DROP by an eligible member beyond the initial 60-month period as authorized in this subsection shall be on an annual contractual basis for all participants.

- (a) Eligibility of member to participate in the DROP.—All active Florida Retirement System members in a regularly established position, and all active members of either the Teachers' Retirement System established in chapter 238 or the State and County Officers' and Employees' Retirement System established in chapter 122, which systems are consolidated within the Florida Retirement System under s. 121.011, are eligible to elect participation in the DROP if provided that:
- 1. The member is not a renewed member of the Florida Retirement System under s. 121.122_{T} or a member of the State Community College System Optional Retirement Program under s. 121.051, the Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program under s. 121.055, or the optional retirement program for the State University System under s. 121.35.
- 2. Except as provided in subparagraph 6., election to participate is made within 12 months immediately following the date on which the member first reaches normal retirement date, or, for a member who reaches normal retirement date based on service before he or she reaches age 62, or age 55 for Special Risk Class members, election to participate may be deferred to the 12 months immediately following the date the member attains 57, or age 52 for Special Risk Class members. A member who

1174

1175 1176

1177

1178 1179

1180

1181

1182

1183

1184

1185

1186

1187

1188 1189

1190

1191

1192

1193

1194 1195

1196

1197

1198 1199

1200

1201



delays DROP participation during the 12-month period immediately following his or her maximum DROP deferral date, except as provided in subparagraph 6., loses a month of DROP participation for each month delayed. For a member who first reached normal retirement date or the deferred eligibility date described above prior to the effective date of this section, election to participate shall be made within 12 months after the effective date of this section. A member who fails to make an election within the such 12-month limitation period forfeits shall forfeit all rights to participate in the DROP. The member shall advise his or her employer and the division in writing of the date on which the DROP begins shall begin. The Such beginning date may be subsequent to the 12-month election period, but must be within the original 60-month participation or, with respect to members who are instructional personnel employed by the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind and who have received authorization by the Board of Trustees of the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind to participate in the DROP beyond 60 months, or who are instructional personnel as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a)-(d) in grades K-12 and who have received authorization by the district school superintendent to participate in the DROP beyond 60 months, the 96-month limitation period as provided in subparagraph (b)1. When establishing eligibility of the member to participate in the DROP for the 60-month or, with respect to members who are instructional personnel employed by the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind and who have received authorization by the Board of Trustees of the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind to participate in the DROP beyond 60 months, or who are

1203

1204

1205

1206

1207

1208

1209

1210 1211

1212

1213

1214

1215

1216

1217

1218

1219 1220

1221

1222

1223

1224

1225

1226

1227

1228

1229

1230



instructional personnel as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a)-(d) in grades K-12 and who have received authorization by the district school superintendent to participate in the DROP beyond 60 months, the 96-month maximum participation period, the member may elect to include or exclude any optional service credit purchased by the member from the total service used to establish the normal retirement date. A member who has with dual normal retirement dates is shall be eligible to elect to participate in DROP within 12 months after attaining normal retirement date in either class.

- 3. The employer of a member electing to participate in the DROP, or employers if dually employed, shall acknowledge in writing to the division the date the member's participation in the DROP begins and the date the member's employment and DROP participation will terminate.
- 4. Simultaneous employment of a participant by additional Florida Retirement System employers subsequent to the commencement of participation in the DROP is shall be permissible if provided such employers acknowledge in writing a DROP termination date no later than the participant's existing termination date or the maximum participation 60-month limitation period as provided in subparagraph (b)1.
- 5. A DROP participant may change employers while participating in the DROP, subject to the following:
- a. A change of employment must take place without a break in service so that the member receives salary for each month of continuous DROP participation. If a member receives no salary during a month, DROP participation shall cease unless the employer verifies a continuation of the employment relationship

1232

1233

1234

1235

1236

1237

1238

1239

1240

1241

1242

1243

1244

1245

1246

1247

1248

1249

1250

1251

1252

1253

1254 1255

1256

1257

1258 1259



for such participant pursuant to s. 121.021(39)(b).

- b. Such participant and new employer shall notify the division of the identity of the new employer on forms required by the division as to the identity of the new employer.
- c. The new employer shall acknowledge, in writing, the participant's DROP termination date, which may be extended but not beyond the maximum participation original 60-month or, with respect to members who are instructional personnel employed by the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind and who have received authorization by the Board of Trustees of the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind to participate in the DROP beyond 60 months, or who are instructional personnel as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a)-(d) in grades K-12 and who have received authorization by the district school superintendent to participate in the DROP beyond 60 months, the 96-month period provided in subparagraph (b)1., shall acknowledge liability for any additional retirement contributions and interest required if the participant fails to timely terminate employment, and is shall be subject to the adjustment required in sub-subparagraph (c) 5.d.
- 6. Effective July 1, 2001, for instructional personnel as defined in s. 1012.01(2), election to participate in the DROP may shall be made at any time following the date on which the member first reaches normal retirement date. The member shall advise his or her employer and the division in writing of the date on which DROP begins the Deferred Retirement Option Program shall begin. When establishing eligibility of the member to participate in the DROP for the 60-month or, with respect to members who are instructional personnel employed by the Florida

1262

1263

1264 1265

1266

1267

1268

1269

1270

1271

1272

1273

1274

1275

1276

1277

1278

1279

1280

1281

1282

1283

1284

1285 1286

1287

1288



School for the Deaf and the Blind and who have received authorization by the Board of Trustees of the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind to participate in the DROP beyond 60 months, or who are instructional personnel as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a)-(d) in grades K-12 and who have received authorization by the district school superintendent to participate in the DROP beyond 60 months, the 96-month maximum participation period, as provided in subparagraph (b)1., the member may elect to include or exclude any optional service credit purchased by the member from the total service used to establish the normal retirement date. A member who has with dual normal retirement dates is shall be eligible to elect to participate in either class.

