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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to agency reorganization

An act relating to agency reorganization; transferring the Division of Retirement and its powers, duties, functions, components, and assets from the Department of Management Services to the State Board of Administration; amending s. 110.205, F.S.; providing status of division personnel under the Career Service System; amending ss. 20.22, 20.28, 112.05, 112.3173, 112.352, 112.354, 112.356, 112.358, 112.361, 112.362, 112.363, 112.625, 112.63, 112.64, 112.658, 112.661, 112.665, 121.021, 121.025, 121.031, 121.051, 121.0511, 121.0515, 121.052, 121.055, 121.081, 121.085, 121.091, 121.095, 121.101, 121.111, 121.133, 121.135, 121.136, 121.1815, 121.1905, 121.192, 121.193, 121.22, 121.23, 121.24, 121.30, 121.35, 121.40, 121.45, 121.4501, 121.403, 121.591, 121.5911, 121.72, 121.73, 121.74, 175.032, 175.121, 175.1215, 175.341, 185.02, 185.10, 185.105, 185.23, 215.20, 215.28, 215.44, 215.50, 215.52, 238.01, 238.02, 238.03, 238.05, 238.07, 238.08, 238.09, 238.10, 238.11, 238.12, 238.14, 238.15, 238.171, 238.181, 238.32, 650.02, 650.06, 122.02, 122.03, 122.05, 122.06, 122.07, 122.08, 122.09, 122.10, 122.12, 122.13, 122.15, 122.16, 122.23, 122.30, 122.34, 122.351, F.S., to conform to such transfer; providing duties of the Department of Financial Services with respect to issuing benefit payments under retirement plans; providing for the request and transfer of appropriations; providing an effective date.



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

Management Services is transferred to the State Board of
Administration. All powers, duties, functions, records,
personnel, property, and unexpended balances of appropriations,
allocations, and other funds relating to the Division of
Retirement are transferred by a type one transfer, as defined in
section 20.06, Florida Statutes, to the State Board of
Administration. This act does not alter or amend the powers,
operations, or functioning of the State Board of Administration
with respect to its duties, responsibilities, and authority

Section 2. Paragraphs (g) and (h) of subsection (2) of section 20.22, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

existing prior to the enactment of this legislation.

- 20.22 Department of Management Services.--There is created a Department of Management Services.
- (2) The following divisions and programs within the Department of Management Services are established:
 - (g) Division of Retirement.
 - (g)(h) Division of State Group Insurance.
- Section 3. Section 20.28, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 20.28 State Board of Administration.—The State Board of Administration, continued by <u>s. 4(e)</u>, <u>Art. IV</u> s. 9, Art. XII of the State Constitution, retains all of its powers, duties, and functions as prescribed by law. <u>There is established under the</u> State Board of Administration a Division of Retirement, which



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shall be subject to the direction of the executive director of the board who is the agency head of the division for purposes of chapter 120.

Section 4. Paragraph (u) of subsection (2) of section 110.205, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

110.205 Career service; exemptions.--

- (2) EXEMPT POSITIONS.--The exempt positions that are not covered by this part include the following:
- (u) All officers and employees of the State Board of Administration, including its Division of Retirement. The State Board of Administration shall set the salaries and benefits of these positions.

Section 5. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section 112.05, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

112.05 Retirement; cost-of-living adjustment; employment after retirement.--

(4)

(b) Any person to whom the limitation in paragraph (a) applies who violates such reemployment limitation and is reemployed with any agency participating in the Florida Retirement System prior to completion of the 12-month limitation period shall give timely notice of this fact in writing to the employer and to the <u>Department of Management Services Division</u>; and the person's retirement benefits shall be suspended for the balance of the 12-month limitation period. Any person employed in violation of this subsection and any employing agency which knowingly employs or appoints such person without notifying the Department of Management Services to suspend retirement benefits



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shall be jointly and severally liable for reimbursement to the retirement 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 such person while reemployed during this limitation period shall be repaid to the retirement trust fund, and the retirement benefits shall remain suspended until such repayment has been made. Any benefits suspended beyond the reemployment limitation period shall apply toward the repayment of benefits received in violation of the reemployment limitation.

- Section 6. Paragraph (d) of subsection (4) of section 112.3173, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 112.3173 Felonies involving breach of public trust and other specified offenses by public officers and employees; forfeiture of retirement benefits.--
 - (4) NOTICE.--
- any other document received by it pursuant to this subsection to the governing body of the public retirement system of which the public officer or employee is a member or from which the public officer or employee may be entitled to receive a benefit. When called on by the Commission on Ethics, the <u>Division of Retirement of the State Board of Administration Department of Management Services</u> shall assist the commission in identifying the appropriate public retirement system.



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Section 7. Subsections (2), (4), (5), (7), and (8) of section 112.363, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

112.363 Retiree health insurance subsidy.--

- (2) ELIGIBILITY FOR RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE SUBSIDY .--
- (a) A person who is retired under a state-administered retirement system, or a beneficiary who is a spouse or financial dependent entitled to receive benefits under a state-administered retirement system, is eligible for health insurance subsidy payments provided under this section; except that pension recipients under ss. 121.40, 238.07(16)(a), and 250.22, recipients of health insurance coverage under s. 110.1232, or any other special pension or relief act shall not be eligible for such payments.
- (b) For purposes of this section, a person is deemed retired from a state-administered retirement system when he or she terminates employment with all employers participating in the Florida Retirement System as described in s. 121.021(39) and:
- 1. For a participant of the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program established under part II of chapter 121, the participant meets the age or service requirements to qualify for normal retirement as set forth in s. 121.021(29).
- 2. For a member of the Florida Retirement System defined benefit program, or any employee who maintains creditable service under both the defined benefit program and the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program, the member begins drawing retirement benefits from the defined benefit program of the Florida Retirement System.



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(c)1. Effective July 1, 2001, any person retiring on or after such date as a member of the Florida Retirement System, including any participant of the defined contribution program administered pursuant to part II of chapter 121, must have satisfied the vesting requirements for his or her membership class under the Florida Retirement System defined benefit program as administered under part I of chapter 121.

- 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph 1., a person retiring due to disability must either qualify for a regular or in-line-of-duty disability benefit as provided in s. 121.091(4) or qualify for a disability benefit under a disability plan established under part II of chapter 121, as appropriate.
- (d) Payment of the retiree health insurance subsidy shall be made only after coverage for health insurance for the retiree or beneficiary has been certified in writing to the <u>Division of Retirement of the State Board of Administration Department of Management Services</u>. Participation in a former employer's group health insurance program is not a requirement for eligibility under this section.
- (e) Participants in the Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program as provided in s. 121.055(6) and the State University System Optional Retirement Program as provided in s. 121.35 shall not receive the retiree health insurance subsidy provided in this section. The employer of such participant shall pay the contributions required in subsection (8) to the annuity program provided in s. 121.055(6)(d) or s. 121.35(4)(a), as applicable.



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(4) PAYMENT OF RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE
SUBSIDY.--Beginning January 1, 1988, any monthly retiree health insurance subsidy amount due and payable under this section shall be paid to retired members by the <u>Division of Retirement of the State Board of Administration Department of Management Services</u> or under the direction and control of the <u>division department</u>.

- (5) TRUST FUND ESTABLISHED.—There is hereby established a trust fund in the state treasury to be entitled the Retiree Health Insurance Subsidy Trust Fund, which shall be administered by the State Board of Administration. Said trust fund shall be used to account for all moneys received and disbursed pursuant to this section. Should funding for the retiree health insurance subsidy program fail to provide full benefits for all participants, the benefits may be reduced or canceled at any time.
- (7) ADMINISTRATION OF SYSTEM. -- The <u>Division of Retirement</u> of the State Board of Administration Department of Management Services may adopt such rules and regulations as are necessary for the effective and efficient administration of this section. The cost of administration <u>is shall be</u> appropriated from the trust fund.
- (8) CONTRIBUTIONS.--For purposes of funding the insurance subsidy provided by this section:
- (a) Beginning October 1, 1987, the employer of each member of a state-administered retirement plan shall contribute 0.24 percent of gross compensation each pay period.



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(b) Beginning January 1, 1989, the employer of each member of a state-administered retirement plan shall contribute 0.48 percent of gross compensation each pay period.

- (c) Beginning January 1, 1994, the employer of each member of a state-administered retirement plan shall contribute 0.56 percent of gross compensation each pay period.
- (d) Beginning January 1, 1995, the employer of each member of a state-administered retirement plan shall contribute 0.66 percent of gross compensation each pay period.
- (e) Beginning July 1, 1998, the employer of each member of a state-administered retirement plan shall contribute 0.94 percent of gross compensation each pay period.
- (f) Beginning July 1, 2001, the employer of each member of a state-administered plan shall contribute 1.11 percent of gross compensation each pay period.

Such contributions shall be submitted to the <u>Division of</u>

<u>Retirement of the State Board of Administration</u> Department of Management Services and deposited in the Retiree Health

Insurance Subsidy Trust Fund.

Section 8. Subsection (10) is added to section 112.625, Florida Statutes, to read:

- 112.625 Definitions.--As used in this act:
- (10) "Division" means the Division of Retirement of the State Board of Administration.

Section 9. Subsections (2) and (4) of section 112.63, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:



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112.63 Actuarial reports and statements of actuarial impact; review.--

- every 3 years commencing from the last actuarial report of the plan or system or October 1, 1980, if no actuarial report has been issued within the 3-year period prior to October 1, 1979. The results of each actuarial report shall be filed with the plan administrator within 60 days of certification. Thereafter, the results of each actuarial report shall be made available for inspection upon request. Additionally, each retirement system or plan covered by this act which is not administered directly by the division Department of Management Services shall furnish a copy of each actuarial report to the division Department of Management Services within 60 days after receipt from the actuary. The requirements of this section are supplemental to actuarial valuations necessary to comply with the requirements of ss. 218.321 and 218.39.
- (4) Upon receipt, pursuant to subsection (2), of an actuarial report, or upon receipt, pursuant to subsection (3), of a statement of actuarial impact, the <u>division Department of Management Services</u> shall acknowledge such receipt, but shall only review and comment on each retirement system's or plan's actuarial valuations at least on a triennial basis. If the <u>division department</u> finds that the actuarial valuation is not complete, accurate, or based on reasonable assumptions, or if the <u>division department</u> does not receive the actuarial report or statement of actuarial impact, the <u>division department</u> shall notify the local government and request appropriate adjustment.



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If, after a reasonable period of time, a satisfactory adjustment is not made, the affected local government or the division department may petition for a hearing under the provisions of ss. 120.569 and 120.57. If the administrative law judge recommends in favor of the division department, the division department shall perform an actuarial review or prepare the statement of actuarial impact. The cost to the division department of performing such actuarial review or preparing such statement shall be charged to the governmental entity of which the employees are covered by the retirement system or plan. If payment of such costs is not received by the division department within 60 days after receipt by the governmental entity of the request for payment, the division department shall certify to the Comptroller the amount due, and the Comptroller shall pay such amount to the division department from any funds payable to the governmental entity of which the employees are covered by the retirement system or plan. If the administrative law judge recommends in favor of the local retirement system and the division department performs an actuarial review, the cost to the division department of performing the actuarial review shall be paid by the division department.

- Section 10. Subsection (1) of section 112.64, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 112.64 Administration of funds; amortization of unfunded liability.--
- (1) Employee contributions shall be deposited in the retirement system or plan at least monthly. Employer contributions shall be deposited at least quarterly; however,

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any revenues received from any source by an employer which are specifically collected for the purpose of allocation for deposit into a retirement system or plan shall be so deposited within 30 days of receipt by the employer. All employers and employees participating in the Florida Retirement System and other existing retirement systems which are administered by the division Department of Management Services shall continue to make contributions at least monthly.

Section 11. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 112.658, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

- 112.658 Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to determine compliance of the Florida Retirement System.--
- (1) The Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability shall determine, through the examination of actuarial reviews, financial statements, and the practices and procedures of the <u>Division of Retirement Department of Management Services</u>, the compliance of the Florida Retirement System with the provisions of this act.
- (3) The Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability shall employ the same actuarial standards to monitor the <u>division</u> Department of Management Services as the <u>division</u> Department of Management Services uses to monitor local governments.
- Section 12. Subsections (9), (16), and (17) of section 112.661, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
- 112.661 Investment policies.--Investment of the assets of any local retirement system or plan must be consistent with a



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written investment policy adopted by the board. Such policies shall be structured to maximize the financial return to the retirement system or plan consistent with the risks incumbent in each investment and shall be structured to establish and maintain an appropriate diversification of the retirement system or plan's assets.

- shall require that, for each actuarial valuation, the board determine the total expected annual rate of return for the current year, for each of the next several years, and for the long term thereafter. This determination must be filed promptly with the <u>division</u> Department of Management Services and with the plan's sponsor and the consulting actuary. The <u>division</u> department shall use this determination only to notify the board, the plan's sponsor, and consulting actuary of material differences between the total expected annual rate of return and the actuarial assumed rate of return.
- (16) FILING OF INVESTMENT POLICY.--Upon adoption by the board, the investment policy shall be promptly filed with the division Department of Management Services and the plan's sponsor and consulting actuary. The effective date of the investment policy, and any amendment thereto, shall be the 31st calendar day following the filing date with the plan sponsor.
- (17) VALUATION OF ILLIQUID INVESTMENTS. -- The investment policy shall provide for the valuation of illiquid investments for which a generally recognized market is not available or for which there is no consistent or generally accepted pricing mechanism. If those investments are utilized, the investment



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policy must include the criteria set forth in s. 215.47(6), except that submission to the Investment Advisory Council is not required. The investment policy shall require that, for each actuarial valuation, the board must verify the determination of the fair market value for those investments and ascertain that the determination complies with all applicable state and federal requirements. The investment policy shall require that the board disclose to the <u>division Department of Management Services</u> and the plan's sponsor each such investment for which the fair market value is not provided.

Section 13. Section 112.665, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

112.665 Duties of <u>Division of Retirement</u> Department of Management Services.--

- (1) The <u>Division of Retirement</u> Department of Management Services shall:
- (a) Gather, catalog, and maintain complete, computerized data information on all public employee retirement systems or plans in the state, based upon a review of audits, reports, and other data pertaining to the systems or plans;
- (b) Receive and comment upon all actuarial reviews of retirement systems or plans maintained by units of local government;
- (c) Cooperate with local retirement systems or plans on matters of mutual concern and provide technical assistance to units of local government in the assessment and revision of retirement systems or plans;



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(d) Issue, by January 1 annually, a report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, which report details division activities, findings, and recommendations concerning all governmental retirement systems. The report may include legislation proposed to carry out such recommendations;

- (e) Issue, by January 1 annually, a report to the Special District Information Program of the Department of Community Affairs that includes the participation in and compliance of special districts with the local government retirement system provisions in s. 112.63 and the state-administered retirement system provisions as specified in part I of chapter 121; and
- (f) Adopt reasonable rules to administer the provisions of this part.
- (2) The <u>division</u> department may subpoen actuarial witnesses, review books and records, hold hearings, and take testimony. A witness shall have the right to be accompanied by counsel.
- Section 14. Subsections (4), (5), (32), and (36) and paragraph (a) of subsection (39) of section 121.021, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (62) is 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:
- (4) "Division Department" means the Division of Retirement of the State Board of Administration Department of Management Services.



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(5) "Administrator" means the <u>executive director of the</u>

<u>State Board of Administration</u> secretary of the Department of

<u>Management Services</u>.

- (32) "State agency" means the <u>Division of Retirement</u>

 Department of Management Services within the provisions and contemplation of chapter 650.
- (36) "System Trust Fund" means the trust fund established in the State Treasury by this chapter and administered by the State Board of Administration for the purpose of holding and investing the contributions paid by members and employers and paying the benefits to which members or their beneficiaries may become entitled. Other trust funds may be established in the State Treasury to administer the "System Trust Fund."
- (39)(a) "Termination" occurs, except as provided in paragraph (b), when a member ceases all employment relationships with employers under this system, as defined in subsection (10), but in the event a member should be employed by any such employer within the next calendar month, termination shall be deemed not to have occurred. A leave of absence 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 division department may require other evidence of termination as it deems necessary.
- (62) "Board" means the State Board of Administration.

