

 HB 1239 2003

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the Florida Retirement System; amending s. 121.021, F.S.; defining the term "public school member" for purposes of the system; amending s. 121.091, F.S.; providing retirement benefits payable to public school members; providing retroactive applicability; providing for funding of the revision of the Florida Retirement System by this act; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (62) is added to section 121.021, Florida Statutes, 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:

(62) "Public school member" means a member of the Florida Retirement System Regular Class who is employed by a district school system, a public charter school, or the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind.

Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 121.091, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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



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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.

- (1) NORMAL RETIREMENT BENEFIT. -- Upon attaining his or her normal retirement date, the member, upon application to the administrator, shall receive a monthly benefit which shall begin to accrue on the first day of the month of retirement and be payable on the last day of that month and each month thereafter during his or her lifetime. The normal retirement benefit, including any past or additional retirement credit, may not exceed 100 percent of the average final compensation. The amount of monthly benefit shall be calculated as the product of A and B, subject to the adjustment of C, if applicable, as set forth below:
- (a)1.<u>a.</u> For creditable years of Regular Class service, A is 1.60 percent of the member's average final compensation, up to the member's normal retirement date. Upon completion of the first year after the normal retirement date, A is 1.63 percent of the member's average final compensation. Following the second year after the normal retirement date, A is 1.65 percent of the member's average final compensation. Following the third year after the normal retirement date, and for subsequent years, A is 1.68 percent of the member's average final compensation.
- b. For creditable years of Regular Class service, public school members shall have A determined under the provisions of sub-subparagraph 1.a. for service up to the "applicability



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date," and according to the following table for service earned
after the "applicability date":

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Years of Regular	Benefit Accrual Rate
Class Service	
0-6	1.60%
<u>7-12</u>	1.75%
13-18	2.10%

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Applicability date means July 1, 2004, adjusted as follows:

for each year of creditable service as a public school member

earned after the applicability date, 2 years will be subtracted

from the applicability date up to a maximum adjustment of 18

years.

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2. For creditable years of special risk service, A is:

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a. Two percent of the member's average final compensation for all creditable years prior to October 1, 1974;

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b. Three percent of the member's average final compensation for all creditable years after September 30, 1974, and before October 1, 1978;

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c. Two percent of the member's average final compensation for all creditable years after September 30, 1978, and before January 1, 1989;

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d. Two and two-tenths percent of the member's final monthly compensation for all creditable years after December 31, 1988, and before January 1, 1990;

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e. Two and four-tenths percent of the member's average final compensation for all creditable years after December 31, 1989, and before January 1, 1991;

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f. Two and six-tenths percent of the member's average final compensation for all creditable years after December 31, 1990, and before January 1, 1992;

- g. Two and eight-tenths percent of the member's average final compensation for all creditable years after December 31, 1991, and before January 1, 1993;
- h. Three percent of the member's average final compensation for all creditable years after December 31, 1992; and
- i. Three percent of the member's average final compensation for all creditable years of service after September 30, 1978, and before January 1, 1993, for any special risk member who retires after July 1, 2000, or any member of the Special Risk Administrative Support Class entitled to retain the special risk normal retirement date who was a member of the Special Risk Class during the time period and who retires after July 1, 2000.
- 3. For creditable years of Senior Management Service Class service after January 31, 1987, A is 2 percent;
- 4. For creditable years of Elected Officers' Class service as a Supreme Court Justice, district court of appeal judge, circuit judge, or county court judge, A is $3^1/_3$ percent of the member's average final compensation, and for all other creditable service in such class, A is 3 percent of average final compensation;
- (b) B is the number of the member's years and any fractional part of a year of creditable service earned subsequent to November 30, 1970; and



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(c) C is the normal retirement benefit credit brought forward as of November 30, 1970, by a former member of an existing system. Such normal retirement benefit credit shall be determined as the product of X and Y when X is the percentage of average final compensation which the member would have been eligible to receive if the member had attained his or her normal retirement date as of November 30, 1970, all in accordance with the existing system under which the member is covered on November 30, 1970, and Y is average final compensation as defined in s. 121.021(25). However, any member of an existing retirement system who is eligible to retire and who does retire, become disabled, or die prior to April 15, 1971, may have his or her retirement benefits calculated on the basis of the best 5 of the last 10 years of service.

- (d) A member's average final compensation shall be determined by formula to obtain the coverage for the 5 highest fiscal years' salaries, calculated as provided by rule.
- Section 3. It is the intent of the Legislature that costs attributable to benefit increases for regular class public school members shall be funded by recognition of lump sums from the excess actuarial assets of the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund as follows:
- (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, the lump sum to be recognized shall be the lesser of:
- (a) The amount available under the rate stabilization mechanism described in s. 121.031, Florida Statutes; or
- (b) The amount needed to pay the annual cost attributable to the increased benefit accrual rate for public school members. The annual cost shall consist of the increase in normal cost for

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140	public school members plus payment of the 30-year amortization
141	amount of the increase in the actuarial accrued liability
142	attributable to the increase, equal to 2.51 percent of the
143	public school member payroll or \$212 million for the fiscal year
144	2004-2005.
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146	If, after the recognition of excess actuarial assets pursuant to
147	this subsection, there remains an unfunded cost, the
148	contribution rate applicable to public school members shall be
149	increased by the difference between the annual cost and the
150	amount provided by the excess actuarial assets, unless the
151	Legislature provides an alternate funding mechanism.
152	(2) For fiscal years starting 2005-2006 and thereafter,
153	the Legislature shall, as provided in subsection (1), continue
154	to fund on an ongoing basis the annual cost attributable to the
155	formula improvements.
156	Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003.

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.