- (b) Participation in the DROP.-
- 1. An eligible member may elect to participate in the DROP for a period not to exceed a maximum of 60 calendar months. However, or, with respect to members who are instructional personnel employed by the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind and authorized who have received authorization by the Board of Trustees of the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind to participate in the DROP beyond 60 months, or who are instructional personnel as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a)-(d) in grades K-12 and authorized who have received authorization by the district school superintendent to participate in the DROP beyond 60 calendar months, or who are instructional personnel as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a) employed by a developmental research school and authorized by the school's director, or if the school has no director, by the school's principal, may participate in DROP for up to 36 calendar months beyond the 60-month period. 96

1290

1291 1292

1293

1294

1295

1296

1297

1298

1299 1300

1301

1302

1303

1304

1305

1306

1307

1308

1309

1310

1311

1312

1313

1314 1315

1316 1317



calendar months immediately following the date on which the member first reaches his or her normal retirement date or the date to which he or she is eligible to defer his or her election to participate as provided in subparagraph (a) 2. However, a member who has reached normal retirement date prior to the effective date of the DROP shall be eligible to participate in the DROP for a period of time not to exceed 60 calendar months or, with respect to members who are instructional personnel employed by the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind and who have received authorization by the Board of Trustees of the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind to participate in the DROP beyond 60 months, or who are instructional personnel as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a)-(d) in grades K-12 and who have received authorization by the district school superintendent to participate in the DROP beyond 60 calendar months, 96 calendar months immediately following the effective date of the DROP, except a member of the Special Risk Class who has reached normal retirement date prior to the effective date of the DROP and whose total accrued value exceeds 75 percent of average final compensation as of his or her effective date of retirement shall be eligible to participate in the DROP for no more than 36 calendar months immediately following the effective date of the DROP.

- 2. Upon deciding to participate in the DROP, the member shall submit, on forms required by the division:
 - a. A written election to participate in the DROP;
- b. Selection of the DROP participation and termination dates that, which satisfy the limitations stated in paragraph (a) and subparagraph 1. The Such termination date must shall be

1319

1320

1321

1322

1323

1324

1325

1326

1327

1328

1329

1330 1331

1332

1333

1334

1335 1336

1337

1338

1339

1340 1341

1342

1343

1344

1345 1346



in a binding letter of resignation to $\frac{\text{with}}{\text{the employer}_{7}}$ establishing a deferred termination date. The member may change the termination date within the limitations of subparagraph 1., but only with the written approval of the his or her employer;

- c. A properly completed DROP application for service retirement as provided in this section; and
 - d. Any other information required by the division.
- 3. The DROP participant is shall be a retiree under the Florida Retirement System for all purposes, except for paragraph (5) (f) and subsection (9) and ss. 112.3173, 112.363, 121.053, and 121.122. DROP participation is final and may not be canceled by the participant after the first payment is credited during the DROP participation period. However, participation in the DROP does not alter the participant's employment status, and the member is such employee shall not be deemed retired from employment until his or her deferred resignation is effective and termination occurs as provided in s. 121.021(39).
- 4. Elected officers are shall be eligible to participate in the DROP subject to the following:
- a. An elected officer who reaches normal retirement date during a term of office may defer the election to participate in the DROP until the next succeeding term in that office. An Such elected officer who exercises this option may participate in the DROP for up to 60 calendar months or a period of no longer than the such succeeding term of office, whichever is less.
- b. An elected or a nonelected participant may run for a term of office while participating in DROP and, if elected, extend the DROP termination date accordingly; , except, however, if such additional term of office exceeds the 60-month

1348 1349

1350

1351

1352

1353 1354

1355

1356

1357

1358

1359

1360

1361

1362 1363

1364

1365

1366 1367

1368

1369

1370

1371

1372

1373

1374 1375



limitation established in subparagraph 1., and the officer does not resign from office within such 60-month limitation, the retirement and the participant's DROP is shall be null and void as provided in sub-subparagraph (c) 5.d.

- c. An elected officer who is dually employed and elects to participate in DROP must meet shall be required to satisfy the definition of termination in s. 121.021(39) within the original 60-month period or maximum participation, with respect to members who are instructional personnel employed by the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind and who have received authorization by the Board of Trustees of the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind to participate in the DROP beyond 60 months, or who are instructional personnel as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a)-(d) in grades K-12 and who have received authorization by the district school superintendent to participate in the DROP beyond 60 months, the 96-month limitation period as provided in subparagraph 1. for the nonelected position and may continue employment as an elected officer as provided in s. 121.053. The elected officer shall will be enrolled as a renewed member in the Elected Officers' Class or the Regular Class, as provided in ss. 121.053 and 121.122, on the first day of the month after termination of employment in the nonelected position and termination of DROP. Distribution of the DROP benefits shall be made as provided in paragraph (c).
 - (c) Benefits payable under the DROP.-
- 1. Effective on with the date of DROP participation, the member's initial normal monthly benefit, including creditable service, optional form of payment, and average final

1377

1378

1379

1380

1381

1382

1383

1384

1385

1386

1387

1388

1389

1390

1391

1392

1393

1394

1395

1396

1397

1398

1399

1400

1401

1402

1403 1404



compensation, and the effective date of retirement are shall be fixed. The beneficiary established under the Florida Retirement System is shall be the beneficiary eligible to receive any DROP benefits payable if the DROP participant dies before completing prior to the completion of the period of DROP participation. If In the event a joint annuitant predeceases the member, the member may name a beneficiary to receive accumulated DROP benefits payable. The Such retirement benefit, the annual cost of living adjustments provided in s. 121.101, and interest shall accrue monthly in the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund. The Such interest accrues shall accrue at an effective annual rate of 6.5 percent compounded monthly, on the prior month's accumulated ending balance, up to the month of termination or death, except as provided in s. 121.053(1)(b)5.

2. Each employee who elects to participate in the DROP may shall be allowed to elect to receive a lump-sum payment for accrued annual leave earned in accordance with agency policy upon beginning participation in the DROP. The Such accumulated leave payment certified to the division upon commencement of DROP shall be included in the calculation of the member's average final compensation. The employee electing the such lumpsum payment is upon beginning participation in DROP will not be eligible to receive a second lump-sum payment upon termination, except to the extent the employee has earned additional annual leave which, combined with the original payment, does not exceed the maximum lump-sum payment allowed by the employing agency's policy or rules. An Such early lump-sum payment shall be based on the hourly wage of the employee at the time he or she begins participation in the DROP. If the member elects to wait and

1406

1407

1408 1409

1410

1411

1412

1413

1414

1415

1416

1417 1418

1419 1420

1421

1422 1423

1424

1425

1426

1427

1428

1429

1430

1431

1432 1433



receive a such lump-sum payment upon termination of DROP and termination of employment with the employer, any accumulated leave payment made at that time may not cannot be included in the member's retirement benefit, which was determined and fixed by law when the employee elected to participate in the DROP.