 Section 15. Section 121.025, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:



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director of the State Board of Administration secretary of the Department of Management Services shall be the administrator of the retirement and pension systems assigned or transferred to the division Department of Management Services by law. The executive director of the State Board of Administration is the trustee of the System Trust Fund and shall have the authority to sign the contracts necessary to carry out the duties and responsibilities assigned by law to the division Department of Management Services.

Section 16. Subsections (1), (2), and (5) and paragraph (e) of subsection (3) of section 121.031, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

121.031 Administration of system; appropriation; oaths; actuarial studies; public records.--

- (1) The <u>division</u> Department of Management Services has the authority to adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the provisions of law conferring duties upon the <u>division</u> department and to adopt rules as are necessary for the effective and efficient administration of this system. The funds to pay the expenses for administration of the system are hereby appropriated from the interest earned on investments made for the retirement and social security trust funds and the assessments allowed under chapter 650.
- (2) The <u>division</u> Department of Management Services is authorized to require oaths, by affidavit or otherwise, and acknowledgments from persons in connection with the



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administration of its duties and responsibilities under this chapter.

- (3) The administrator shall cause an actuarial study of the system to be made at least annually and shall report the results of such study to the Legislature by December 31 prior to the next legislative session. The study shall, at a minimum, conform to the requirements of s. 112.63, with the following exceptions and additions:
- (e) The study shall include measures of funding status and funding progress designed to facilitate the assessment of trends over several actuarial valuations with respect to the overall solvency of the system. Such measures shall be adopted by the division department and shall be used consistently in all actuarial valuations performed on the system.
- and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) to the extent that no state or local governmental agency may provide the names or addresses of such persons in aggregate, compiled, or list form to any person except to a public agency engaged in official business. However, a state or local government agency may provide the names and addresses of retirees from that agency to a bargaining agent as defined in s. 447.203(12) or to a retiree organization for official business use. Lists of names or addresses of retirees may be exchanged by public agencies, but such lists shall not be provided to, or open for inspection by, the public. Any person may view or copy any individual's retirement records at the division Department of Management Services, one record at a time, or may obtain information by a



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separate written request for a named individual for which information is desired.

Section 17. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) and paragraphs (b) and (f) of subsection (2) of section 121.051, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

- 121.051 Participation in the system. --
- (1) COMPULSORY PARTICIPATION. --
- (c)1. After June 30, 1983, a member of an existing system who is reemployed after terminating employment shall have at the time of reemployment the option of selecting to remain in the existing retirement system or to transfer to the Florida Retirement System. Failure to submit such selection in writing to the <u>division Department of Management Services</u> within 6 months of reemployment shall result in compulsory membership in the Florida Retirement System.
- 2. After June 30, 1988, the provisions of subparagraph 1. shall not apply to a member of an existing system who is reemployed within 12 months after terminating employment. Such member shall continue to have membership in the existing system upon reemployment and shall not be permitted to become a member of the Florida Retirement System, except by transferring to that system as provided in ss. 121.052 and 121.055.
 - (2) OPTIONAL PARTICIPATION. --
- (b)1. The governing body of any municipality or special district in the state may elect to participate in the system upon proper application to the administrator and may cover all or any of its units as approved by the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the administrator. The division department

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shall adopt rules establishing provisions for the submission of documents necessary for such application. Prior to being approved for participation in the Florida Retirement System, the governing body of any such municipality or special district that has a local retirement system shall submit to the administrator a certified financial statement showing the condition of the local retirement system as of a date within 3 months prior to the proposed effective date of membership in the Florida Retirement System. The statement must be certified by a recognized accounting firm that is independent of the local retirement system. All required documents necessary for extending Florida Retirement System coverage must be received by the division department for consideration at least 15 days prior to the proposed effective date of coverage. If the municipality or special district does not comply with this requirement, the division department may require that the effective date of coverage be changed.

2. Any city or special district that has an existing retirement system covering the employees in the units that are to be brought under the Florida Retirement System may participate only after holding a referendum in which all employees in the affected units have the right to participate. Only those employees electing coverage under the Florida Retirement System by affirmative vote in said referendum shall be eligible for coverage under this chapter, and those not participating or electing not to be covered by the Florida Retirement System shall remain in their present systems and shall not be eligible for coverage under this chapter. After the



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referendum is held, all future employees shall be compulsory members of the Florida Retirement System.

- 3. The governing body of any city or special district complying with subparagraph 1. may elect to provide, or not provide, benefits based on past service of officers and employees as described in s. 121.081(1). However, if such employer elects to provide past service benefits, such benefits must be provided for all officers and employees of its covered group.
- 4. Once this election is made and approved it may not be revoked, except pursuant to subparagraphs 5. and 6., and all present officers and employees electing coverage under this chapter and all future officers and employees shall be compulsory members of the Florida Retirement System.
- 5. Subject to the conditions set forth in subparagraph 6., the governing body of any hospital licensed under chapter 395 which is governed by the board of a special district as defined in s. 189.403(1) or by the board of trustees of a public health trust created under s. 154.07, hereinafter referred to as "hospital district," and which participates in the system, may elect to cease participation in the system with regard to future employees in accordance with the following procedure:
- a. No more than 30 days and at least 7 days before adopting a resolution to partially withdraw from the Florida Retirement System and establish an alternative retirement plan for future employees, a public hearing must be held on the proposed withdrawal and proposed alternative plan.



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b. From 7 to 15 days before such hearing, notice of intent to withdraw, specifying the time and place of the hearing, must be provided in writing to employees of the hospital district proposing partial withdrawal and must be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the area affected, as provided by ss. 50.011-50.031. Proof of publication of such notice shall be submitted to the <u>division Department of Management Services</u>.

- c. The governing body of any hospital district seeking to partially withdraw from the system must, before such hearing, have an actuarial report prepared and certified by an enrolled actuary, as defined in s. 112.625(3), illustrating the cost to the hospital district of providing, through the retirement plan that the hospital district is to adopt, benefits for new employees comparable to those provided under the Florida Retirement System.
- d. Upon meeting all applicable requirements of this subparagraph, and subject to the conditions set forth in subparagraph 6., partial withdrawal from the system and adoption of the alternative retirement plan may be accomplished by resolution duly adopted by the hospital district board. The hospital district board must provide written notice of such withdrawal to the division by mailing a copy of the resolution to the division, postmarked no later than December 15, 1995. The withdrawal shall take effect January 1, 1996.
- 6. Following the adoption of a resolution under subsubparagraph 5.d., all employees of the withdrawing hospital district who were participants in the Florida Retirement System

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prior to January 1, 1996, shall remain as participants in the system for as long as they are employees of the hospital district, and all rights, duties, and obligations between the hospital district, the system, and the employees shall remain in full force and effect. Any employee who is hired or appointed on or after January 1, 1996, may not participate in the Florida Retirement System, and the withdrawing hospital district shall have no obligation to the system with respect to such employees.

- (f)1. Whenever an employer that participates in the Florida Retirement System undertakes the transfer, merger, or consolidation of governmental services or functions, the employer must notify the <u>division</u> department at least 60 days prior to such action and shall provide documentation as required by the division department.
- 2. 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 shall elect in writing to remain in the Florida Retirement System or to transfer to the local retirement system operated by such agency. If 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 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 18. Subsection (2) of section 121.0511, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 121.0511 Revocation of election and alternative plan. -- The governing body of any municipality or independent special



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district that has elected to participate in the Florida

Retirement System may revoke its election in accordance with the following procedure:

(2) At least 7 days, but not more than 15 days, before the hearing, notice of intent to revoke, specifying the time and place of the hearing, must be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the area affected, as provided by ss. 50.011-50.031. Proof of publication of the notice must be submitted to the <u>division</u> Department of Management Services.

Section 19. Subsections (3) and (4) and paragraph (c) of subsection (7) of section 121.0515, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

121.0515 Special risk membership.--

- (3) PROCEDURE FOR DESIGNATING. --
- (a) Any member of the Florida Retirement System employed by a county, city, or special district who feels that he or she meets the criteria set forth in this section for membership in the Special Risk Class may request that his or her employer submit an application to the <u>division department</u> requesting that the <u>division department</u> designate him or her as a special risk member. If the employer agrees that the member meets the requirements for special risk membership, the employer shall submit an application to the <u>division department</u> in behalf of the employee containing a certification that the member meets the criteria for special risk membership set forth in this section and such other supporting documentation as may be required by administrative rule. The <u>division department</u> shall, within 90 days, either designate or refuse to designate the

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member as a special risk member. If the employer declines to submit the member's application to the <u>division</u> department or if the <u>division</u> department does not designate the member as a special risk member, the member or the employer may appeal to the State Retirement Commission, as provided in s. 121.23, for designation as a special risk member. A member who receives a final affirmative ruling pursuant to such appeal for special risk membership shall have special risk membership retroactive to the date such member would have had special risk membership had such membership been approved by the employer and the <u>division</u> department, as determined by the <u>division</u> department, and the employer contributions shall be paid in full within 1 year after such final ruling.

- (b)1. Applying the criteria set forth in this section, the division Department of Management Services shall specify which current and newly created classes of positions under the uniform classification plan established pursuant to chapter 110 entitle the incumbents of positions in those classes to membership in the Special Risk Class. Only employees employed in the classes so specified shall be special risk members.
- 2. When a class is not specified by the <u>division</u> department as provided in subparagraph 1., the employing agency may petition the State Retirement Commission for approval in accordance with s. 121.23.
- (4) REMOVAL OF SPECIAL RISK MEMBERSHIP. -- Any member who is a special risk member on October 1, 1978, and who fails to meet the criteria for special risk membership established by this section shall have his or her special risk designation removed



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and thereafter shall be a regular member and shall earn only regular membership credit. The <u>division</u> department shall have the authority to review the special risk designation of members to determine whether or not those members continue to meet the criteria for special risk membership.

- (7) RETENTION OF SPECIAL RISK NORMAL RETIREMENT DATE .--
- (c) The <u>division</u> department shall adopt such rules as are required to administer this subsection.

Section 20. Paragraph (e) of subsection (3) of section 121.052, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

121.052 Membership class of elected officers.--

- (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. Such election shall be made between July 1, 2001, and December 31, 2001, and shall be irrevocable. The designation of such positions shall be effective the first day of the month following receipt by the <u>division</u> department of the ordinance or resolution passed by the governing body.



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Section 21. Paragraphs (b) and (h) of subsection (1) and paragraphs (a), (c), (d), and (f) 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)

- (b)1. Except as provided in subparagraph 2., effective January 1, 1990, participation in the Senior Management Service Class shall be compulsory for the president of each community college, the manager of each participating city or county, and all appointed district school superintendents. Effective January 1, 1994, additional positions may be designated for inclusion in the Senior Management Service Class of the Florida Retirement System, provided that:
- a. Positions to be included in the class shall be designated by the local agency employer. Notice of intent to designate positions for inclusion in the class shall be published once a week for 2 consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation published in the county or counties affected, as provided in chapter 50.
- b. Up to 10 nonelective full-time positions may be designated for each local agency employer reporting to the division Department of Management Services; for local agencies with 100 or more regularly established positions, additional nonelective full-time positions may be designated, not to exceed



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1 percent of the regularly established positions within the agency.

- c. Each position added to the class must be a managerial or policymaking position filled by an employee who is not subject to continuing contract and serves at the pleasure of the local agency employer without civil service protection, and who:
 - (I) Heads an organizational unit; or
- (II) Has responsibility to effect or recommend personnel, budget, expenditure, or policy decisions in his or her areas of responsibility.
- 2. In lieu of participation in the Senior Management Service Class, members of the Senior Management Service Class pursuant to the provisions of subparagraph 1. may withdraw from the Florida Retirement System altogether. The decision to withdraw from the Florida Retirement System shall be irrevocable for as long as the employee holds such a position. Any service creditable under the Senior Management Service Class shall be retained after the member withdraws from the Florida Retirement System; however, additional service credit in the Senior Management Service Class shall not be earned after such withdrawal. Such members shall not be eligible to participate in the Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program.
- (h)1. Except as provided in subparagraph 3., effective January 1, 1994, participation in the Senior Management Service Class shall be compulsory for the State Courts Administrator and the Deputy State Courts Administrators, the Clerk of the Supreme Court, the Marshal of the Supreme Court, the Executive Director of the Justice Administrative Commission, the Capital Collateral



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Regional Counsels, the clerks of the district courts of appeals, the marshals of the district courts of appeals, and the trial court administrator and the Chief Deputy Court Administrator in each judicial circuit. Effective January 1, 1994, additional positions in the offices of the state attorney and public defender in each judicial circuit may be designated for inclusion in the Senior Management Service Class of the Florida Retirement System, provided that:

- a. Positions to be included in the class shall be designated by the state attorney or public defender, as appropriate. Notice of intent to designate positions for inclusion in the class shall be published once a week for 2 consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation published in the county or counties affected, as provided in chapter 50.
- b. One nonelective full-time position may be designated for each state attorney and public defender reporting to the division Department of Management Services; for agencies with 200 or more regularly established positions under the state attorney or public defender, additional nonelective full-time positions may be designated, not to exceed 0.5 percent of the regularly established positions within the agency.
- c. Each position added to the class must be a managerial or policymaking position filled by an employee who serves at the pleasure of the state attorney or public defender without civil service protection, and who:
 - (I) Heads an organizational unit; or



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(II) Has responsibility to effect or recommend personnel, budget, expenditure, or policy decisions in his or her areas of responsibility.

- 2. Participation in this class shall be compulsory, except as provided in subparagraph 3., for any judicial employee who holds a position designated for coverage in the Senior Management Service Class, and such participation shall continue until the employee terminates employment in a covered position. Effective January 1, 2001, participation in this class is compulsory for assistant state attorneys, assistant statewide prosecutors, assistant public defenders, and assistant capital collateral regional counsels. Effective January 1, 2002, participation in this class is compulsory for assistant attorneys general.
- 3. In lieu of participation in the Senior Management Service Class, such members, excluding assistant state attorneys, assistant public defenders, assistant statewide prosecutors, assistant attorneys general, and assistant capital collateral regional counsels, may participate in the Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program as established in subsection (6).
- (6)(a) Senior Management Service Optional Annuity
 Program.—The State Board of Administration Department of
 Management Services shall establish a Senior Management Service
 Optional Annuity Program under which contracts providing
 retirement, death, and disability benefits may be purchased for
 those employees who elect to participate in the optional annuity
 program. The benefits to be provided for or on behalf of



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participants in such optional annuity program shall be provided through individual contracts or individual certificates issued for group annuity contracts, which may be fixed, variable, or a combination thereof, in accordance with s. 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code. Any such individual contract or certificate shall state the annuity plan on its face page, and shall include, but not be limited to, a statement of ownership, the contract benefits, annuity income options, limitations, expense charges, and surrender charges, if any. The employing agency shall contribute, as provided in this section, toward the purchase of such optional benefits which shall be fully and immediately vested in the participants.

- (c) Participation. --
- 1. Any eligible employee who is employed on or before February 1, 1987, may elect to participate in the optional annuity program in lieu of participation in the Senior Management Service Class. Such election shall be made in writing and filed with the board department and the personnel officer of the employer on or before May 1, 1987. Any eligible employee who is employed on or before February 1, 1987, and who fails to make an election to participate in the optional annuity program by May 1, 1987, shall be deemed to have elected membership in the Senior Management Service Class.
- 2. Any employee who becomes eligible to participate in the optional annuity program by reason of initial employment commencing after February 1, 1987, may, within 90 days after the date of commencement of employment, elect to participate in the optional annuity program. Such election shall be made in writing

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and filed with the personnel officer of the employer. Any eligible employee who does not within 90 days after commencement of such employment elect to participate in the optional annuity program shall be deemed to have elected membership in the Senior Management Service Class.