- 3. The effective date of DROP participation and the effective date of retirement of a DROP participant shall be the first day of the month selected by the member to begin participation in the DROP, provided such date is properly established, with the written confirmation of the employer, and the approval of the division, on forms required by the division.
- 4. Normal retirement benefits and any interest thereon shall continue to accrue in the DROP until the established termination date of the DROP $_{T}$ or until the participant terminates employment or dies prior to such date, except as provided in s. 121.053(1)(b)5. Although individual DROP accounts shall not be established, a separate accounting of each participant's accrued benefits under the DROP shall be calculated and provided to participants.
- 5. At the conclusion of the participant's DROP, the division shall distribute the participant's total accumulated DROP benefits, subject to the following provisions:
- a. The division shall receive verification by the participant's employer or employers that the such participant has terminated all employment relationships as provided in s. 121.021(39)(b).
- b. The terminated DROP participant or, if deceased, the such participant's named beneficiary, shall elect on forms provided by the division to receive payment of the DROP benefits

1435

1436

1437

1438

1439

1440

1441

1442

1443

1444

1445

1446

1447

1448

1449

1450

1451 1452

1453

1454

1455 1456

1457

1458

1459

1460

1461 1462



in accordance with one of the options listed below. If For a participant or beneficiary who fails to elect a method of payment within 60 days after of termination of the DROP, the division shall will pay a lump sum as provided in sub-subsubparagraph (I).

- (I) Lump sum.—All accrued DROP benefits, plus interest, less withholding taxes remitted to the Internal Revenue Service, shall be paid to the DROP participant or surviving beneficiary.
- (II) Direct rollover.—All accrued DROP benefits, plus interest, shall be paid from the DROP directly to the custodian of an eligible retirement plan as defined in s. 402(c)(8)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code. However, in the case of an eligible rollover distribution to the surviving spouse of a deceased participant, an eligible retirement plan is an individual retirement account or an individual retirement annuity as described in s. 402(c)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- (III) Partial lump sum.—A portion of the accrued DROP benefits shall be paid to the DROP participant or surviving spouse, less withholding taxes remitted to the Internal Revenue Service, and the remaining DROP benefits must shall be transferred directly to the custodian of an eligible retirement plan as defined in s. 402(c)(8)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code. However, in the case of an eligible rollover distribution to the surviving spouse of a deceased participant, an eligible retirement plan is an individual retirement account or an individual retirement annuity as described in s. 402(c)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code. The proportions must shall be specified by the DROP participant or surviving beneficiary.
 - c. The form of payment selected by the DROP participant or

1464

1465

1466

1467 1468

1469

1470

1471

1472

1473

1474

1475

1476

1477

1478

1479

1480

1481

1482

1483

1484

1485

1486

1487

1488

1489

1490

1491



surviving beneficiary must comply complies with the minimum distribution requirements of the Internal Revenue Code.

d. A DROP participant who fails to terminate all employment relationships as provided defined in s. 121.021(39)(b) shall be deemed as not to be retired, and the DROP election is shall be null and void. Florida Retirement System membership shall be reestablished retroactively to the date of the commencement of the DROP, and each employer with whom the participant continues employment must shall be required to pay to the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund the difference between the DROP contributions paid in paragraph (i) and the contributions required for the applicable Florida Retirement System class of membership during the period the member participated in the DROP, plus 6.5 percent interest compounded annually.

6. The retirement benefits of any DROP participant who terminates all employment relationships as provided in s. 121.021(39) but is reemployed in violation of the reemployment provisions subsection (9) shall be suspended during those months in which the retiree is in violation. Any retiree in violation of this subparagraph and any employer that employs or appoints such person without notifying the Division of Retirement to suspend retirement benefits are jointly and severally liable for any benefits paid during the reemployment limitation period. To avoid liability, the employer must have a written statement from the retiree that he or she is not retired from a stateadministered retirement system. Any retirement benefits received by a retiree while employed in violation of the reemployment limitations must be repaid to the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund, and his or her retirement benefits shall remain

1493 1494

1495

1496 1497

1498

1499

1500

1501

1502

1503

1504

1505

1506

1507

1508

1509

1510

1511

1512

1513

1514

1515

1516

1517 1518

1519

1520



suspended until payment is made. Benefits suspended beyond the end of the retired retiree's first 6 calendar months shall apply toward repayment of benefits received in violation of the reemployment limitation.

- 7.6. The accrued benefits of any DROP participant, and any contributions accumulated under the such program, are shall not be subject to assignment, execution, attachment, or to any legal process whatsoever, except for qualified domestic relations orders by a court of competent jurisdiction, income deduction orders as provided in s. 61.1301, and federal income tax levies.
- 8.7. DROP participants are shall not be eligible for disability retirement benefits as provided in subsection (4).
 - (d) Death benefits under the DROP.-
- 1. Upon the death of a DROP participant, the named beneficiary is shall be entitled to apply for and receive the accrued benefits in the DROP as provided in sub-subparagraph (c) 5.b.
- 2. The normal retirement benefit accrued to the DROP during the month of a participant's death is shall be the final monthly benefit credited for such DROP participant.
- 3. Eligibility to participate in the DROP terminates upon death of the participant. If the participant dies on or after the effective date of enrollment in the DROP, but before prior to the first monthly benefit is being credited to the DROP, Florida Retirement System benefits are shall be paid in accordance with subparagraph (7)(c)1. or subparagraph 2.
- 4. A DROP participant's participants' survivors are shall not be eligible to receive Florida Retirement System death benefits as provided in paragraph (7)(d).

1522

1523

1524

1525

1526

1527

1528

1529

1530

1531

1532

1533 1534

1535

1536 1537

1538 1539

1540 1541

1542

1543 1544

1545

1546

1547

1548

1549



- (e) Cost-of-living adjustment.—On each July 1, the participant's participants' normal retirement benefit shall be increased as provided in s. 121.101.
- (f) Retiree health insurance subsidy.-DROP participants are not eligible to apply for the retiree health insurance subsidy payments as provided in s. 112.363 until such participants have terminated employment and participation in the DROP.
- (q) Renewed membership.-DROP participants are shall not be eligible for renewed membership in the Florida Retirement System under ss. 121.053 and 121.122 until all employment relationships are terminated termination of employment is effectuated as provided in s. 121.021(39)(b).
- (h) Employment limitation after DROP participation. Upon satisfying the definition of termination of all employment relationships as provided in s. $121.021(39)\frac{(b)}{(b)}$, DROP participants are shall be subject to the same such reemployment limitations as other retirees. Reemployment restrictions applicable to retirees as provided in subsection (9) do shall not apply to DROP participants until their employment and participation in the DROP are terminated.
 - (i) Contributions.-
- 1. All employers paying the salary of a DROP participant filling a regularly established position shall contribute 8.0 percent of such participant's gross compensation for the period of July 1, 2002, through June 30, 2003, and the percentage $\frac{11.56}{1}$ percent of such compensation required by s. 121.71 thereafter, which shall constitute the entire employer DROP contribution with respect to such participant. Such contributions, payable to the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund in the same manner as

1551 1552

1553

1554

1555

1556

1557

1558

1559

1560

1561

1562

1563

1564 1565

1566

1567 1568

1569

1570

1571

1572

1573

1574

1575

1576

1577 1578



required in s. 121.071, must shall be made as appropriate for each pay period and are in addition to contributions required for social security and the Retiree Health Insurance Subsidy Trust Fund. Such employer, social security, and health insurance subsidy contributions are not included in the DROP.

- 2. The employer shall, in addition to subparagraph 1., also withhold one-half of the entire social security contribution required for the participant. Contributions for social security by each participant and each employer, in the amount required for social security coverage as now or hereafter provided by the federal Social Security Act, are shall be in addition to contributions specified in subparagraph 1.
- 3. All employers paying the salary of a DROP participant filling a regularly established position shall contribute the percent of such participant's gross compensation required in s. 121.071(4), which shall constitute the employer's health insurance subsidy contribution with respect to such participant. Such contributions must shall be deposited by the administrator in the Retiree Health Insurance Subsidy Trust Fund.
- (j) Forfeiture of retirement benefits. Nothing in This section does not shall be construed to remove DROP participants from the scope of s. 8(d), Art. II of the State Constitution, s. 112.3173, and paragraph (5)(f). DROP participants who commit a specified felony offense while employed are will be subject to forfeiture of all retirement benefits, including DROP benefits, pursuant to those provisions of law.
- (k) Administration of program.—The division shall adopt make such rules as are necessary for the effective and efficient administration of this subsection. The division is shall not be

1580

1581

1582

1583

1584

1585

1586

1587

1588

1589

1590

1591

1592

1593

1594

1595

1596

1597

1598

1599

1600

1601 1602

1603

1604

1605

1606

1607



required to advise members of the federal tax consequences of an election related to the DROP but may advise members to seek independent advice.

- (14) PAYMENT OF BENEFITS.—This subsection applies to the payment of benefits to a payee (retiree or beneficiary) under the Florida Retirement System:
- (a) Federal income tax shall be withheld in accordance with federal law, unless the payee elects otherwise on Form W-4P. The division shall prepare and distribute to each recipient of monthly retirement benefits an appropriate income tax form that reflects the recipient's income and federal income tax withheld for the calendar year just ended.
- (b) Subject to approval by the division in accordance with rule 60S-4.015, Florida Administrative Code, a payee receiving retirement benefits under the Florida Retirement system may also have the following payments deducted from his or her monthly benefit:
- 1. Premiums for life and health-related insurance policies from approved companies.
- 2. Life insurance premiums for the State Group Life Insurance Plan, if authorized in writing by the payee and by the department of Management Services.
- 3. Repayment of overpayments from the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund, the State Employees' Health Insurance Trust Fund, or the State Employees' Life Insurance Trust Fund, upon notification of the payee.
- 4. Payments to an alternate payee for alimony or τ child support pursuant to an income deduction order under s. 61.1301, or division of marital assets pursuant to a qualified domestic

1609

1610 1611

1612

1613

1614

1615

1616

1617

1618

1619

1620

1621

1622

1623

1624

1625

1626

1627

1628

1629

1630

1631

1632

1633

1634

1635 1636



relations order under s. 222.21 or an income deduction under s. 61.1301.

- 5. Payments to the Internal Revenue Service for federal income tax levies, upon notification of the division by the Internal Revenue Service.
- (c) A payee must shall notify the division of any change in his or her address. The division may suspend benefit payments to a payee if correspondence sent to the payee's mailing address is returned due to an incorrect address. Benefit payments shall be resumed upon notification to the division of the payee's new address.
- (d) A payee whose retirement benefits are reduced by the application of maximum benefit limits under s. 415(b) of the Internal Revenue Code, as specified in s. 121.30(5), shall have the portion of his or her calculated benefit in the Florida Retirement System defined benefit plan which exceeds such federal limitation paid through the Florida Retirement System Preservation of Benefits Plan, as provided in s. 121.1001.
- (e) The Division of Retirement may issue retirement benefits payable for division of marital assets pursuant to a qualified domestic relations order directly to the alternate payee, any court order to the contrary notwithstanding, in order to meet Internal Revenue Code requirements.
- (f) (e) A No benefit may not be reduced for the purpose of preserving the member's eligibility for a federal program.
- (g) (f) The division shall adopt rules establishing procedures for determining that the persons to whom benefits are being paid are still living. The division shall suspend the benefits being paid to any payee if when it is unable to contact

1638 1639

1640

1641

1642

1643

1644

1645

1646

1647

1648

1649

1650

1651

1652

1653

1654 1655

1656

1657

1658

1659

1660

1661

1662

1663

1664

1665



such payee and to confirm that he or she is still living.

Section 10. Section 121.1115, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

121.1115 Purchase of retirement credit for out-of-state or and federal service. - Effective January 1, 1995, a member of the Florida Retirement System may purchase creditable service for periods of public employment in another state and receive creditable service for such periods of employment. Service with the Federal Government, including any active military service, may be claimed. Upon completion of each year of service earned under the Florida Retirement System, a member may purchase up to 1 year of retirement credit for his or her out-of-state service, subject to the following provisions:

- (1) LIMITATIONS AND CONDITIONS. To receive credit for the out-of-state service:
 - (a) The out-of-state service being claimed must have been:
- 1. Performed in a position of employment with the state or a political subdivision thereof or with the Federal Government;
- 2. Covered by a retirement or pension plan provided by the state or political subdivision, or by the Federal Government, as appropriate; and
- 3. Performed prior to a period of membership in the Florida Retirement System.
- (b) The member must have completed a minimum of 6 years of creditable service under the Florida Retirement System, excluding out-of-state service and in-state service claimed and purchased under s. 121.1122.
- (c) Not more than 5 years of creditable service may be claimed for creditable service aggregated under the provisions



of this section and s. 121.1122.