- 3. A person who is appointed to a position in the Senior Management Service Class and who is a member of an existing retirement system or the Special Risk or Special Risk Administrative Support Classes of the Florida Retirement System may elect to remain in such system or class in lieu of participation in the Senior Management Service Class or optional annuity program. Such election shall be made in writing and filed with the board department and the personnel officer of the employer within 90 days of such appointment. Any eligible employee who fails to make an election to participate in the existing system, the Special Risk Class of the Florida Retirement System, or the optional annuity program shall be deemed to have elected membership in the Senior Management Service Class.
- 4. Except as provided in subparagraph 5., an employee's election to participate in the optional annuity program is irrevocable as long as such employee continues to be employed in an eligible position and continues to meet the eligibility requirements set forth in this paragraph.
- 5. Effective from July 1, 2002, through September 30, 2002, any active employee in a regularly established position who has elected to participate in the Senior Management Service

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Optional Annuity Program has one opportunity to choose to move from the Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program to the Florida Retirement System defined benefit program.

- a. The election must be made in writing and must be filed with the department and the personnel officer of the employer before October 1, 2002, or, in the case of an active employee who is on a leave of absence on July 1, 2002, within 90 days after the conclusion of the leave of absence. This election is irrevocable.
- b. The employee will receive service credit under the defined benefit program of the Florida Retirement System equal to his or her years of service under the Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program. The cost for such credit shall be an amount representing the present value of that employee's accumulated benefit obligation for the affected period of service.
- c. The employee must transfer the total accumulated employer contributions and earnings on deposit in his or her Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program account. If the transferred amount is not sufficient to pay the amount due, the employee must pay a sum representing the remainder of the amount due. In no case may the employee retain any employer contributions or earnings thereon from the Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program account.
 - (d) Contributions.--
- 1. Through June 30, 2001, each employer shall contribute on behalf of each participant in the Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program an amount equal to the normal cost

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portion of the employer retirement contribution which would be required if the participant were a Senior Management Service Class member of the Florida Retirement System defined benefit program, plus the portion of the contribution rate required in s. 112.363(8) 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 12.49 percent of the participant's gross monthly compensation. The board department shall deduct an amount approved by the board, pursuant to s. 215.44(4), Legislature to provide for the administration of this program. The payment of the contributions to the optional program which is required by this subparagraph for each participant shall be made by the employer to the board department, which shall forward the contributions to the designated company or companies contracting for payment of benefits for the participant under the program.

- 2. Each employer shall contribute on behalf of each participant in the Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program an amount equal to the unfunded actuarial accrued liability portion of the employer contribution which would be required for members of the Senior Management Service Class in the Florida Retirement System. This contribution shall be paid to the <u>board</u> department for transfer to the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund.
- 3. An Optional Annuity Program Trust Fund shall be established in the State Treasury and administered by the <u>board</u> department to make payments to provider companies on behalf of

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the optional annuity program participants, and to transfer the unfunded liability portion of the state optional annuity program contributions to the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund.

- 4. Contributions required for social security by each employer and each participant, in the amount required for social security coverage as now or hereafter may be provided by the federal Social Security Act shall be maintained for each participant in the Senior Management Service retirement program and shall be in addition to the retirement contributions specified in this paragraph.
- 5. Each participant in the Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program may contribute by way of salary reduction or deduction a percentage amount of the participant's gross compensation not to exceed the percentage amount contributed by the employer to the optional annuity program. Payment of the participant's contributions shall be made by the employer to the <u>board department</u>, which shall forward the contributions to the designated company or companies contracting for payment of benefits for the participant under the program.
 - (f) Administration. --
- 1. The Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program authorized by this section shall be administered by the <u>board</u> department. The <u>board</u> department shall designate one or more provider companies from which annuity contracts may be purchased under the program and shall approve the form and content of the contracts. The <u>board</u> department shall sign a contract with each of the provider companies and shall evaluate the performance of the provider companies on a continuing basis. The board



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department may terminate the services of a provider company for reasons stated in the contract. The <u>board</u> department shall adopt rules establishing its responsibilities and the responsibilities of employers in administering the optional annuity program.

- 2. Effective July 1, 1997, the State Board of
 Administration shall review and make recommendations to the
 department on the acceptability of all investment products
 proposed by provider companies of the optional annuity program
 before such products are offered through annuity contracts to
 the participants and may advise the department of any changes
 deemed necessary to ensure that the optional annuity program
 offers an acceptable mix of investment products. The board
 department shall determine which make the final determination as
 to whether an investment products product will be included in
 approved for the program.
- 3. The provisions of each contract applicable to a participant in the Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program shall be contained in a written program description which shall include a report of pertinent financial and actuarial information on the solvency and actuarial soundness of the program and the benefits applicable to the participant. Such description shall be furnished by the company or companies to each participant in the program and to the <u>board department</u> upon commencement of participation in the program and annually thereafter.
- 4. The <u>board</u> department shall ensure that each participant in the Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program is



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provided an accounting of the total contribution and the annual contribution made by and on behalf of such participants.

Section 22. Paragraph (h) of subsection (1) and paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section 121.081, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

121.081 Past service; prior service; contributions. --Conditions under which past service or prior service may be claimed and credited are:

(1)

- (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 benefit from any local retirement system.
- 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. If a member does not 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.
- 4. The cost of past service purchased by an employing agency for its employees may be amortized over such period of time as is provided in the agreement, but not to exceed 15



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years, calculated in accordance with rule 60S-1.007(5)(f), Florida Administrative Code.

- 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 <u>division</u> 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 in the member's behalf for past service earned 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 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 shall include contributions for past service which are posted to a member's account. However, contributions for past service earned on and after October 1, 1975, are not refundable.
- (2) Prior service, as defined in s. 121.021(19), may be claimed as creditable service under the Florida Retirement System after a member has been reemployed for 1 complete year of creditable service within a period of 12 consecutive months, except as provided in paragraph (c). Service performed as a participant of the optional retirement program for the State University System under s. 121.35 or the Senior Management

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Service Optional Annuity Program under s. 121.055 may be used to satisfy the reemployment requirement of 1 complete year of creditable service. The member shall not be permitted to make any contributions for prior service until after completion of the 1 year of creditable service. If a member does not wish to claim credit for all of his or her prior service, the service the member claims must be the most recent period of service. The required contributions for claiming the various types of prior service are:

- (e) For service performed under the Florida Retirement System after December 1, 1970, that was never reported to the division or the department due to error, retirement credit may be claimed by a member of the Florida Retirement System. The division department shall adopt rules establishing criteria for claiming such credit and detailing the documentation required to substantiate the error.
- Section 23. Subsection (1) of section 121.085, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 121.085 Creditable service. -- The following provisions shall apply to creditable service as defined in s. 121.021(17):
- (1) The <u>division</u> <u>department</u> shall adopt rules establishing procedures for the submission of evidence or information necessary to establish a member's claim of creditable service.
- Section 24. 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

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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 <u>division department</u>. The <u>division department</u> 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 <u>division's department's</u> rules. The <u>division department</u> 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. 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



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after the normal retirement date, and for subsequent years, A is

1082 1.68 percent of the member's average final compensation.

- 2. For creditable years of special risk service, A is:
- a. Two percent of the member's average final compensation for all creditable years prior to October 1, 1974;
- b. Three percent of the member's average final compensation for all creditable years after September 30, 1974, and before October 1, 1978;
- c. Two percent of the member's average final compensation for all creditable years after September 30, 1978, and before January 1, 1989;
- 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;
- 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;
- 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

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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 31/3 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
- (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,



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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.
- (2) BENEFITS PAYABLE FOR DUAL NORMAL RETIREMENT AGES.--If a member accumulates retirement benefits to commence at different normal retirement ages by virtue of having performed duties for an employer which would entitle him or her to benefits as both a member of the Special Risk Class and a member of either the Regular Class, Senior Management Service Class, or Elected Officers' Class, the amount of benefits payable shall be computed separately with respect to each such age and the sum of such computed amounts shall be paid as provided in this section.
- (3) EARLY RETIREMENT BENEFIT. -- Upon retirement on his or her early retirement date, the member shall receive an immediate monthly benefit that shall begin to accrue on the first day of the month of the retirement date and be payable on the last day of that month and each month thereafter during his or her lifetime. Such benefit shall be calculated as follows:
- (a) The amount of each monthly payment shall be computed in the same manner as for a normal retirement benefit, in accordance with subsection (1), but shall be based on the member's average monthly compensation and creditable service as of the member's early retirement date. The benefit so computed shall be reduced by five-twelfths of 1 percent for each complete month by which the early retirement date precedes the normal



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retirement date of age 62 for a member of the Regular Class, Senior Management Service Class, or the Elected Officers' Class, and age 55 for a member of the Special Risk Class, or age 52 if a Special Risk member has completed 25 years of creditable service in accordance with s. 121.021(29)(b)3.

- (b) If the employment of a member is terminated by reason of death subsequent to the completion of 20 years of creditable service, the monthly benefit payable to the member's beneficiary shall be calculated in accordance with subsection (1), but shall be based on average monthly compensation and creditable service as of the date of death. The benefit so computed shall be reduced by five-twelfths of 1 percent for each complete month by which death precedes the normal retirement date specified above or the date on which the member would have attained 30 years of creditable service had he or she survived and continued his or her employment, whichever provides a higher benefit.
 - (4) DISABILITY RETIREMENT BENEFIT. --
- (a) Disability retirement; entitlement and effective date.--
- 1.a. A member who becomes totally and permanently disabled, as defined in paragraph (b), after completing 5 years of creditable service, or a member who becomes totally and permanently disabled in the line of duty regardless of service, shall be entitled to a monthly disability benefit; except that any member with less than 5 years of creditable service on July 1, 1980, or any person who becomes a member of the Florida Retirement System on or after such date must have completed 10 years of creditable service prior to becoming totally and



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permanently disabled in order to receive disability retirement benefits for any disability which occurs other than in the line of duty. However, if a member employed on July 1, 1980, with less than 5 years of creditable service as of that date, becomes totally and permanently disabled after completing 5 years of creditable service and is found not to have attained fully insured status for benefits under the federal Social Security Act, such member shall be entitled to a monthly disability benefit.

- b. Effective July 1, 2001, a member of the defined benefit retirement program who becomes totally and permanently disabled, as defined in paragraph (b), after completing 8 years of creditable service, or a member who becomes totally and permanently disabled in the line of duty regardless of service, shall be entitled to a monthly disability benefit.
- 2. If the division has received from the employer the required documentation of the member's termination of employment, the effective retirement date for a member who applies and is approved for disability retirement shall be established by rule of the division.
- 3. For a member who is receiving Workers' Compensation payments, the effective disability retirement date may not precede the date the member reaches Maximum Medical Improvement (MMI), unless the member terminates employment prior to reaching MMI.
- (b) Total and permanent disability.--A member shall be considered totally and permanently disabled if, in the opinion of the administrator, he or she is prevented, by reason of a

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medically determinable physical or mental impairment, from rendering useful and efficient service as an officer or employee.

- (c) Proof of disability.—The administrator, before approving payment of any disability retirement benefit, shall require proof that the member is totally and permanently disabled as provided herein:
- 1. Such proof shall include the certification of the member's total and permanent disability by two licensed physicians of the state and such other evidence of disability as the administrator may require, including reports from vocational rehabilitation, evaluation, or testing specialists who have evaluated the applicant for employment.
 - 2. It must be documented that:
- a. The member's medical condition occurred or became symptomatic during the time the member was employed in an employee/employer relationship with his or her employer;
- b. The member was totally and permanently disabled at the time he or she terminated covered employment; and
- c. The member has not been employed with any other employer after such termination.
- 3. If the application is for in-line-of-duty disability, in addition to the requirements of subparagraph 2., it must be documented by competent medical evidence that the disability was caused by a job-related illness or accident which occurred while the member was in an employee/employer relationship with his or her employer.



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4. The unavailability of an employment position that the member is physically and mentally capable of performing will not be considered as proof of total and permanent disability.

- (d) Election on appeal.--A member whose application for regular disability retirement has been denied and who has filed an appeal to the State Retirement Commission may, if eligible, elect to receive normal or early service retirement benefits while he or she is awaiting the decision on the appeal. However:
- 1. If the member elects to receive service retirement benefits and disability benefits are later approved as a result of the appeal, the payment option chosen by the member may not be changed.
- 2. If the member elects to receive early service retirement and the appeal is later denied, the member may not change his or her election of early retirement.

Before such regular or early retirement benefits may be paid by the division, the member must provide to the division a written statement indicating that the member understands that such changes are not permitted after he or she begins receiving the benefits.

(e) Disability retirement benefit. -- Upon the retirement of a member on his or her disability retirement date, the member shall receive a monthly benefit that shall begin to accrue on the first day of the month of disability retirement and shall be payable on the last day of that month and each month thereafter during his or her lifetime and continued disability.



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(f) Computation of disability retirement benefit.—The amount of each monthly payment shall be computed in the same manner as for a normal retirement benefit, in accordance with subsection (1), but shall be based on disability option actuarial equivalency tables and the average monthly compensation and creditable service of the member as of the disability retirement date, subject to the following conditions:

- 1. If the member's disability occurred in the line of duty, the monthly Option 1 benefit shall not be less than:
- a. Forty-two percent of average monthly compensation as of the disability retirement date; or
- b. Sixty-five percent of the average monthly compensation as of the disability retirement date for a member of the special risk class who retires on or after July 1, 2000; or
- 2. If the member's disability occurred other than in the line of duty, the monthly Option 1 benefit shall not be less than 25 percent of average monthly compensation as of the disability retirement date.
- (g) Reapplication.--A member, whose initial application for disability retirement has been denied, may reapply for disability benefits. However, such member's reapplication will be considered only if the member presents new medical evidence of a medical condition that existed prior to the member's termination of employment. The division may prescribe by rule procedures for reapplication and for review and approval or disapproval of reapplication.
- (h) Recovery from disability. -- The administrator may require periodic reexaminations at the expense of the retirement



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fund. The division may adopt rules establishing procedures for conducting and review of such reexaminations.

- 1. If the administrator finds that a member who is receiving disability benefits is, at any time prior to his or her normal retirement date, no longer disabled, the administrator shall direct that the benefits be discontinued. The decision of the administrator on this question shall be final and binding. If such member:
- a. Does not reenter the employ of an employer and was not vested as of the disability retirement date, he or she shall be entitled to the excess, if any, of his or her accumulated contributions over the total disability benefits received up to the date of recovery.
- b. Does not reenter the employ of an employer, but was vested as of the disability retirement date, he or she may elect to receive:
- (I) The excess, if any, of his or her accumulated contributions over the total disability benefits received up to the date of recovery; or
- (II) A deferred benefit commencing on the last day of the month of the normal retirement date which shall be payable on the last day of the month thereafter during his or her lifetime. The amount of such monthly benefit shall be computed in the same manner as for a normal retirement benefit, in accordance with subsection (1), but shall be based on average monthly compensation and creditable service as of the member's disability retirement date.



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c. Reenters employment of an employer within 6 months after recovery, the member's service will be deemed to have been continuous, but the period beginning with the first month for which he or she received a disability benefit payment and ending with the date he or she reentered employment will not be considered as creditable service for the purpose of computing benefits except as provided in sub-subparagraph d. As used in this section, the term "accumulated contributions" for such member means the excess of the member's accumulated contributions as of the disability retirement date over the total disability benefits received under paragraph (e).

Terminates his or her disability benefit, reenters covered employment, and is continuously employed for a minimum of 1 year of creditable service, he or she may claim as creditable service the months during which he or she was receiving a disability benefit, upon payment of the required contributions. Contributions shall equal the total required employee and employer contribution rate applicable during the period the retiree received retirement benefits, multiplied times his or her rate of monthly compensation prior to the commencement of disability retirement for each month of the period claimed, plus 4 percent interest until July 1, 1975, and 6.5 percent interest thereafter, compounded annually each June 30 to the date of payment. If the member does not claim credit for all of the months he or she received disability benefits, the months claimed must be the most recent months of retirement. Such credit for periods of disability, when purchased under the Florida Retirement System, shall apply toward vesting



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requirements for eligibility to purchase additional credit for other service.

- 2. Both the member receiving disability benefits who reenters employment and the employer employing such disability retiree shall notify the division immediately upon reemployment, and the division shall terminate such member's disability benefits, effective the first day of the month following the month in which notification of recovery is received. If the member is reemployed with a Florida Retirement System employer at the time of benefit termination, and he or she has received disability retirement benefit and salary payments concurrently prior to notifying the division, he or she may elect within 30 days to:
- a. Retain the retirement benefits received prior to termination of disability benefits and begin receiving retirement service credit effective upon the date of termination of benefits; or
- b. Repay, within 12 months after his or her decision to receive service credit, the retirement benefits received for each month of reemployment prior to termination of disability benefits and begin receiving retirement service credit effective upon the date of reemployment. Any such unpaid benefits shall have compound interest of 6.5 percent added June 30.

A member may not receive both retirement service credit for employment and retirement benefits for the same month.

3. If, after recovery of disability and reentry into covered employment, the member again becomes disabled and is

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again approved for disability retirement, the Option 1 monthly retirement benefit shall not be less than the Option 1 monthly benefit calculated at the time of the previous disability, plus any cost of living increases up to the time the disability benefit was terminated upon his or her reentry into covered employment.

- (i) Nonadmissible causes of disability. -- A member shall not be entitled to receive any disability retirement benefit if the disability is a result of any of the following:
- 1. Injury or disease sustained by the member while willfully participating in a riot, civil insurrection, or other act of violence or while committing a felony;
- 2. Injury or disease sustained by the member after his or her employment has terminated; or
 - 3. Intentional, self-inflicted injury.
- (j) Disability retirement of justice or judge by order of Supreme Court.--
- 1. If a member is a justice of the Supreme Court, judge of a district court of appeal, circuit judge, or judge of a county court who has served for 6 years or more as an elected constitutional judicial officer, including service as a judicial officer in any court abolished pursuant to Art. V of the State Constitution, and who is retired for disability by order of the Supreme Court upon recommendation of the Judicial Qualifications Commission pursuant to the provisions of Art. V of the State Constitution, the member's Option 1 monthly benefit as provided in subparagraph (6)(a)1. shall not be less than two-thirds of his or her monthly compensation as of the member's disability



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retirement date. Such a member may alternatively elect to receive a disability retirement benefit under any other option as provided in paragraph (6)(a).

- 2. Should any justice or judge who is a member of the Florida Retirement System be retired for disability by order of the Supreme Court upon recommendation of the Judicial Qualifications Commission pursuant to the provisions of Art. V of the State Constitution, then all contributions to his or her account and all contributions made on his or her behalf by the employer shall be transferred to and deposited in the General Revenue Fund of the state, and there is hereby appropriated annually out of the General Revenue Fund, to be paid into the Florida Retirement System Fund, an amount necessary to pay the benefits of all justices and judges retired from the Florida Retirement System pursuant to Art. V of the State Constitution.
- (5) TERMINATION BENEFITS.--A member whose employment is terminated prior to retirement retains membership rights to previously earned member-noncontributory service credit, and to member-contributory service credit, if the member leaves the member contributions on deposit in his or her retirement account. If a terminated member receives a refund of member contributions, such member may reinstate membership rights to the previously earned service credit represented by the refund by completing 1 year of creditable service and repaying the refunded member contributions, plus interest.
- (a) A member whose employment is terminated for any reason other than death or retirement prior to becoming vested is



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entitled to the return of his or her accumulated contributions as of the date of termination.

- (b) A member whose employment is terminated for any reason other than death or retirement after becoming vested may elect to receive a deferred monthly benefit which shall begin to accrue on the first day of the month of normal or early retirement and shall be payable on the last day of that month and each month thereafter during his or her lifetime. The amount of monthly benefit shall be computed in the same manner as for a normal retirement benefit in accordance with subsection (1) or early retirement benefit in accordance with s. 121.021(30), but based on average monthly compensation and creditable service as of the date of termination.
- (c) In lieu of the deferred monthly benefit provided in paragraph (b), the terminated member may elect to receive a lump-sum amount equal to his or her accumulated contributions as of the date of termination.
- (d) If any retired member dies without having received in benefit payments an amount equal to his or her accumulated contributions, there shall be payable to his or her designated beneficiary an amount equal to the excess, if any, of the member's accumulated contributions over the total monthly payments made to the member prior to the date of death.
- (e) A member shall be deemed a terminated member when termination of employment has occurred as provided in s. 121.021(39).
- (f) Any member who has been found guilty by a verdict of a jury, or by the court trying the case without a jury, of

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committing, aiding, or abetting any embezzlement or theft from his or her employer, bribery in connection with the employment, or other felony specified in chapter 838, except ss. 838.15 and 838.16, committed prior to retirement, or who has entered a plea of guilty or of nolo contendere to such crime, or any member whose employment is terminated by reason of the member's admitted commitment, aiding, or abetting of an embezzlement or theft from his or her employer, bribery, or other felony specified in chapter 838, except ss. 838.15 and 838.16, shall forfeit all rights and benefits under this chapter, except the return of his or her accumulated contributions as of the date of termination.

- (g) Any elected official who is convicted by the Senate of an impeachable offense shall forfeit all rights and benefits under this chapter, except the return of his or her accumulated contributions as of the date of the conviction.
- (h) Any member who, prior to retirement, is adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to have violated any state law against strikes by public employees, or who has been found guilty by such court of violating any state law prohibiting strikes by public employees, shall forfeit all rights and benefits under this chapter, except the return of his or her accumulated contributions as of the date of the conviction.
- (i) Any beneficiary who by a verdict of a jury or by the court trying the case without a jury is found guilty, or who has entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, of unlawfully and intentionally killing or procuring the death of the member forfeits all rights to the deceased member's benefits under this



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chapter, and the benefits will be paid as if such beneficiary had predeceased the decedent.

- (j) Benefits shall not be paid by the division pending final resolution of such charges against a member or beneficiary if the resolution of such charges could require the forfeiture of benefits as provided in paragraph (f), paragraph (g), paragraph (h), or paragraph (i).
- (6) OPTIONAL FORMS OF RETIREMENT BENEFITS AND DISABILITY RETIREMENT BENEFITS.--
- (a) Prior to the receipt of the first monthly retirement payment, a member shall elect to receive the retirement benefits to which he or she is entitled under subsection (1), subsection (2), subsection (3), or subsection (4) in accordance with one of the following options:
- 1. The maximum retirement benefit payable to the member during his or her lifetime.
- 2. A decreased retirement benefit payable to the member during his or her lifetime and, in the event of his or her death within a period of 10 years after retirement, the same monthly amount payable for the balance of such 10-year period to his or her beneficiary or, in case the beneficiary is deceased, in accordance with subsection (8) as though no beneficiary had been named.
- 3. A decreased retirement benefit payable during the joint lifetime of both the member and his or her joint annuitant and which, after the death of either, shall continue during the lifetime of the survivor in the same amount, subject to the provisions of subsection (12).

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4. A decreased retirement benefit payable during the joint lifetime of the member and his or her joint annuitant and which, after the death of either, shall continue during the lifetime of the survivor in an amount equal to 662/3 percent of the amount that was payable during the joint lifetime of the member and his or her joint annuitant, subject to the provisions of subsection (12).

- The spouse of any member who elects to receive the benefit provided under subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2. shall be notified of and shall acknowledge any such election. The division shall establish by rule a method for selecting the appropriate actuarial factor for optional forms of benefits selected under subparagraphs 3. and 4., based on the age of the member and the joint annuitant.
- (b) The benefit payable under any option stated above shall be the actuarial equivalent, based on tables adopted by the administrator for this purpose, of the amount to which the member was otherwise entitled.
- (c) A member who elects the option in subparagraph (a)2. shall, in accordance with subsection (8), designate one or more persons to receive the benefits payable in the event of his or her death. Such persons shall be the beneficiaries of the member. The member may also designate one or more contingent beneficiaries to receive any benefits remaining upon the death of the primary beneficiary.
- (d) A member who elects the option in subparagraph (a)3. or subparagraph (a)4. shall, on a form provided for that

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purpose, designate a joint annuitant to receive the benefits which continue to be payable upon the death of the member. After benefits have commenced under the option in subparagraph (a)3. or subparagraph (a)4., the following shall apply:

- A retired member may change his or her designation of a joint annuitant only twice. If such a retired member desires to change his or her designation of a joint annuitant, he or she shall file with the division a notarized "change of joint annuitant" form and shall notify the former joint annuitant in writing of such change. Effective the first day of the next month following receipt by the division of a completed change of joint annuitant form, the division shall adjust the member's monthly benefit by the application of actuarial tables and calculations developed to ensure that the benefit paid is the actuarial equivalent of the present value of the member's current benefit. The consent of a retired member's first designated joint annuitant to any such change shall not be required. However, if either the member or the joint annuitant dies before the effective date of the request for change of joint annuitant, the requested change shall be void, and survivor benefits, if any, shall be paid as if no request had been made.
- 2. In the event of the dissolution of marriage of a retired member and a joint annuitant, such member may make an election to nullify the joint annuitant designation of the former spouse, unless there is an existing qualified domestic relations order preventing such action. The member shall file with the division a written, notarized nullification which shall



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be effective on the first day of the next month following receipt by the division. Benefits shall be paid as if the former spouse predeceased the member. A member who makes such an election may not reverse the nullification but may designate a new joint annuitant in accordance with subparagraph 1.

- (e) The election of an option shall be null and void if the member dies before the effective date of retirement.
- (f) A member who elects to receive benefits under the option in subparagraph (a)3. may designate one or more qualified persons, either a spouse or other dependent, as his or her joint annuitant to receive the benefits after the member's death in whatever proportion he or she so assigns to each person named as joint annuitant. The division shall adopt appropriate actuarial tables and calculations necessary to ensure that the benefit paid is the actuarial equivalent of the benefit to which the member is otherwise entitled under the option in subparagraph (a)1.
- (g) Upon the death of a retired member or beneficiary receiving monthly benefits under this chapter, the monthly benefits shall be paid through the last day of the month of death and shall terminate, or be adjusted, if applicable, as of that date in accordance with the optional form of benefit selected at the time of retirement.
- (h) The option selected or determined for payment of benefits as provided in this section shall be final and irrevocable at the time a benefit payment is cashed or deposited or credited to the Deferred Retirement Option Program as provided in subsection (13).

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- (7) DEATH BENEFITS. --
- (a) If the employment of a member is terminated by reason of his or her death prior to being vested, except as provided in paragraph (f), there shall be payable to his or her designated beneficiary the member's accumulated contributions.
- (b) If the employment of an active member who may or may not have applied for retirement is terminated by reason of his or her death subsequent to becoming vested and prior to his or her effective date of retirement, if established, it shall be assumed that the member retired as of the date of death in accordance with subsection (1) if eligible for normal retirement benefits, subsection (2) if eligible for benefits payable for dual normal retirement, or subsection (3) if eligible for early retirement benefits. Benefits payable to the designated beneficiary shall be as follows:
- 1. For a beneficiary who qualifies as a joint annuitant, the optional form of payment provided in accordance with subparagraph (6)(a)3. shall be paid for the joint annuitant's lifetime.
- 2. For a beneficiary who does not qualify as a joint annuitant, no continuing monthly benefit shall be paid and the beneficiary shall be entitled only to the return of the member's personal contributions. If there is no monetary interest in the member's retirement account for which such beneficiary is eligible, the beneficiary shall be the next named beneficiary or, if no other beneficiary is named, the beneficiary shall be the next eligible beneficiary according to subsection (8).



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(c) If a retiring member dies on or after the effective date of retirement, but prior to a benefit payment being cashed or deposited, or credited to the Deferred Retirement Option Program, benefits shall be paid as follows:

- 1. For a designated beneficiary who qualifies as a joint annuitant, benefits shall be paid in the optional form of payment provided in subparagraph (6)(a)3. for the joint annuitant's lifetime or, if the member chose the optional form of payment provided in subparagraph (6)(a)2., the joint annuitant may select the form provided in either subparagraph (6)(a)2. or subparagraph (6)(a)3.
- 2. For a designated beneficiary who does not qualify as a joint annuitant, any benefits payable shall be paid as provided in the option selected by the member; or if the member has not selected an option, benefits shall be paid in the optional form of payment provided in subparagraph (6)(a)1.
- (d) Notwithstanding any other provision in this chapter to the contrary, with the exception of the Deferred Retirement Option Program, as provided in subsection (13):
- 1. The surviving spouse of any member killed in the line of duty may receive a monthly pension equal to one-half of the monthly salary being received by the member at the time of death for the rest of the surviving spouse's lifetime or, if the member was vested, such surviving spouse may elect to receive a benefit as provided in paragraph (b). Benefits provided by this paragraph shall supersede any other distribution that may have been provided by the member's designation of beneficiary.



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2. If the surviving spouse of a member killed in the line of duty dies, the monthly payments which would have been payable to such surviving spouse had such surviving spouse lived shall be paid for the use and benefit of such member's child or children under 18 years of age and unmarried until the 18th birthday of the member's youngest child.

- 3. If a member killed in the line of duty leaves no surviving spouse but is survived by a child or children under 18 years of age, the benefits provided by subparagraph 1., normally payable to a surviving spouse, shall be paid for the use and benefit of such member's child or children under 18 years of age and unmarried until the 18th birthday of the member's youngest child.
- 4. The surviving spouse of a member whose benefit terminated because of remarriage shall have the benefit reinstated beginning July 1, 1993, at an amount that would have been payable had the benefit not been terminated.
- (e) The surviving spouse or other dependent of any member, except a member who participated in the Deferred Retirement Option Program, whose employment is terminated by death shall, upon application to the administrator, be permitted to pay the required contributions for any service performed by the member which could have been claimed by the member at the time of his or her death. Such service shall be added to the creditable service of the member and shall be used in the calculation of any benefits which may be payable to the surviving spouse or other surviving dependent.



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(f) Notwithstanding any other provisions in this chapter to the contrary and upon application to the administrator, an eligible joint annuitant, of a member whose employment is terminated by death within 1 year of such member satisfying the service requirements for vesting and retirement eligibility, shall be permitted to purchase only the additional service credit necessary to vest and qualify for retirement benefits, not to exceed a total of 1 year of credit, by one or a combination of the following methods:

Such eligible joint annuitant may use the deceased member's accumulated hours of annual, sick, and compensatory leave to purchase additional creditable service, on an hour by hour basis, provided that such deceased member's accumulated leave is sufficient to cover the additional months required. For each month of service credit needed prior to the final month, credit for the total number of work hours in that month must be purchased, using an equal number of the deceased member's accumulated leave hours. Service credit required for the final month in which the deceased member would have become vested shall be awarded upon the purchase of 1 hour of credit. Such eligible joint annuitant shall pay the contribution rate in effect for the period of time being claimed for the deceased member's class of membership, multiplied by such member's monthly salary at the time of death, plus 6.5 percent interest compounded annually. The accumulated leave payment used in the average final compensation shall not include that portion of the payment that represents any leave hours used in the purchase of such creditable service.



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2. Such eligible joint annuitant may purchase additional months of creditable service for any periods of out-of-state service as provided in s. 121.1115, and in-state service as provided in s. 121.1122, that the deceased member would have been eligible to purchase prior to his or her death.