1666

1667 1668

1669

1670

1671

1672

1673

1674

1675

1676

1677

1678

1679

1680

1681

1682

1683 1684

1685

1686

1687

1688

1689

1690

1691

1692 1693

1694

- (d) The out-of-state service credit claimed under this section shall be credited only as service in the Regular Class of membership, and any benefit or pension based thereon is shall be subject to the limitations and restrictions of s. 112.65.
- (e) The member is not eligible for and may not receive a pension or benefit from a retirement or pension plan based on or including the out-of-state service. Eligibility for or the receipt of contributions to a retirement plan made by the employer on behalf of the employee is considered a benefit.
- (f) (e) A member shall be eligible To receive service credit for out-of-state service performed after leaving the Florida Retirement System, the member must complete only upon return to membership and completion of at least 1 year of creditable service in the Florida Retirement System following the out-ofstate service.
- (2) COST.-For each year claimed, the member must pay into the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund an amount equal to 20 percent of the member's annual compensation for the first full work year of creditable service earned under the Florida Retirement System, but not less than \$12,000, plus interest at 6.5 percent compounded annually from the date of first annual salary earned until full payment is made. The employer may pay all or a portion of the cost of this service credit.

Section 11. Subsection (2) of section 121.1122, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

121.1122 Purchase of retirement credit for in-state public service and in-state service in accredited nonpublic schools and colleges, including charter schools and charter technical career

1696

1697

1698

1699

1700

1701

1702

1703

1704

1705

1706

1707

1708

1709

1710

1711

1712 1713

1714

1715

1716

1717

1718

1719

1720

1721

1722 1723



centers.-Effective January 1, 1998, a member of the Florida Retirement System may purchase creditable service for periods of certain public or nonpublic employment performed in this state, as provided in this section.

- (2) LIMITATIONS AND CONDITIONS. -
- (a) A member is not eligible to receive credit for in-state service under this section until he or she has completed 6 years of creditable service under the Florida Retirement System, excluding service purchased under this section and out-of-state service claimed and purchased under s. 121.1115.
- (b) A member may not purchase and receive credit for more than 5 years of creditable service aggregated under the provisions of this section and s. 121.1115.
- (c) Service credit claimed under this section shall be credited only as service in the Regular Class of membership and is shall be subject to the provisions of s. 112.65.
- (d) Service credit may not be purchased under this section if the member is eligible to receive or is receiving a pension or benefit from a retirement or pension plan based on or including the service. Eligibility for or the receipt of contributions to a retirement plan made by the employer on behalf of the employee is considered a benefit.
- (e) (d) A member is shall be eligible to receive service credit for in-state service performed after leaving the Florida Retirement System only after upon returning to membership and completing at least 1 year of creditable service in the Florida Retirement System following the in-state service.
- (f) (e) The service claimed must have been service covered by a retirement or pension plan provided by the employer.

1725

1726

1727

1728

1729

1730

1731

1732

1733 1734

1735

1736

1737

1738

1739

1740

1741 1742

1743

1744

1745

1746

1747

1748

1749

1750

1751

1752



Section 12. Section 121.122, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

121.122 Renewed membership in system.-

- (1) Except as provided in s. 121.053, effective July 1, 1991, any retiree of a state-administered retirement system who is initially reemployed employed in a regularly established position with a covered employer shall be enrolled as a compulsory member of the Regular Class of the Florida Retirement System or, effective July 1, 1997, any retiree of a stateadministered retirement system who is initially reemployed employed in a position included in the Senior Management Service Class shall be enrolled as a compulsory member of the Senior Management Service Class of the Florida Retirement System as provided in s. 121.055, and shall be entitled to receive an additional retirement benefit, subject to the following conditions:
- (1)(a) Such member must shall resatisfy the age and service requirements as provided in this chapter for initial membership under the system, unless such member elects to participate in the Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program in lieu of the Senior Management Service Class, as provided in s. 121.055(6).
- (b) Such member is shall not be entitled to disability benefits as provided in s. 121.091(4).
- (c) Such member must meet the reemployment after retirement limitations as provided in s. 121.091(9), as applicable.
- (2) Upon renewed membership or reemployment of a retiree, the employer of such member shall pay the applicable employer contributions as required by ss. 121.71, 121.74, 121.76, and



112.363 $\frac{121.055(3)}{and}$ and $\frac{121.071(1)}{a}$ and $\frac{(4)}{a}$.

1753

1754

1755

1756

1757

1758

1759

1760

1761

1762

1763

1764

1765

1766

1767 1768

1769

1770 1771

1772

1773

1774

1775

1776

1777

1778

1779

1780

1781

- (3) Such member is shall be entitled to purchase additional retirement credit in the Regular Class or the Senior Management Service Class, as applicable, for any postretirement service performed in a regularly established position as follows:
- (a) For regular class service prior to July 1, 1991, by paying the Regular Class applicable employee and employer contributions for the period being claimed, plus 4 percent interest compounded annually from first year of service claimed until July 1, 1975, and 6.5 percent interest compounded thereafter, until full payment is made to the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund; or
- (b) For Senior Management Service Class prior to June 1, 1997, as provided in s. 121.055(1)(j).

The contribution for postretirement service between July 1, 1985, and July 1, 1991, for which the reemployed retiree contribution was paid, shall be the difference between such contribution and the total applicable contribution for the period being claimed, plus interest. The employer of such member may pay the applicable employer contribution in lieu of the member. If a member does not wish to claim credit for all of the postretirement service for which he or she is eligible, the service the member claims must be the most recent service.

(4) No creditable service for which credit was received, or which remained unclaimed, at retirement may be claimed or applied toward service credit earned following renewed membership. However, service earned as an elected officer with renewed membership in the Elected Officers' Class may be used in

1783

1784

1785

1786

1787

1788

1789

1790

1791

1792

1793

1794

1795

1796

1797

1798

1799

1800

1801

1802

1803

1804

1805

1806

1807

1808

1809

1810



conjunction with creditable service earned under this section, provided the applicable vesting requirements and other existing statutory conditions required by this chapter are met.

- (5) Notwithstanding any other limitations provided in this section, a participant of the State University System Optional Retirement Program, the State Community College Optional Retirement Program, or the Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program who terminated employment and commenced receiving a distribution an annuity under the provisions of the optional program, who initially renews membership in the Regular Class as required by this section upon reemployment after retirement, and who had previously earned creditable Florida Retirement System service that was not included in any retirement benefit may include such previous service toward vesting and service credit in the second career benefit provided under renewed membership.
- (6) A Any renewed member who is not receiving the maximum health insurance subsidy provided in s. 112.363 is shall be entitled to earn additional credit toward the maximum health insurance subsidy. Any additional subsidy due because of such additional credit may shall be received only at the time of payment of the second career retirement benefit. In no case shall The total health insurance subsidy received by a retiree receiving benefits from initial and renewed membership may not exceed the maximum allowed in s. 112.363.