- Service purchased under this paragraph shall be added to the creditable service of the member and used to vest for retirement eligibility, and shall be used in the calculation of any benefits which may be payable to the eligible joint annuitant. Any benefits paid in accordance with this paragraph shall only be made prospectively.
- (g) Notwithstanding any other provisions in this chapter to the contrary, if any member who is vested dies and the surviving spouse receives a refund of the accumulated contributions made to the retirement trust fund, such spouse may pay to the Division of Retirement an amount equal to the sum of the amount of the deceased member's accumulated contributions previously refunded plus interest at 4 percent compounded annually each June 30 from the date of refund until July 1, 1975, and 6.5 percent interest compounded annually thereafter, until full payment is made, and receive the monthly retirement benefit as provided in paragraph (b).
- (h) The designated beneficiary who is the surviving spouse or other dependent of a member whose employment is terminated by death subsequent to becoming vested, but prior to actual retirement, may elect to receive a deferred monthly benefit as if the member had lived and had elected a deferred monthly



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benefit, as provided in paragraph (5)(b), calculated on the basis of the average final compensation and creditable service of the member at his or her death and the age the member would have attained on the commencement date of the deferred benefit elected by the beneficiary, paid in accordance with option 3 of paragraph (6)(a).

- (8) DESIGNATION OF BENEFICIARIES. --
- Each member may, on a form provided for that purpose, signed and filed with the division, designate a choice of one or more persons, named sequentially or jointly, as his or her beneficiary who shall receive the benefits, if any, which may be payable in the event of the member's death pursuant to the provisions of this chapter. If no beneficiary is named in the manner provided above, or if no beneficiary designated by the member survives the member, the beneficiary shall be the spouse of the deceased, if living. If the member's spouse is not alive at his or her death, the beneficiary shall be the living children of the member. If no children survive, the beneficiary shall be the member's father or mother, if living; otherwise, the beneficiary shall be the member's estate. The beneficiary most recently designated by a member on a form or letter filed with the division shall be the beneficiary entitled to any benefits payable at the time of the member's death, except that benefits shall be paid as provided in paragraph (7)(d) when death occurs in the line of duty. Notwithstanding any other provisions in this subsection to the contrary, for a member who dies prior to his or her effective date of retirement on or after January 1, 1999, the spouse at the time of death shall be



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the member's beneficiary unless such member designates a different beneficiary as provided herein subsequent to the member's most recent marriage.

- (b) A designated beneficiary of a retirement account for whom there is a monetary interest may disclaim his or her monetary interest as provided in s. 689.21, and in accordance with division rules governing such disclaimers. Such disclaimer must be filed within 24 months after the event that created the interest, that is, the death of the member or annuitant.
- (c) Notwithstanding the member's designation of benefits to be paid through a trust to a beneficiary that is a natural person as provided in s. 121.021(46), and notwithstanding the provisions of the trust, benefits shall be paid directly to the beneficiary if such person is no longer a minor or incapacitated as defined in s. 744.102(10) and (11).
 - (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 who is retired under this chapter, except under the disability retirement provisions of subsection (4), may be reemployed by any private or public employer after retirement and receive retirement benefits and compensation from his or her employer without any limitations, except that a

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person may not receive both a salary from reemployment with any agency participating in the Florida Retirement System and retirement benefits under this chapter for a period of 12 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).

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 12-month limitation period shall give timely notice of this fact in writing to the employer and to the division and shall have his or her retirement benefits suspended for the balance of the 12-month limitation period. Any person employed in violation of this paragraph 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 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 while reemployed during this reemployment limitation period shall be repaid to the retirement trust fund, and retirement benefits shall remain suspended until such repayment has been made. Benefits suspended beyond the reemployment



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limitation shall apply toward repayment of benefits received in violation of the reemployment limitation.

A district school board may reemploy a 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). Any 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 7. Reemployment of a retired member as a substitute or hourly teacher, education paraprofessional, transportation assistant, bus driver, or food service worker 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 his or her 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 fund of any benefits paid during the reemployment limitation period. To avoid liability,



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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 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 in violation of the 780-hour reemployment limitation.

A community college board of trustees may reemploy a 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). 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 subject to the retirement contribution required in subparagraph 7. A retired member may be reemployed as an adjunct instructor for no more than 780 hours during the first 12 months of 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



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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 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 in violation of the 780-hour reemployment limitation.

5. The State University System may reemploy a retired member as an adjunct faculty member or as a participant in a phased retirement program within the State University System 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 State University System is subject to the retired contribution required in subparagraph 7., as appropriate. A 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. Any retired member reemployed for more than 780 hours during the first 12 months of



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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 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 in violation of the 780hour reemployment limitation.

6. The Board of Trustees of the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind may reemploy a 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



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Deaf and the Blind reemploying such teachers, residential instructors, or nurses is subject to the retirement contribution required by subparagraph 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 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.



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- 7. The employment by an employer of any retiree or DROP participant of any state-administered retirement system shall have no effect on the average final compensation or years of creditable service of the retiree or DROP participant. Prior to July 1, 1991, upon employment of any person, other than an elected officer as provided in s. 121.053, who has been retired under 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 with renewed membership or subsection (13) 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 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



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retirement from such office, have his or her retirement benefit recalculated to include the additional service and compensation earned.

- 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, provided that he or she shall be required to terminate his or her nonelected covered employment. 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. No person who seeks to exercise the provisions of this subparagraph, as the same existed prior to May 3, 1984, 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 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

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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 in violation of the 780-hour reemployment limitation.

(10) FUTURE BENEFITS BASED ON ACTUARIAL DATA. -- It is the intent of the Legislature that future benefit increases enacted into law in this chapter shall be financed concurrently by increased contributions or other adequate funding, and such



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funding shall be based on sound actuarial data as developed by the actuary or state retirement actuary, as provided in ss. 121.021(6) and 121.192.

- (11) A member who becomes eligible to retire and has accumulated the maximum benefit of 100 percent of average final compensation may continue in active service, and, if upon the member's retirement the member elects to receive a retirement compensation pursuant to subsection (2), subsection (6), or subsection (7), the actuarial equivalent percentage factor applicable to the age of such member at the time the member reached the maximum benefit and to the age, at that time, of the member's spouse shall determine the amount of benefits to be paid.
- (12)SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR PAYMENT OF CERTAIN SURVIVOR BENEFITS. -- Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the contrary, for members with an effective date of retirement, or date of death if prior to retirement, on or after January 1, 1996, the named joint annuitant, as defined in s. 121.021(28)(b), who is eligible to receive benefits under subparagraph (6)(a)3. or subparagraph (6)(a)4., shall receive the maximum monthly retirement benefit that would have been payable to the member under subparagraph (6)(a)1.; however, payment of such benefit shall cease the month the joint annuitant attains age 25 unless such joint annuitant is disabled and incapable of self-support, in which case, benefits shall cease when the joint annuitant is no longer disabled. The administrator may require proof of disability or continued disability in the same manner as is provided for a member

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seeking or receiving a disability retirement benefit under subsection (4).

- 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 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 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.
- (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 provided that:
- 1. The member is not a renewed member of the Florida
 Retirement System under s. 121.122, or a member of the State
 Community College System Optional Retirement Program under s.
 121.051, the Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program

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under s. 121.055, or the optional retirement program for the State University System under s. 121.35.

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. 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 such 12-month limitation period 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 shall begin. Such beginning date may be subsequent to the 12-month election period, but must be within the 60-month limitation period as provided in subparagraph (b)1. When establishing eligibility of the member to participate in the DROP for the 60-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 with dual normal retirement dates shall be eligible to elect to participate in DROP within 12 months after attaining normal retirement date in either class.



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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 shall be permissible provided such employers acknowledge in writing a DROP termination date no later than the participant's existing termination date or the 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 for such participant pursuant to s. 121.021(39)(b).
- b. Such participant and new employer shall notify the division 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 original 60-month period provided in subparagraph (b)1., shall acknowledge liability for any additional retirement contributions and interest required if the participant fails to

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timely terminate employment, and 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 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 the Deferred Retirement Option Program shall begin. When establishing eligibility of the member to participate in the DROP for the 60-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 with dual normal retirement dates 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 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 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



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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, which satisfy the limitations stated in paragraph (a) and subparagraph 1. Such termination date shall be in a binding letter of resignation with the employer, 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 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 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. However, participation in the DROP does not alter the participant's employment status and 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 shall be eligible to participate in the DROP subject to the following:

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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. 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 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 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 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 shall be required to satisfy the definition of termination within the 60-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 will be enrolled as a renewed member in the Elected Officers' Class or the Regular Class, as provided in ss. 121.053 and 121.22, 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 with the date of DROP participation, the member's initial normal monthly benefit, including creditable

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service, optional form of payment, and average final compensation, and the effective date of retirement shall be fixed. The beneficiary established under the Florida Retirement System shall be the beneficiary eligible to receive any DROP benefits payable if the DROP participant dies prior to the completion of the period of DROP participation. In the event a joint annuitant predeceases the member, the member may name a beneficiary to receive accumulated DROP benefits payable. Such retirement benefit, the annual cost of living adjustments provided in s. 121.101, and interest shall accrue monthly in the System Trust Fund. Such interest 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.

2. Each employee who elects to participate in the DROP 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. 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 such lump-sum payment 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. Such early lump-sum payment shall be based on the hourly wage of the employee at the time he or she begins participation



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in the DROP. If the member elects to wait and receive such lumpsum payment upon termination of DROP and termination of employment with the employer, any accumulated leave payment made at that time 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 interest thereon shall continue to accrue in the DROP until the established termination date of the DROP, or until the participant terminates employment or dies prior to such date. 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 such participant has terminated employment as provided in s. 121.021(39)(b).
- b. The terminated DROP participant or, if deceased, such participant's named beneficiary, shall elect on forms provided by the division to receive payment of the DROP benefits in



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accordance with one of the options listed below. For a participant or beneficiary who fails to elect a method of payment within 60 days of termination of the DROP, the division will pay a lump sum as provided in sub-sub-subparagraph (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.
- 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 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 shall be specified by the DROP participant or surviving beneficiary.



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c. The form of payment selected by the DROP participant or surviving beneficiary complies with the minimum distribution requirements of the Internal Revenue Code.

- d. A DROP participant who fails to terminate employment as defined in s. 121.021(39)(b) shall be deemed not to be retired, and the DROP election 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 shall be required to pay to the 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 accrued benefits of any DROP participant, and any contributions accumulated under such program, 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.
- 7. DROP participants 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 shall be entitled to apply for and receive the accrued benefits in the DROP as provided in sub-subparagraph (c)5.b.



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2. The normal retirement benefit accrued to the DROP during the month of a participant's death 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 prior to the first monthly benefit being credited to the DROP, Florida Retirement System benefits shall be paid in accordance with subparagraph (7)(c)1. or subparagraph 2.
- 4. A DROP participants' survivors shall not be eligible to receive Florida Retirement System death benefits as provided in paragraph (7)(d).
- (e) Cost-of-living adjustment.--On each July 1, the 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.
- (g) Renewed membership.--DROP participants shall not be eligible for renewed membership in the Florida Retirement System under ss. 121.053 and 121.122 until 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 employment as provided in s. 121.021(39)(b), DROP participants shall be subject to such reemployment limitations as other retirees.

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Reemployment restrictions applicable to retirees as provided in subsection (9) 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 11.56 percent of such compensation thereafter, which shall constitute the entire employer DROP contribution with respect to such participant. Such contributions, payable to the System Trust Fund in the same manner as required in s. 121.071, 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, 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.



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Such contributions shall be deposited by the administrator in the Retiree Health Insurance Subsidy Trust Fund.

- (j) Forfeiture of retirement benefits.--Nothing in this section 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 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 make such rules as are necessary for the effective and efficient administration of this subsection. The division shall not be 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



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2440 have the following payments deducted from his or her monthly 2441 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, child support, or division of marital assets pursuant to a qualified domestic relations order under s. 222.21 or an income deduction order 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 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

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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) No benefit may be reduced for the purpose of preserving the member's eligibility for a federal program.
- (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 when it is unable to contact such payee and to confirm that he or she is still living.
- Section 25. Subsection (1) of section 121.095, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 121.095 Florida Retirement System Preservation of Benefits Plan Trust Fund.--
- (1) The Florida Retirement System Preservation of Benefits Plan Trust Fund is created in the State Treasury to be administered by the State Board of Administration within the Division of Retirement.
- (a) Funds to be credited to the trust fund shall consist of Florida Retirement System monthly retirement contributions required to meet the requirements for payment of restored benefits under the Florida Retirement System Preservation of Benefits Plan, as specified in s. 121.1001.
- (b) The trust fund shall be maintained and utilized solely for the purpose of providing benefits under the Preservation of Benefits Plan, as specified in s. 121.1001.
- (c) The trust fund shall be separate and apart from the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund. The trust fund moneys and

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assets shall not be commingled with nor ever receive a transfer of moneys and assets from the remainder of the Florida Retirement System, including, but not limited to, the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund, or any other qualified retirement plan administered by the Division of Retirement.

- (d) The trust fund shall be funded on a month-to-month basis. Trust fund assets shall not be accumulated to pay future benefits.
- Section 26. Paragraph (b) of subsection (7) of section 121.101, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 121.101 Cost-of-living adjustment of benefits.--
- (7) The purpose of this subsection is to establish a supplemental cost-of-living adjustment for certain retirees and beneficiaries who receive monthly retirement benefits under the provisions of this chapter and the existing systems consolidated therein, s. 112.05 for certain state officers and employees, and s. 238.171 for certain elderly incapacitated teachers.
- (b) Application for the supplemental cost-of-living adjustment provided by this subsection shall include certification by the retiree or annuitant that he or she is not receiving, and is not eligible to receive, social security benefits and shall include written authorization for the division department to have access to information from the Social Security Administration concerning his or her entitlement to, or eligibility for, social security benefits. Such supplemental cost-of-living adjustment shall not be paid unless and until the application requirements of this paragraph are met.



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Section 27. Paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section 121.111, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

121.111 Credit for military service. --

- (2) Any member whose initial date of employment is before January 1, 1987, who has military service as defined in s. 121.021(20)(b), and who does not claim such service under subsection (1) may receive creditable service for such military service if:
- (e) Any member claiming credit under this subsection must certify on the form prescribed by the <u>division</u> department that credit for such service has not and will not be claimed for retirement purposes under any other federal, state, or local retirement or pension system where "length of service" is a factor in determining the amount of compensation received, except where credit for such service has been granted in a pension system providing retired pay for nonregular service as provided in paragraph(d). If the member dies prior to retirement, the member's beneficiary must make the required certification before credit may be claimed. If such certification is not made by the member or the member's beneficiary, credit for wartime military service shall not be allowed.
- Section 28. Section 121.133, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 121.133 Cancellation of uncashed
 warrants.--Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 17.26 or s.
 717.123 to the contrary, effective July 1, 1998, if any state
 warrant issued by the Comptroller for the payment of retirement

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benefits from the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund, or any other pension trust fund administered by the division
department, is not presented for payment within 1 year after the last day of the month in which it was originally issued, the Comptroller shall cancel the benefit warrant and credit the amount of the warrant to the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund or other pension trust fund administered by the division department, as appropriate. The division department may provide for issuance of a replacement warrant when deemed appropriate.

Section 29. Section 121.135, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

121.135 Annual report to Legislature concerning the Florida Retirement System state-administered retirement systems. -- The board department shall make to each regular session of the Legislature a written report on the operation and condition of the Florida Retirement System the state-administered retirement systems.

Section 30. Section 121.136, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

January 1, 1993, and each January thereafter, the <u>board</u> department shall provide each active member of the Florida Retirement System with 5 or more years of creditable service an annual statement of benefits. Such statement should provide the member with basic data about the member's retirement account. Minimally, it shall include the member's retirement plan, the amount of funds on deposit in the retirement account, and an estimate of retirement benefits.

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Section 31. Section 121.1905, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 121.1905 Division of Retirement; mission 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 costs of comparable retirement systems.
- Section 32. Section 121.192, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 121.192 State retirement actuary.--The <u>division</u> department may employ an actuary. Such actuary shall, together with such other duties as the <u>administrator assigns</u> secretary may assign, be responsible for:
- (1) Advising the <u>administrator</u> secretary on actuarial matters of the state retirement systems.
 - (2) Making periodic valuations of the retirement systems.
- (3) Providing actuarial analyses to the Legislature concerning proposed changes in the retirement systems.
- (4) Assisting the <u>administrator</u> secretary in developing a sound and modern retirement system.
- Section 33. Section 121.193, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 121.193 External compliance audits.--
- (1) The <u>division</u> <u>department</u> shall conduct audits of the payroll and personnel records of participating agencies. These audits shall be made to determine the accuracy of reports

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submitted to the <u>division</u> <u>department</u> and to assess the degree of compliance with applicable statutes, rules, and coverage agreements. Audits shall be scheduled on a regular basis, as the result of concerns known to exist at an agency, or as a followup to ensure agency action was taken to correct deficiencies found in an earlier audit.

- (2) Upon request, participating agencies shall furnish the division department with information and documents that the division department requires to conduct the audit. The division department may prescribe by rule the documents that may be requested.
- (3) The <u>division</u> <u>department</u> shall review the agency's operations concerning retirement and social security coverage. Preliminary findings shall be discussed with agency personnel at the close of the audit. An audit report of findings and recommendations shall be submitted to <u>division</u> <u>department</u> management and an audit summary letter shall be submitted to the agency noting any concerns and necessary corrective action.

Section 34. Subsection (1) of section 121.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 121.22 State Retirement Commission; creation; membership; compensation.--
- Operation of Management Services a State Retirement Commission composed of three members: One member who is retired under a state-supported retirement system administered by the division department; one member who is an active member of a state-supported retirement system that is administered by the division

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department; and one member who is neither a retiree, beneficiary, or member of a state-supported retirement system administered by the <u>division</u> department. Each member shall have a different occupational background from the other members.

Section 35. Subsection (1) 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.
- (1) In accordance with the rules of procedure adopted by the <u>division</u> Department of Management Services, the administrator shall:
- (a) Give reasonable notice of his or her proposed action, or decision to refuse action, together with a summary of the factual, legal, and policy grounds therefor.
- (b) Give affected members, or their counsel, an opportunity to present to the division written evidence in opposition to the proposed action or refusal to act or a written statement challenging the grounds upon which the administrator has chosen to justify his or her action or inaction.

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(c) If the objections of the member are overruled, provide a written explanation within 21 days.

Section 36. Subsections (2), (3), and (4) of section 121.24, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

- 121.24 Conduct of commission business; legal and other assistance; compensation.--
- (2) Legal counsel for the commission may be provided by the Department of Legal Affairs or by the <u>division</u> Department of Management Services, with the concurrence of the commission, and shall be paid by the <u>division</u> Department of Management Services from the appropriate funds.
- (3) The <u>division</u> Department of Management Services shall provide timely and appropriate training for newly appointed members of the commission. Such training shall be designed to acquaint new members of the commission with the duties and responsibilities of the commission.
- (4) The <u>division</u> Department of Management Services shall furnish administrative and secretarial assistance to the commission and shall provide a place where the commission may hold its meetings.
- Section 37. Subsection (9) of section 121.30, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 121.30 Statements of purpose and intent and other provisions required for qualification under the Internal Revenue Code of the United States.—Any other provisions in this chapter to the contrary notwithstanding, it is specifically provided that:



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(9) The <u>division</u> <u>department</u> may adopt any rule necessary to accomplish the purpose of the section which is not inconsistent with this chapter.

Section 38. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2), paragraphs (c) and (e) of subsection (3), paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of subsection (4), and subsection (6) of section 121.35, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

- 121.35 Optional retirement program for the State University System.--
 - (2) ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION IN OPTIONAL PROGRAM. --
- (c) For purposes of this section, the <u>State Board of</u>

 <u>Administration</u> <u>Department of Management Services</u> is referred to as the "board department."
 - (3) ELECTION OF OPTIONAL PROGRAM.--
- (c) Any employee who becomes eligible to participate in the optional retirement program on or after January 1, 1993, shall be a compulsory participant of the program unless such employee elects membership in the Florida Retirement System. Such election shall be made in writing and filed with the personnel officer of the employer. Any eligible employee who fails to make such election within the prescribed time period shall be deemed to have elected to participate in the optional retirement program.
- 1. Any employee whose optional retirement program eligibility results from initial employment shall be enrolled in the program at the commencement of employment. If, within 90 days after commencement of employment, the employee elects membership in the Florida Retirement System, such membership



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shall be effective retroactive to the date of commencement of employment.

- 2. Any employee whose optional retirement program eligibility results from a change in status due to the subsequent designation of the employee's position as one of those specified in paragraph (2)(a) or due to the employee's appointment, promotion, transfer, or reclassification to a position specified in paragraph (2)(a) shall be enrolled in the optional retirement program upon such change in status and shall be notified by the employer of such action. If, within 90 days after the date of such notification, the employee elects to retain membership in the Florida Retirement System, such continuation of membership shall be retroactive to the date of the change in status.
- 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of this paragraph, effective July 1, 1997, any employee who is eligible to participate in the Optional Retirement Program and who fails to execute a contract with one of the approved companies and to notify the board department in writing as provided in subsection (4) within 90 days after the date of eligibility shall be deemed to have elected membership in the Florida Retirement System, except as provided in s. 121.051(1)(a). This provision shall also apply to any employee who terminates employment in an eligible position before executing the required annuity contract and notifying the board department. Such membership shall be retroactive to the date of eligibility, and all appropriate contributions shall be transferred to the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund and the Health Insurance Subsidy Trust Fund.



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(e) The election by an eligible employee to participate in the optional retirement program shall be irrevocable for so long as the employee continues to meet the eligibility requirements specified in subsection (2), except as provided in paragraph (h). In the event that an employee participates in the optional retirement program for 90 days or more and is subsequently employed in an administrative or professional position which has been determined by the <u>board department</u>, under subparagraph (2)(a)2., to be not otherwise eligible for participation in the optional retirement program, the employee shall continue participation in the optional program so long as the employee meets the other eligibility requirements for the program, except as provided in paragraph (h).

(4) CONTRIBUTIONS.--

(a) Through June 30, 2001, each employer shall contribute on behalf of each participant in the optional retirement program an amount equal to the normal cost portion of the employer retirement contribution which would be required if the participant were a regular member of the Florida Retirement System defined benefit program, plus the portion of the contribution rate required in s. 112.363(8) 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 board, pursuant to s. 215.44(4), department shall deduct an amount approved by the Legislature to provide for the administration of this program. The payment of the contributions



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to the optional program which is required by this paragraph for each participant shall be made by the employer to the <u>board</u> department, which shall forward the contributions to the designated company or companies contracting for payment of benefits for the participant under the program. However, such contributions paid on behalf of an employee described in paragraph (3)(c) shall not be forwarded to a company and shall not begin to accrue interest until the employee has executed an annuity contract and notified the board department.

- (b) Each employer shall contribute on behalf of each participant in the optional retirement program an amount equal to the unfunded actuarial accrued liability portion of the employer contribution which would be required for members of the Florida Retirement System. This contribution shall be paid to the board department for transfer to the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund.
- (c) An Optional Retirement Program Trust Fund shall be established in the State Treasury and administered by the <u>board</u> department to make payments to the provider companies on behalf of the optional retirement program participants, and to transfer the unfunded liability portion of the state optional retirement program contributions to the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund.
 - (6) ADMINISTRATION OF PROGRAM. --
- (a) The optional retirement program authorized by this section shall be administered by the <u>board</u> <u>department</u>. The <u>board</u> <u>department</u> shall adopt rules establishing the responsibilities of the State Board of Education and institutions in the State

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University System in administering the optional retirement program. The State Board of Education shall, no more than 90 days after July 1, 1983, submit to the <u>board department</u> its recommendations for the contracts to be offered by the companies chosen by the <u>board department</u>. The recommendations of the <u>State</u> Board of Education shall include the following:

- 1. The nature and extent of the rights and benefits in relation to the required contributions; and
- 2. The suitability of the rights and benefits to the needs of the participants and the interests of the institutions in the recruitment and retention of eligible employees.
- (b) After receiving and considering the recommendations of the State Board of Education, the <u>board department</u> shall designate no more than four companies from which contracts may be purchased under the program and shall approve the form and content of the optional retirement program contracts. Upon application by a qualified Florida domestic company, the <u>board department</u> shall give reasonable notice to all other such companies that it intends to designate one of such companies as a fifth company from which contracts may be purchased pursuant to this section and that they may apply for such designation prior to the deadline established by said notice. At least 60 days after giving such notice and upon receipt of the recommendation of the State Board of Education, the <u>board department</u> shall so designate one of such companies as the fifth company from which such contracts may be purchased.
- (c) Effective July 1, 1997, the State Board of
 Administration shall review and make recommendations to the

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department on the acceptability of all investment products proposed by provider companies of the optional retirement program before they are offered through annuity contracts to the participants and may advise the department of any changes necessary to ensure that the optional retirement program offers an acceptable mix of investment products. The board department shall determine which make the final determination as to whether an investment products product will be included in approved for the program.

- (d) The provisions of each contract applicable to a participant in the optional retirement program shall be contained in a written program description which shall include a report of pertinent financial and actuarial information on the solvency and actuarial soundness of the program and the benefits applicable to the participant. Such description shall be furnished by the companies to each participant in the program and to the <u>board</u> department upon commencement of participation in the program and annually thereafter.
- (e) The <u>board</u> department shall ensure that each participant in the optional retirement program is provided an accounting of the total contribution and the annual contribution made by and on behalf of such participant.
- Section 39. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3), paragraph (a) of subsection (12), and paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (14) of section 121.40, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
- 121.40 Cooperative extension personnel at the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences; supplemental retirement benefits.--

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(3) DEFINITIONS.--The definitions provided in s. 121.021 shall not apply to this section except when specifically cited. For the purposes of this section, the following words or phrases have the respective meanings set forth:

- (b) "Division Department" means the Division of Retirement of the State Board of Administration Department of Management Services.
 - (12) CONTRIBUTIONS. --
- (a) For the purposes of funding the supplemental benefits provided by this section, the institute is authorized and required to pay, commencing July 1, 1985, the necessary monthly contributions from its appropriated budget. These amounts shall be paid into the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Supplemental Retirement Trust Fund, which is hereby created in the State Treasury to be administered by the State Board of Administration.
 - (14) ADMINISTRATION OF SYSTEM.--
- (a) The <u>division</u> department shall make such rules as are necessary for the effective and efficient administration of this system. The <u>executive director of the State Board of Administration</u> secretary of the department shall be the administrator of the system. The funds to pay the expenses for such administration <u>are shall be</u> appropriated from the interest earned on investments made for the trust fund.
- (b) The <u>division</u> <u>department</u> is authorized to require oaths, by affidavit or otherwise, and acknowledgments from persons in connection with the administration of its duties and responsibilities under this section.

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Section 40. Subsection (3) of section 121.45, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 121.45 Interstate compacts relating to pension portability.--
 - (3) ESTABLISHMENT OF COMPACTS.--
- (a) The <u>division</u> Department of Management Services is authorized and directed to survey other state retirement systems to determine if such retirement systems are interested in developing an interstate compact with Florida.
- (b) If any such state is interested in pursuing the matter, the <u>division</u> department shall confer with the other state and the consulting actuaries of both states, and shall present its findings to the committees having jurisdiction over retirement matters in the Legislature, and to representatives of affected certified bargaining units, in order to determine the feasibility of developing a portability compact, what groups should be covered, and the goals and priorities which should guide such development.
- (c) Upon a determination that such a compact is feasible and upon request of the Legislature, the <u>division</u> department, together with its consulting actuaries, shall, in accordance with <u>such</u> said goals and priorities, develop a proposal under which retirement credit may be transferred to or from Florida in an actuarially sound manner.
- (d) Once a proposal has been developed, the <u>division</u> department shall contract with its consulting actuaries to conduct an actuarial study of the proposal to determine the cost

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to the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund and the State of Florida.

(e) After the actuarial study has been completed, the <u>division</u> department shall present its findings and the actuarial study to the Legislature for consideration. If either house of the Legislature elects to enter into such a compact, it shall be introduced in the form of a proposed committee bill to the full Legislature during the same or next regular session.

Section 41. Subsection (2), paragraph (a) of subsection (5), paragraphs (a), (b), (c), and(e) of subsection (8), paragraph (c) of subsection (9), paragraphs (a), (c), and (f) of subsection (10), subsection (11), and paragraph (b) of subsection (12) and subsection (19) of section 121.4501, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

121.4501 Public Employee Optional Retirement Program.--

- (2) DEFINITIONS. -- As used in this part, the term:
- (a) "Approved provider" or "provider" means a private sector company that is selected and approved by the state board to offer one or more investment products or services to the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program. The term includes a bundled provider that offers participants a range of individually allocated or unallocated investment products and may offer a range of administrative and customer services, which may include accounting and administration of individual participant benefits and contributions; individual participant recordkeeping; asset purchase, control, and safekeeping; direct execution of the participant's instructions as to asset and contribution allocation; calculation of daily net asset values;

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direct access to participant account information; periodic reporting to participants, at least quarterly, on account balances and transactions; guidance, advice, and allocation services directly relating to its own investment options or products, but only if the bundled provider complies with the standard of care of s. 404(a)(1)(A-B) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and if providing such guidance, advice, or allocation services does not constitute a prohibited transaction under s. 4975(c)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code or s. 406 of ERISA, notwithstanding that such prohibited transaction provisions do not apply to the optional retirement program; a broad array of distribution options; asset allocation; and retirement counseling and education. Private sector companies include investment management companies, insurance companies, depositories, and mutual fund companies.

- (b) "Average monthly compensation" means one-twelfth of average final compensation as defined in s. 121.021(24).
- (c) "Covered employment" means employment in a regularly established position as defined in s. 121.021(52).
- (d) "Department" means the Department of Management Services.
- $\underline{(d)(e)}$ "Division" means the Division of Retirement of the State Board of Administration within the Department of Management Services.
- $\underline{\text{(e)}(f)}$ "Eligible employee" means an officer or employee, as defined in s. 121.021(11), who:



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2968 1. Is a member of, or is eligible for membership in, the 2969 Florida Retirement System, including any renewed member of the 2970 Florida Retirement System;

- 2. Participates in, or is eligible to participate in, the Senior Management Service Optional Annuity Program as established under s. 121.055(6); or
- 3. Is eligible to participate in, but does not participate in, the State University System Optional Retirement Program established under s. 121.35 or the State Community College System Optional Retirement Program established under s. 121.051(2)(c).

The term does not include any member participating in the
Deferred Retirement Option Program established under s.
121.091(13) or any employee participating in an optional
retirement program established under s. 121.051(2)(c) or s.
121.35.

 $\underline{(f)}(g)$ "Employer" means an employer, as defined in s. 121.021(10), of an eligible employee.

 $\underline{(g)}$ "Participant" means an eligible employee who elects to participate in the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program and enrolls in such optional program as provided in subsection (4).

(h)(i) "Public Employee Optional Retirement Program,"

"optional program," or "optional retirement program" means the alternative defined contribution retirement program established under this section.



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 $\underline{\text{(i)}}$ "State board" or "board" means the State Board of Administration.

- $\underline{\text{(j)}(k)}$ "Trustees" means Trustees of the State Board of Administration.
- $\underline{(k)(1)}$ "Vested" or "vesting" means the guarantee that a participant is eligible to receive a retirement benefit upon completion of the required years of service under the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program.
 - (5) CONTRIBUTIONS.--
- (a) Each employer shall contribute on behalf of each participant in the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program, as provided in part III of this chapter. The state board, acting as plan fiduciary, shall ensure that all plan assets are held in a trust, pursuant to s. 401 of the Internal Revenue Code. The fiduciary shall ensure that said contributions are allocated as follows:
- 1. The portion earmarked for participant accounts shall be used to purchase interests in the appropriate investment vehicles for the accounts of each participant as specified by the participant, or in accordance with paragraph (4)(d).
- 2. The portion earmarked for administrative and educational expenses shall be transferred to the board.
- 3. The portion earmarked for disability benefits shall be transferred to the division $\frac{department}{department}$.
 - (8) ADMINISTRATION OF PROGRAM. --
- (a) The Public Employee Optional Retirement Program shall be administered by the state board and affected employers. The board is authorized to require oaths, by affidavit or otherwise,

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and acknowledgments from persons in connection with the administration of its duties and responsibilities under this chapter. No oath, by affidavit or otherwise, shall be required of an employee participant at the time of election.