Section 13. Section 121.136, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

121.136 Annual benefit statement to members.—Each year Beginning January 1, 1993, and each January thereafter, the

1812 1813

1814

1815

1816

1817

1818

1819 1820

1821

1822

1823

1824

1825

1826

1827

1828

1829

1830

1831

1832

1833

1834

1835

1836

1837

1838 1839



department shall provide each active member of the Florida Retirement System with 5 or more years of creditable service an annual statement of benefits that provides. Such statement should provide the member with basic data about the member's retirement account. At a minimum Minimally, it must shall include the member's retirement plan, accrued service credit the amount of funds on deposit in the retirement account, and an estimate of retirement benefits.

Section 14. Section 121.1905, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

121.1905 Division of Retirement; creation.-

(1) There is created the Division of Retirement within the Department of Management Services.

(2) The mission of the Division of Retirement is to provide quality and cost-effective retirement services as measured by member satisfaction and by comparison with administrative of comparable retirement systems.

Section 15. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 121.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

121.23 Disability retirement and special risk membership applications; Retirement Commission; powers and duties; judicial review.—The provisions of this section apply to all proceedings in which the administrator has made a written final decision on the merits respecting applications for disability retirement, reexamination of retired members receiving disability benefits, applications for special risk membership, and reexamination of special risk members in the Florida Retirement System. The jurisdiction of the State Retirement Commission under this section shall be limited to written final decisions of the



administrator on the merits.

1840

1841 1842

1843 1844

1845

1846

1847

1848 1849

1850

1851

1852

1853

1854 1855

1856

1857

1858

1859

1860

1861

1862

1863

1864

1865

1866

1867 1868

- (2) A member shall be entitled to a hearing before the State Retirement Commission pursuant to ss. 120.569 and 120.57(1) on the merits of any written adverse decision of the administrator, if he or she files with the commission a written request for such hearing within 21 days after receipt of such written decision from the administrator. For the purpose of such hearings, the commission shall be an "agency head" as defined by s. 120.52.
- (a) The commission may shall have the authority to issue orders as a result of the a hearing that are shall be binding on all parties to the dispute and. The commission may order any action that it deems appropriate. Any disability retirement order of the commission that issued pursuant to this subsection which sustains the application of the member may include an amount, to be determined by the commission, for reasonable attorney's fees and taxable costs, which shall be calculated in accordance with the statewide uniform guidelines for taxation of costs in civil actions. The amount of the attorney's fees fee may not exceed 50 percent of the initial yearly benefit awarded under s. 121.091(4). In cases involving disability retirement, the State Retirement commission shall require the member to present substantial competent medical evidence that meets the requirements of s. 121.091(4)(c)2. and 3., and may require vocational evidence, before awarding disability retirement benefits.
- Section 16. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 121.24, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 121.24 Conduct of commission business; legal and other



assistance; compensation.-

1869

1870

1871

1872

1873

1874 1875

1876

1877

1878

1879

1880

1881

1882

1883

1884

1885

1886

1887

1888

1889

1890

1891

1892

1893

1894

1895

1896 1897

- (1) The commission shall conduct its business within the following guidelines:
- (a) For purposes of hearing appeals under s. 121.23, the commission may meet in panels consisting of no not fewer than three members. For the purpose of meeting in these panels, a quorum shall be not fewer than two members. For all other purposes, A quorum shall consist of three members. The concurring vote of a majority of the members present is shall be required to reach a decision, issue orders, and conduct the business of the commission.

Section 17. Paragraph (h) of subsection (3) and paragraphs (a) and (e) of subsection (5) of section 121.35, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (g) is added to subsection (5) of that section, to read:

121.35 Optional retirement program for the State University System.-

- (3) ELECTION OF OPTIONAL PROGRAM.
- (h) A participant in the optional retirement program may not participate in more than one state-administered retirement system, plan, or class simultaneously. Except as provided in s. 121.052(6)(d), a participant who is or becomes dually employed in two or more positions covered by the Florida Retirement System, one of which is eligible for the optional program and one of which is not, may remain a member of the optional program and contributions shall be paid as required only on the salary earned in the position eligible for the optional program during the such period of dual employment; or, within 90 days after becoming dually employed, he or she may elect membership in the



Regular Class of the Florida Retirement System in lieu of the optional program and contributions shall be paid as required on the total salary received for all employment. At retirement, the average final compensation used to calculate any benefits for which the member becomes eligible under the Florida Retirement System must shall be based on all salary reported for both positions during such period of dual employment. If the When such member ceases to be dually employed, he or she may, within 90 days, elect to remain in the Florida Retirement System class for which he or she is eligible or to again become a participant in the optional retirement program. Failure to elect membership in the optional program within 90 days shall result in compulsory membership in the Florida Retirement System, except that a member filling a faculty position at under a college that has a faculty practice plan at the University of Florida, at or the Medical Center at the University of South Florida, or other state university shall again participate in the optional retirement program as required in s. 121.051(1)(a).

(5) BENEFITS.-

1898

1899

1900

1901

1902

1903

1904

1905

1906

1907

1908

1909

1910

1911

1912

1913

1914 1915

1916

1917

1918

1919

1920

1921

1922

1923

1924

1925

1926

(a) Benefits are shall be payable under the optional retirement program only to vested participants in the program, or their beneficiaries as designated by the participant in the contract with a provider company, and such benefits shall be paid only by the designated company in accordance with s. 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code and in accordance with the terms of the annuity contract or contracts applicable to the participant. Benefits shall accrue in individual accounts that are participant-directed, portable, and funded by employer contributions and the earnings thereon. The participant must be

1928

1929

1930

1931

1932

1933

1934

1935

1936

1937

1938

1939

1940

1941

1942

1943

1944

1945

1946

1947

1948

1949

1950

1951

1952

1953

1954

1955



terminated from all employment relationships with all Florida Retirement System employers, as provided in s. 121.021(39), to begin receiving the employer-funded benefit. Benefits funded by employer contributions are shall be payable in accordance with the following terms and conditions:

- 1. Benefits shall be paid payable only to a participant, to his or her beneficiaries, or to his or her estate, as designated by the participant.
- 2. Benefits shall be paid by the provider company or companies in accordance with the law, the provisions of the contract, and any applicable department board rule or policy.
- 3. In the event of a participant's death, moneys accumulated by, or on behalf of, the participant, less withholding taxes remitted to the Internal Revenue Service, if any, shall be distributed to the participant's designated beneficiary or beneficiaries, or to the participant's estate, as if the participant retired on the date of death, as provided in paragraph (c). No other death benefits are shall be available to for survivors of participants under the optional retirement program except for such benefits, or coverage for such benefits, as are separately afforded by the employer, at the employer's discretion.
- (e) A participant who chooses to receive his or her benefits upon termination as defined in s. 121.021(39) must of employment shall have responsibility to notify the provider company of the date on which he or she wishes benefits funded by employer contributions to begin. Benefits may be deferred until such time as the participant chooses to make such application.
 - (g) For purposes of this section, "retiree" means a former

1957

1958

1959

1960

1961

1962

1963

1964

1965

1966

1967

1968

1969

1970

1971

1972

1973

1974

1975

1976

1977 1978

1979

1980

1981

1982

1983

1984



participant of the optional retirement program who has terminated employment and has taken a distribution as provided in this subsection, except for a mandatory distribution of a de minimis account authorized by the department.

Section 18. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (1) of section 121.591, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

121.591 Benefits payable under the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program of the Florida Retirement System.-Benefits may not be paid under this section unless the member has terminated employment as provided in s. 121.021(39)(a) or is deceased and a proper application has been filed in the manner prescribed by the state board or the department. The state board or department, as appropriate, may cancel an application for retirement benefits when the member or beneficiary fails to timely provide the information and documents required by this chapter and the rules of the state board and department. In accordance with their respective responsibilities as provided herein, the State Board of Administration and the Department of Management Services shall adopt rules establishing procedures for application for retirement benefits and for the cancellation of such application when the required information or documents are not received. The State Board of Administration and the Department of Management Services, as appropriate, are authorized to cash out a de minimis account of a participant who has been terminated from Florida Retirement System covered employment for a minimum of 6 calendar months. A de minimis account is an account containing employer contributions and accumulated earnings of not more than \$5,000 made under the provisions of this chapter. Such cash-out must either be a

1986

1987

1988

1989

1990

1991

1992

1993

1994

1995

1996

1997

1998

1999

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

2010

2011

2012

2013



complete lump-sum liquidation of the account balance, subject to the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, or a lump-sum direct rollover distribution paid directly to the custodian of an eligible retirement plan, as defined by the Internal Revenue Code, on behalf of the participant. If any financial instrument issued for the payment of retirement benefits under this section is not presented for payment within 180 days after the last day of the month in which it was originally issued, the third-party administrator or other duly authorized agent of the State Board of Administration shall cancel the instrument and credit the amount of the instrument to the suspense account of the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program Trust Fund authorized under s. 121.4501(6). Any such amounts transferred to the suspense account are payable upon a proper application, not to include earnings thereon, as provided in this section, within 10 years after the last day of the month in which the instrument was originally issued, after which time such amounts and any earnings thereon shall be forfeited. Any such forfeited amounts are assets of the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program Trust Fund and are not subject to the provisions of chapter 717.

- (1) NORMAL BENEFITS. Under the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program:
- (a) Benefits in the form of vested accumulations as described in s. 121.4501(6) shall be payable under this subsection in accordance with the following terms and conditions:
- 1. To the extent vested, benefits shall be payable only to a participant.
 - 2. Benefits shall be paid by the third-party administrator

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2021

2022

2023

2024

2025

2026

2027

2028 2029

2030 2031

2032

2033

2034

2035

2036

2037

2038

2039

2040

2041

2042



or designated approved providers in accordance with the law, the contracts, and any applicable board rule or policy.

- 3. To receive benefits under this subsection, the participant must be terminated from all employment with all Florida Retirement System employers, as provided in s. 121.021(39).
- 4. Benefit payments may not be made until the participant has been terminated for 3 calendar months, except that the board may authorize by rule for the distribution of up to 10 percent of the participant's account after being terminated for 1 calendar month if a participant has reached the normal retirement requirements of the defined benefit plan, as provided in s. 121.021(29).
- 5. If a member or former member of the Florida Retirement System receives an invalid distribution from the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program Trust Fund, such person shall repay the full invalid distribution to the trust fund within 90 days after receipt of final notification by the State Board of Administration or the third-party administrator that the distribution was invalid. If such person fails to repay the full invalid distribution within 90 days after receipt of final notification, the person may be deemed retired from the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program by the state board, as provided pursuant to s. 121.4501(2)(j), and shall be subject to the provisions of s. 121.122. If such person is deemed retired by the state board, any joint and several liability set out in s. 121.091(9)(d)2. s. 121.091(9)(c)2. becomes null and void, and the state board, the Department of Management Services, or the employing agency is not liable for gains on payroll

2044

2045

2046

2047

2048

2049

2050

2051

2052

2053

2054

2055

2056

2057

2058

2059

2060

2061

2062

2063

2064

2065

2066 2067

2068

2069

2070

2071



contributions that have not been deposited to the person's account in the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program, pending resolution of the invalid distribution. The member or former member who has been deemed retired or who has been determined by the board to have taken an invalid distribution may appeal the agency decision through the complaint process as provided under s. 121.4501(9)(f)3. As used in this subparagraph, the term "invalid distribution" means any distribution from an account in the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program which is taken in violation of the provisions of this section, s. 121.091(9), or s. 121.4501.

(b) If a participant elects to receive his or her benefits upon termination of employment as defined in s. 121.021(39), the participant must submit a written application or an equivalent form to the third-party administrator indicating his or her preferred distribution date and selecting an authorized method of distribution as provided in paragraph (c). The participant may defer receipt of benefits until he or she chooses to make such application, subject to federal requirements.

Section 19. Subsection (1) of section 238.183, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

238.183 Developmental research school and Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind instructional personnel; reemployment after retirement. -

(1) Notwithstanding any other law, instructional personnel, as defined in s. 1012.01(2), employed by a developmental research school or the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind are eligible for reemployment after retirement in the same manner as classroom teachers who are employed by the district



school boards, as described in ss. $121.091(9)(b)\frac{3}{2}$ and 238.181(2)(c).