Acknowledgment of an employee's election to participate in the program shall be no greater than necessary to confirm the employee's election. The board shall adopt rules establishing the role and responsibilities of affected state, local government, and education-related employers, the state board, the department, and third-party contractors in administering the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program. The division department shall adopt rules necessary to implement the optional program in coordination with the defined benefit retirement program and the disability benefits available under the optional program.

(b)1. The state board shall select and contract with one third-party administrator to provide administrative services if those services cannot be competitively and contractually provided by the division of Retirement within the Department of Management Services. With the approval of the state board, the third-party administrator may subcontract with other organizations or individuals to provide components of the administrative services. As a cost of administration, the board may compensate any such contractor for its services, in accordance with the terms of the contract, as is deemed necessary or proper by the board. The third-party administrator may not be an approved provider or be affiliated with an approved provider.



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- These administrative services may include, but are not limited to, enrollment of eligible employees, collection of employer contributions, disbursement of such contributions to approved providers in accordance with the allocation directions of participants; services relating to consolidated billing; individual and collective recordkeeping and accounting; asset purchase, control, and safekeeping; and direct disbursement of funds to and from the third-party administrator, the division, the board, employers, participants, approved providers, and beneficiaries. This section does not prevent or prohibit a bundled provider from providing any administrative or customer service, including accounting and administration of individual participant benefits and contributions; individual participant recordkeeping; asset purchase, control, and safekeeping; direct execution of the participant's instructions as to asset and contribution allocation; calculation of daily net asset values; direct access to participant account information; or periodic reporting to participants, at least quarterly, on account balances and transactions, if these services are authorized by the board as part of the contract.
- 3. The state board shall select and contract with one or more organizations to provide educational services. With approval of the board, the organizations may subcontract with other organizations or individuals to provide components of the educational services. As a cost of administration, the board may compensate any such contractor for its services in accordance with the terms of the contract, as is deemed necessary or proper



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by the board. The education organization may not be an approved provider or be affiliated with an approved provider.

- Educational services shall be designed by the board and department to assist employers, eliqible employees, participants, and beneficiaries in order to maintain compliance with United States Department of Labor regulations under s. 404(c) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and to assist employees in their choice of defined benefit or defined contribution retirement alternatives. Educational services include, but are not limited to, disseminating educational materials; providing retirement planning education; explaining the differences between the defined benefit retirement plan and the defined contribution retirement plan; and offering financial planning quidance on matters such as investment diversification, investment risks, investment costs, and asset allocation. An approved provider may also provide educational information, including retirement planning and investment allocation information concerning its products and services.
- (c)1. In evaluating and selecting a third-party administrator, the board shall establish criteria under which it shall consider the relative capabilities and qualifications of each proposed administrator. In developing such criteria, the board shall consider:
- a. The administrator's demonstrated experience in providing administrative services to public or private sector retirement systems.



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b. The administrator's demonstrated experience in providing daily valued recordkeeping to defined contribution plans.

- c. The administrator's ability and willingness to coordinate its activities with the Florida Retirement System employers, the board, and the division, and to supply to such employers, the board, and the division the information and data they require, including, but not limited to, monthly management reports, quarterly participant reports, and ad hoc reports requested by the department or board.
- d. The cost-effectiveness and levels of the administrative services provided.
- e. The administrator's ability to interact with the participants, the employers, the board, the division, and the providers; the means by which participants may access account information, direct investment of contributions, make changes to their accounts, transfer moneys between available investment vehicles, and transfer moneys between investment products; and any fees that apply to such activities.
- f. Any other factor deemed necessary by the Trustees of the State Board of Administration.
- g. The recommendations of the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program Advisory Committee established in subsection (12).
- 2. In evaluating and selecting an educational provider, the board shall establish criteria under which it shall consider the relative capabilities and qualifications of each proposed



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educational provider. In developing such criteria, the board shall consider:

- a. Demonstrated experience in providing educational services to public or private sector retirement systems.
- b. Ability and willingness to coordinate its activities with the Florida Retirement System employers, the board, and the division, and to supply to such employers, the board, and the division the information and data they require, including, but not limited to, reports on educational contacts.
- c. The cost-effectiveness and levels of the educational services provided.
- d. Ability to provide educational services via different media, including, but not limited to, the Internet, personal contact, seminars, brochures, and newsletters.
- e. Any other factor deemed necessary by the Trustees of the State Board of Administration.
- f. The recommendations of the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program Advisory Committee established in subsection (12).
- 3. The establishment of the criteria shall be solely within the discretion of the board.
- (e)1. The board may contract with any consultant for professional services, including legal, consulting, accounting, and actuarial services, deemed necessary to implement and administer the optional program by the Trustees of the State Board of Administration. The board may enter into a contract with one or more vendors to provide low-cost investment advice to participants, supplemental to education provided by the



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third-party administrator. All fees under any such contract shall be paid by those participants who choose to use the services of the vendor.

- 2. The department may contract with consultants for professional services, including legal, consulting, accounting, and actuarial services, deemed necessary to implement and administer the optional program in coordination with the defined benefit program of the Florida Retirement System. The department, in coordination with the board, may enter into a contract with the third-party administrator in order to coordinate services common to the various programs within the Florida Retirement System.
 - (9) INVESTMENT OPTIONS OR PRODUCTS; PERFORMANCE REVIEW.--
- (c) In evaluating and selecting approved providers and products, the board shall establish criteria under which it shall consider the relative capabilities and qualifications of each proposed provider company and product. In developing such criteria, the board shall consider the following to the extent such factors may be applied in connection with investment products, services, or providers:
- 1. Experience in the United States providing retirement products and related financial services under defined contribution retirement plans.
- 2. Financial strength and stability which shall be evidenced by the highest ratings assigned by nationally recognized rating services when comparing proposed providers that are so rated.



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3. Intrastate and interstate portability of the product offered, including early withdrawal options.

- 4. Compliance with the Internal Revenue Code.
- 5. The cost-effectiveness of the product provided and the levels of service supporting the product relative to its benefits and its characteristics, including, without limitation, the level of risk borne by the provider.
- 6. The provider company's ability and willingness to coordinate its activities with Florida Retirement System employers, the <u>division</u> <u>department</u>, and the board, and to supply to such employers, the <u>division</u> <u>department</u>, and the board the information and data they require.
- 7. The methods available to participants to interact with the provider company; the means by which participants may access account information, direct investment of contributions, make changes to their accounts, transfer moneys between available investment vehicles, and transfer moneys between provider companies; and any fees that apply to such activities.
- 8. The provider company's policies with respect to the transfer of individual account balances, contributions, and earnings thereon, both internally among investment products offered by the provider company and externally between approved providers, as well as any fees, charges, reductions, or penalties that may be applied.
- 9. An evaluation of specific investment products, taking into account each product's experience in meeting its investment return objectives net of all related fees, expenses, and charges, including, but not limited to, investment management

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fees, loads, distribution and marketing fees, custody fees, recordkeeping fees, education fees, annuity expenses, and consulting fees.

- 10. Organizational factors, including, but not limited to, financial solvency, organizational depth, and experience in providing institutional and retail investment services.
 - (10) EDUCATION COMPONENT.--
- (a) The board, in coordination with the department, shall provide for an education component for system members in a manner consistent with the provisions of this section. The education component must be available to eligible employees at least 90 days prior to the beginning date of the election period for the employees of the respective types of employers.
- (c) The board, in coordination with the department, shall provide for an initial and ongoing transfer education component to provide system members with information necessary to make informed plan choice decisions. The transfer education component must include, but is not limited to, information on:
- 1. The amount of money available to a member to transfer to the defined contribution program.
- 2. The features of and differences between the defined benefit program and the defined contribution program, both generally and specifically, as those differences may affect the member.
- 3. The expected benefit available if the member were to retire under each of the retirement programs, based on appropriate alternative sets of assumptions.

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4. The rate of return from investments in the defined contribution program and the period of time over which such rate of return must be achieved to equal or exceed the expected monthly benefit payable to the member under the defined benefit program.

- 5. The historical rates of return for the investment alternatives available in the defined contribution programs.
- 6. The benefits and historical rates of return on investments available in a typical deferred compensation plan or a typical plan under s. 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code for which the employee may be eligible.
- 7. The program choices available to employees of the State University System and the comparative benefits of each available program, if applicable.
- 8. Payout options available in each of the retirement programs.
- (f) The board and the department shall also establish a communication component to provide program information to participating employers and the employers' personnel and payroll officers and to explain their respective responsibilities in conjunction with the retirement programs.
- (11) PARTICIPANT INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS.—The board shall ensure that each participant is provided a quarterly statement that accounts for the contributions made on behalf of such participant; the interest and investment earnings thereon; and any fees, penalties, or other deductions that apply thereto. At a minimum, such statements must:
 - (a) Indicate the participant's investment options.



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(b) State the market value of the account at the close of the current quarter and previous quarter.

- (c) Show account gains and losses for the period and changes in account accumulation unit values for the period.
 - (d) Itemize account contributions for the quarter.
- (e) Indicate any account changes due to adjustment of contribution levels, reallocation of contributions, balance transfers, or withdrawals.
- (f) Set forth any fees, charges, penalties, and deductions that apply to the account.
- (g) Indicate the amount of the account in which the participant is fully vested and the amount of the account in which the participant is not vested.
- (h) Indicate each investment product's performance relative to an appropriate market benchmark.

The third-party administrator shall provide quarterly and annual summary reports to the board and any other reports requested by the department or the board. In any solicitation or offer of coverage under an optional retirement program, a provider company shall be governed by the contract readability provisions of s. 627.4145, notwithstanding s. 627.4145(6)(c). In addition, all descriptive materials must be prepared under the assumption that the participant is an unsophisticated investor. Provider companies must maintain an internal system of quality assurance, have proven functional systems that are date-calculation compliant, and be subject to a due-diligence inquiry that proves



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their capacity and fitness to undertake service responsibilities.

- (12) ADVISORY COMMITTEES TO PROVIDE ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE.--The Investment Advisory Council and the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program Advisory Committee shall assist the board in implementing and administering the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program.
- (b)1. The Public Employee Optional Retirement Program Advisory Committee shall be composed of seven members. The President of the Senate shall appoint two members, the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint two members, the Governor shall appoint one member, the Treasurer shall appoint one member, and the Comptroller shall appoint one member. The members of the advisory committee shall elect a member as chair. The appointments shall be made by September 1, 2000, and the committee shall meet to organize by October 1, 2000. The initial appointments shall be for a term of 24 months. Each appointing authority shall fill any vacancy occurring among its appointees for the remainder of the original term.
- 2. The advisory committee shall make recommendations on the selection of the third-party administrator, the education providers, and the investment products and providers. The committee's recommendations on the third-party administrator must be forwarded to the Trustees of the State Board of Administration by January 1, 2001. The recommendations on the education providers must be forwarded to the trustees by April 1, 2001.



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3. The advisory committee's recommendations and activities shall be guided by the best interests of the employees, considering the interests of employers, and the intent of the Legislature in establishing the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program.

- 4. The staff of the state board and the department shall assist the advisory committee.
- information regarding a participant in the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program contained in Florida Retirement System records held by the State Board of Administration or the Department of Management Services, or its their agents, employees, or contractors is exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. The department or board may use such exempt information as necessary in any legal or administrative proceeding. This subsection is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act of 1995 in accordance with s. 119.15, and shall stand repealed October 2, 2007, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

Section 42. Section 121.4503, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 121.4503 Florida Retirement System Contributions Clearing
 Trust Fund.--
- (1) The Florida Retirement System Contributions Clearing Trust Fund is created in the State Treasury as a clearing fund for disbursing employer contributions to the component plans of the Florida Retirement System and shall be administered by the

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State Board of Administration Department of Management Services. Funds shall be credited to the trust fund as provided in this chapter and shall be held in trust for the contributing employers until such time as the assets are transferred by the board department to the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund, the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program Trust Fund, or other trust funds as authorized by law, to be used for the purposes of this chapter. The trust fund is exempt from the service charges imposed by s. 215.20.

- (2) The Florida Retirement System Contributions Clearing
 Trust Fund is a clearing trust fund of the State Board of

 Administration Department of Management Services pursuant to s.

 19(f), Art. III of the State Constitution, and is not subject to termination.
- (3) The State Board of Administration Department of Management Services may adopt rules governing the receipt and disbursement of amounts received by the Florida Retirement System Contributions Clearing Trust Fund from employers contributing to the component plans of the Florida Retirement System.

Section 43. 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

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division department. The state board or division 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 division department. In accordance with their respective responsibilities as provided herein, the State Board of Administration and the division 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.

- (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 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).
- (b) If a participant elects to receive his or her benefits upon termination of employment, the participant must submit a

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written application 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.

- (c) Upon receipt by the third-party administrator of a properly executed application for distribution of benefits, the total accumulated benefit shall be payable to the participant, as:
 - 1. A lump-sum distribution to the participant;
- 2. 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; or
- 3. Periodic distributions, as authorized by the state board.
- (2) DISABILITY RETIREMENT BENEFITS.--Benefits provided under this subsection are payable in lieu of the benefits which would otherwise be payable under the provisions of subsection (1). Such benefits shall be funded entirely from employer contributions made under s. 121.571, transferred participant funds accumulated pursuant to paragraph (a), and interest and earnings thereon. Pursuant thereto:
- (a) Transfer of funds. -- To qualify to receive monthly disability benefits under this subsection:

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1. All moneys accumulated in the participant's Public Employee Optional Retirement Program accounts, including vested and nonvested accumulations as described in s. 121.4501(6), shall be transferred from such individual accounts to the Division of Retirement for deposit in the disability account of the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund. Such moneys shall be separately accounted for. Earnings shall be credited on an annual basis for amounts held in the disability accounts of the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund based on actual earnings of the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund.

- 2. If the participant has retained retirement credit he or she had earned under the defined benefit program of the Florida Retirement System as provided in s. 121.4501(3)(b), a sum representing the actuarial present value of such credit within the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund shall be reassigned by the Division of Retirement from the defined benefit program to the disability program as implemented under this subsection and shall be deposited in the disability account of the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund. Such moneys shall be separately accounted for.
 - (b) Disability retirement; entitlement. --
- 1. A participant of the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program who becomes totally and permanently disabled, as defined in s. 121.091(4)(b), after completing 8 years of creditable service, or a participant who becomes totally and permanently disabled in the line of duty regardless of his or her length of service, shall be entitled to a monthly disability benefit as provided herein.

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2. In order for service to apply toward the 8 years of service required to vest for regular disability benefits, or toward the creditable service used in calculating a service-based benefit as provided for under paragraph (g), the service must be creditable service as described below:

- a. The participant's period of service under the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program will be considered creditable service, except as provided in subparagraph d.
- b. If the participant has elected to retain credit for his or her service under the defined benefit program of the Florida Retirement System as provided under s. 121.4501(3)(b), all such service will be considered creditable service.
- c. If the participant has elected to transfer to his or her participant accounts a sum representing the present value of his or her retirement credit under the defined benefit program as provided under s. 121.4501(3)(c), the period of service under the defined benefit program represented in the present value amounts transferred will be considered creditable service for purposes of vesting for disability benefits, except as provided in subparagraph d.
- d. Whenever a participant has terminated employment and has taken distribution of his or her funds as provided in subsection (1), all creditable service represented by such distributed funds is forfeited for purposes of this subsection.
- (c) Disability retirement effective date.--The effective retirement date for a participant who applies and is approved for disability retirement shall be established as provided under s. 121.091(4)(a)2. and 3.