Section 20. Paragraph (g) of subsection (3) and subsection (8) of section 1012.33, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 1012.33 Contracts with instructional staff, supervisors, and school principals.-

(3)

2072

2073

2074

2075

2076

2077

2078

2079

2080

2081

2082

2083

2084

2085

2086 2087

2088

2089

2090

2091

2092

2093

2094

2095

2096

2097

2098

2099

2100

- (q) Beginning July 1, 2001, for each employee who enters into a written contract, pursuant to this section, in a school district in which the employee was not employed as of June 30, 2001, or was employed as of June 30, 2001, but has since broken employment with that district for 1 school year or more, for purposes of pay, a district school board must recognize and accept each year of full-time public school teaching service earned in the State of Florida or outside the state and for which the employee received a satisfactory performance evaluation. Instructional personnel employed pursuant to s. 121.091(9)(b) are exempt from the provisions of this paragraph.
- (8) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a retired any member who has retired may interrupt retirement and be reemployed in any public school. A Any member so reemployed by the same district from which he or she retired may be employed on a probationary contractual basis as provided in subsection (1); however, no regular retirement employee shall be eligible to renew membership under a retirement system created by chapter 121 or chapter 238.

Section 21. Sections 121.093, 121.094, and 121.45, Florida Statutes, are repealed.



Section 22. The Legislature finds that a proper and legitimate state purpose is served when employees and retirees of the state and its political subdivisions, as well as the dependents, survivors, and beneficiaries of such employees and retirees, are extended the basic protections afforded by governmental retirement systems that provide fair and adequate benefits and that are managed, administered, and funded in an actuarially sound manner as required by s. 14, Art. X of the State Constitution and part VII of chapter 112, Florida Statutes. Therefore, the Legislature determines and declares that the amendment of s. 121.091, Florida Statutes, by this act fulfills an important state interest.

Section 23. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.

2114 2115

2116

2117

2118

2119

2120

2121

2122 2123

2124

2125

2126

2127

2128

2129

2101

2102

2103

2104 2105

2106

2107

2108

2109

2110

2111

2112

2113

======== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ========== And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert:

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to retirement; amending s. 121.021, F.S.; redefining the terms "employer," "officer or employee," "past service," "normal retirement date," "termination," "regularly established position," and "temporary position"; defining the terms "state board" and "trustees"; amending s. 121.031, F.S.; requiring promotional materials that refer to the Florida Retirement System to include a disclaimer unless approval is obtained from the Department of Management Services or the State Board of Administration;

2131

2132

2133

2134

2135

2136

2137

2138

2139

2140

2141

2142

2143

2144 2145

2146

2147

2148

2149

2150

2151 2152

2153

2154

2155

2156

2157

2158



amending s. 121.051, F.S.; conforming a crossreference; clarifying when a State Community College System Optional Retirement Program participant is considered a retiree; revising provisions relating to participation in the Florida Retirement System by certain employers; excluding the participation of certain entities under a lease agreement; amending s. 121.052, F.S.; revising membership criteria for members of the Elected Officers' Class; revising the dates when a governing body of a municipality or special district may elect to designate its elected positions for inclusion in the Elected Officers' Class; amending s. 121.053, F.S.; revising provisions relating to participation in the Elected Officers' Class for retired members; providing that a member whose DROP participation begins after a certain date may not continue to earn interest on his or her DROP account after the end of the 60-month DROP period; amending s. 121.055, F.S.; revising provisions relating to participation in the Senior Management Service Class; revising provisions relating to de minimis accounts; amending s. 121.071, F.S.; providing an additional mechanism for the payment of employee contributions to the system; amending s. 121.081, F.S.; providing for receipt of credit for past or prior service by charter school and charter technical career center employees; prohibiting a member from receiving credit for service covered and reported by both a public employer and a private employer;

2160

2161

2162

2163

2164

2165

2166

2167

2168

2169

2170

2171

2172

2173

2174

2175

2176 2177

2178

2179

2180

2181

2182

2183

2184

2185

2186

2187



amending s. 121.091, F.S.; revising and clarifying provisions relating to retirement benefits; authorizing developmental research schools and charter schools to reemploy certain retired members under specified conditions; providing that retirees of a state-administered retirement system who retire after a certain date may not be reemployed by an employer participating in the Florida Retirement System for 6 months; revising provisions relating to reemployment of retirees of the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program; providing that certain members who delay DROP participation lose a month of DROP participation for each month delayed; clarifying that DROP participation may not be canceled; clarifying maximum DROP participation; providing for the suspension of DROP benefits to a participant who is reemployed; deleting obsolete provisions; revising employer contribution requirements; authorizing the Division of Retirement to issue benefits pursuant to a qualified domestic relations order directly to the alternate payee; amending s. 121.1115, F.S.; revising provisions relating to receiving retirement credit for out-ofstate service; providing that a member is not eligible for and may not receive a benefit based on such service; amending s. 121.1122, F.S.; revising provisions relating to receiving retirement credit for in-state service; providing that certain members are not eligible to purchase service credit; amending s. 121.122, F.S.; providing that certain retirees

2189

2190

2191

2192

2193

2194

2195

2196

2197

2198

2199

2200

2201

2202

2203

2204

2205

2206

2207

2208

2209

2210

2211

2212

2213

2214

2215

2216



initially reemployed on or after a specified date are ineligible for renewed membership in the system; revising conditions under which a retiree is entitled to certain additional retirement benefits; amending s. 121.136, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the annual statement of benefits provided to certain active members of the system; amending s. 121.1905, F.S.; deleting a provision describing the mission of the Division of Retirement; amending s. 121.23, F.S.; requiring the State Retirement Commission to use certain requirements used by the Secretary of Management Services before approving a disability retirement benefit; amending s. 121.24, F.S.; requiring a quorum of three members for all appeal hearings held by the commission; amending s. 121.35, F.S.; revising a compulsory membership exception for certain members failing to elect membership in the optional retirement program; providing a crossreference; defining the term "retiree" for purposes of the State University System Optional Retirement Program; amending ss. 121.591 and 238.183, F.S.; providing and conforming cross-references; amending s. 1012.33, F.S.; deleting a provision preventing persons who have retired from the public school system from renewing membership in the Florida Retirement System or Teachers' Retirement System upon reemployment by the school system; repealing s. 121.093, F.S., relating to instructional personnel reemployment after retirement from a developmental research school or the

2218

2219 2220

2221

2222 2223



Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind; repealing s. 121.094, F.S., relating to instructional personnel reemployment after retirement from a charter school; repealing s. 121.45, F.S., relating to interstate compacts relating to pension portability; providing a declaration of important state interest; providing an effective date.