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(d) Total and permanent disability.—A participant shall be considered totally and permanently disabled if, in the opinion of the division, he or she is prevented, by reason of a medically determinable physical or mental impairment, from rendering useful and efficient service as an officer or employee.

- (e) Proof of disability.—The division, before approving payment of any disability retirement benefit, shall require proof that the participant is totally and permanently disabled in the same manner as provided for members of the defined benefit program of the Florida Retirement System under s. 121.091(4)(c).
- (f) Disability retirement benefit. --Upon the disability retirement of a participant under this subsection, the participant shall receive a monthly benefit that shall begin to accrue on the first day of the month of disability retirement, as approved by the division, and shall be payable on the last day of that month and each month thereafter during his or her lifetime and continued disability. All disability benefits payable to such member shall be paid out of the disability account of the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund established under this subsection.
- (g) Computation of disability retirement benefit.—The amount of each monthly payment shall be calculated in the same manner as provided for members of the defined benefit program of the Florida Retirement System under s. 121.091(4)(f). For such purpose, creditable service under both the defined benefit program and the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program of



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the Florida Retirement System shall be applicable as provided under paragraph (b).

- (h) Reapplication.--A participant whose initial application for disability retirement has been denied may reapply for disability benefits in the same manner, and under the same conditions, as provided for members of the defined benefit program of the Florida Retirement System under s. 121.091(4)(g).
- (i) Membership.--Upon approval of an application for disability benefits under this subsection, the applicant shall be transferred to the defined benefit program of the Florida Retirement System, effective upon his or her disability retirement effective date.
- (j) Option to cancel.--Any participant whose application for disability benefits is approved may cancel his or her application for disability benefits, provided that the cancellation request is received by the division before a disability retirement warrant has been deposited, cashed, or received by direct deposit. Upon such cancellation:
- 1. The participant's transfer to the defined benefit program under paragraph (i) shall be nullified;
- 2. The participant shall be retroactively reinstated in the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program without hiatus;
- 3. All funds transferred to the Florida Retirement System
 Trust Fund under paragraph (a) shall be returned to the
 participant accounts from which such funds were drawn; and



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4. The participant may elect to receive the benefit payable under the provisions of subsection (1) in lieu of disability benefits as provided under this subsection.

- (k) Recovery from disability. --
- 1. The division may require periodic reexaminations at the expense of the disability program account of the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund. Except as otherwise provided in subparagraph 2., the requirements, procedures, and restrictions relating to the conduct and review of such reexaminations, discontinuation or termination of benefits, reentry into employment, disability retirement after reentry into covered employment, and all other matters relating to recovery from disability shall be the same as are set forth under s. 121.091(4)(h).
- 2. Upon recovery from disability, any recipient of disability retirement benefits under this subsection shall be a compulsory member of the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program of the Florida Retirement System. The net difference between the recipient's original account balance transferred to the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund, including earnings, under paragraph (a) and total disability benefits paid to such recipient, if any, shall be determined as provided in subsubparagraph a.
- a. An amount equal to the total benefits paid shall be subtracted from that portion of the transferred account balance consisting of vested accumulations as described under s. 121.4501(6), if any, and an amount equal to the remainder of benefit amounts paid, if any, shall then be subtracted from any

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remaining portion consisting of nonvested accumulations as described under s. 121.4501(6).

- b. Amounts subtracted under sub-subparagraph a. shall be retained within the disability account of the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund. Any remaining account balance shall be transferred to the third-party administrator for disposition as provided under sub-subparagraph c. or sub-subparagraph d., as appropriate.
- c. If the recipient returns to covered employment, transferred amounts shall be deposited in individual accounts under the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program, as directed by the participant. Vested and nonvested amounts shall be separately accounted for as provided in s. 121.4501(6).
- d. If the recipient fails to return to covered employment upon recovery from disability:
- (I) Any remaining vested amount shall be deposited in individual accounts under the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program, as directed by the participant, and shall be payable as provided in subsection (1).
- (II) Any remaining nonvested amount shall be held in a suspense account and shall be forfeitable after 5 years as provided in s. 121.4501(6).
- 3. If present value was reassigned from the defined benefit program to the disability program of the Florida Retirement System as provided under subparagraph (a)2., the full present value amount shall be returned to the defined benefit account within the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund and the affected individual's associated retirement credit under the

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defined benefit program shall be reinstated in full. Any benefit based upon such credit shall be calculated as provided in s. 121.091(4)(h)1.

- (1) Nonadmissible causes of disability.--A participant shall not be entitled to receive a disability retirement benefit if the disability results from any injury or disease sustained or inflicted as described in s. 121.091(4)(i).
- (m) Disability retirement of justice or judge by order of Supreme Court.--
- If a participant is a justice of the Supreme Court, judge of a district court of appeal, circuit judge, or judge of a county court who has served for 6 years or more as an elected constitutional judicial officer, including service as a judicial officer in any court abolished pursuant to Art. V of the State Constitution, and who is retired for disability by order of the Supreme Court upon recommendation of the Judicial Qualifications Commission pursuant to the provisions of Art. V of the State Constitution, the participant's Option 1 monthly disability benefit amount as provided in s. 121.091(6)(a)1. shall be twothirds of his or her monthly compensation as of the participant's disability retirement date. Such a participant may alternatively elect to receive an actuarially adjusted disability retirement benefit under any other option as provided in s. 121.091(6)(a), or to receive the normal benefit payable under the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program as set forth in subsection (1).
- 2. If any justice or judge who is a participant of the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program of the Florida

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Retirement System is retired for disability by order of the Supreme Court upon recommendation of the Judicial Qualifications Commission pursuant to the provisions of Art. V of the State Constitution and elects to receive a monthly disability benefit under the provisions of this paragraph:

- a. Any present value amount that was transferred to his or her program account and all employer contributions made to such account on his or her behalf, plus interest and earnings thereon, shall be transferred to and deposited in the disability account of the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund; and
- b. The monthly benefits payable under this paragraph for any affected justice or judge retired from the Florida

 Retirement System pursuant to Art. V of the State Constitution shall be paid from the disability account of the Florida

 Retirement System Trust Fund.
- (n) Death of retiree or beneficiary.—Upon the death of a disabled retiree or beneficiary thereof who is receiving monthly benefits under this subsection, the monthly benefits shall be paid through the last day of the month of death and shall terminate, or be adjusted, if applicable, as of that date in accordance with the optional form of benefit selected at the time of retirement. The deceased disabled retiree's beneficiary shall also receive the amount of the participant's remaining account balance, if any, in the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund. The <u>Division of Retirement Department of Management</u>

 Services may adopt rules necessary to administer this paragraph.
- (3) DEATH BENEFITS. -- Under the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program:

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(a) Survivor benefits shall be payable in accordance with the following terms and conditions:

- 1. To the extent vested, benefits shall be payable only to a participant's beneficiary or beneficiaries as designated by the participant. If a participant designates a primary beneficiary other than the participant's spouse, the participant's spouse shall be notified of the designation. This requirement shall not apply to the designation of one or more contingent beneficiaries to receive any benefits remaining upon the death of the primary beneficiary or beneficiaries.
- 2. Benefits shall be paid by the third-party administrator 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 deceased.
- (b) In the event of a participant's death, all vested accumulations as described in s. 121.4501(6), less withholding taxes remitted to the Internal Revenue Service, shall be distributed, as provided in paragraph (c), to the participant's designated beneficiary or beneficiaries, or to the participant's estate, as if the participant retired on the date of death. No other death benefits shall be available for survivors of participants under the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program, except for such benefits, or coverage for such benefits, as are otherwise provided by law or are separately afforded by the employer, at the employer's discretion.
- (c) Upon receipt by the third-party administrator of a properly executed application for distribution of benefits, the



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total accumulated benefit shall be payable by the third-party administrator to the participant's surviving beneficiary or beneficiaries, as:

- 1. A lump-sum distribution payable to the beneficiary or beneficiaries, or to the deceased participant's estate;
- 2. An eligible rollover distribution on behalf of the surviving spouse of a deceased participant, whereby all accrued benefits, plus interest and investment earnings, are paid from the deceased participant's account directly to the custodian of an eligible retirement plan, as described in s. 402(c)(8)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code, on behalf of the surviving spouse; or
- 3. A partial lump-sum payment whereby a portion of the accrued benefit is paid to the deceased participant's surviving spouse or other designated beneficiaries, less withholding taxes remitted to the Internal Revenue Service, and the remaining amount is transferred directly to the custodian of an eligible retirement plan, as described in s. 402(c)(8)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code, on behalf of the surviving spouse. The proportions must be specified by the participant or the surviving beneficiary.

This paragraph does not abrogate other applicable provisions of state or federal law providing for payment of death benefits.

(4) LIMITATION ON LEGAL PROCESS.--The benefits payable to any person under the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program, and any contributions accumulated under such program, are not subject to assignment, execution, attachment, or any legal process, except for qualified domestic relations orders by



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a court of competent jurisdiction, income deduction orders as provided in s. 61.1301, and federal income tax levies.

Section 44. Section 121.5911, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

rulemaking authority.—It is the intent of the Legislature that the disability retirement program for participants of the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program as created in this act must meet all applicable requirements of federal law for a qualified plan. The Department of Management Services or the Division of Retirement shall seek a private letter ruling from the Internal Revenue Service on the disability retirement program for participants of the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program. Consistent with the private letter ruling, the division Department of Management Services shall adopt any necessary rules required to maintain the qualified status of the disability retirement program and the Florida Retirement System defined benefit plan.

Section 45. Subsection (1) of section 121.72, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 121.72 Allocations to optional retirement program participant accounts; percentage amounts.--
- (1) The allocations established in subsection (4) shall fund retirement benefits under the optional retirement program and shall be transferred monthly by the <u>State Board of Administration Division of Retirement</u> from the Florida Retirement System Contributions Clearing Trust Fund to the third-party administrator for deposit in each participating

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employee's individual account based on the membership class of the participant.

Section 46. Subsection (1) of section 121.73, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 121.73 Allocations for optional retirement program participant disability coverage; percentage amounts.--
- (1) The allocations established in subsection (3) shall be used to provide disability coverage for participants in the optional retirement program and shall be transferred monthly by the <u>State Board of Administration Division of Retirement</u> from the Florida Retirement System Contributions Clearing Trust Fund to the disability account of the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund.

Section 47. Section 121.74, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

July 1, 2002, in addition to contributions required under s.

121.71, employers participating in the Florida Retirement System shall contribute an amount equal to 0.15 percent of the payroll reported for each class or subclass of Florida Retirement System membership, which amount shall be transferred by the State Board of Administration Division of Retirement from the Florida Retirement System Contributions Clearing Trust Fund to the board's State Board of Administration's Administrative Trust Fund to offset the costs of administering the optional retirement program and the costs of providing educational services to participants in the defined benefit program and the optional retirement program. Approval of the Trustees of the



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State Board of Administration is required prior to the expenditure of these funds. Payments for third-party administrative or educational expenses shall be made only pursuant to the terms of the approved contracts for such services.

Section 48. Subsection (6) of section 175.032, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

175.032 Definitions.--For any municipality, special fire control district, chapter plan, local law municipality, local law special fire control district, or local law plan under this chapter, the following words and phrases have the following meanings:

- (6) "Division" means the Division of Retirement of the State Board of Administration Department of Management Services.
- Section 49. Subsection (1) of section 175.121, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 175.121 Department of Revenue and Division of Retirement to keep accounts of deposits; disbursements.--For any municipality or special fire control district having a chapter or local law plan established pursuant to this chapter:
- (1) The Department of Revenue shall keep a separate account of all moneys collected for each municipality and each special fire control district under the provisions of this chapter. Seven and three-tenths percent of all moneys so collected shall be transferred to the General Revenue Fund. The balance of all moneys so collected shall must be transferred to the Police and Firefighters' Premium Tax Trust Fund and shall be separately accounted for by the division. The moneys budgeted as

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necessary to pay the expenses of the division for the daily oversight and monitoring of the firefighters' pension plans under this chapter and for the oversight and actuarial reviews conducted under part VII of chapter 112 are annually appropriated from the interest and investment income earned on the moneys collected for each municipality or special fire control district and deposited in the Police and Firefighters' Premium Tax Trust Fund. Interest and investment income remaining thereafter in the trust fund which is unexpended and otherwise unallocated by law shall be transferred revert to the General Revenue Fund on June 30 of each year.

Section 50. Section 175.1215, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

175.1215 Police and Firefighters' Premium Tax Trust Fund.—The Police and Firefighters' Premium Tax Trust Fund is created in the State Treasury, to be administered by the Division of Retirement of the Department of Management Services. Funds credited to the trust fund, as provided in chapter 95-250, Laws of Florida, or similar legislation, shall be expended for the purposes set forth in that legislation.

Section 51. Subsection (1) of section 175.341, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 175.341 Duties of Division of Retirement; rulemaking authority; investments by State Board of Administration.--
- (1) The division shall be responsible for the daily oversight and monitoring for actuarial soundness of the firefighters' pension plans, whether chapter or local law plans, established under this chapter, for receiving and holding the

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premium tax moneys collected under this chapter, and, upon determining compliance with the provisions of this chapter, for disbursing those moneys to the firefighters' pension plans. The funds necessary to pay expenses for such administration are shall be annually appropriated from the interest and investment income earned on moneys deposited in the trust fund.

Section 52. Subsection (7) of section 185.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

185.02 Definitions. -- For any municipality, chapter plan, local law municipality, or local law plan under this chapter, the following words and phrases as used in this chapter shall have the following meanings, unless a different meaning is plainly required by the context:

- (7) "Division" means the Division of Retirement of the State Board of Administration Department of Management Services.
- Section 53. Subsection (1) of section 185.10, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 185.10 Department of Revenue and Division of Retirement to keep accounts of deposits; disbursements.—For any municipality having a chapter plan or local law plan under this chapter:
- (1) The Department of Revenue shall keep a separate account of all moneys collected for each municipality under the provisions of this chapter. Seven and three-tenths percent of all moneys so collected shall be transferred to the General Revenue Fund. The balance of all moneys so collected shall must be transferred to the Police and Firefighters' Premium Tax Trust Fund and shall be separately accounted for by the division. The moneys budgeted as necessary to pay the expenses of the division



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for the daily oversight and monitoring of the police officers' retirement plans under this chapter and for the oversight and actuarial reviews conducted under part VII of chapter 112 are annually appropriated from the interest and investment income earned on the moneys collected for each municipality or special fire control district and deposited in the Police and Firefighters' Premium Tax Trust Fund. Interest and investment income remaining thereafter in the trust fund which is unexpended and otherwise unallocated by law shall be transferred revert to the General Revenue Fund on June 30 of each year.

Section 54. Section 185.105, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

185.105 Police and Firefighters' Premium Tax Trust Fund.—The Police and Firefighters' Premium Tax Trust Fund is created in the State Treasury, to be administered by the Division of Retirement of the Department of Management Services. Funds credited to the trust fund, as provided in chapter 95-250, Laws of Florida, or similar legislation, shall be expended for the purposes set forth in that legislation.

Section 55. Subsection (1) of section 185.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 185.23 Duties of Division of Retirement; rulemaking authority; investments by State Board of Administration.--
- (1) The division shall be responsible for the daily oversight and monitoring for actuarial soundness of the municipal police officers' retirement plans, whether chapter or local law plans, established under this chapter, for receiving and holding the premium tax moneys collected under this chapter,

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and, upon determining compliance with the provisions of this chapter, for disbursing those moneys to the municipal police officers' retirement plans. The funds to pay the expenses for such administration <u>are shall be annually</u> appropriated from the interest and investment income earned on moneys deposited in the trust fund.

Section 56. Paragraph (ii) of subsection (4) of section 215.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 215.20 Certain income and certain trust funds to contribute to the General Revenue Fund.--
- (4) The income of a revenue nature deposited in the following described trust funds, by whatever name designated, is that from which the deductions authorized by subsection (3) shall be made:
- (ii) The Police and Firefighters' Premium Tax Trust Fund established within the Department of Management Services.

The enumeration of the foregoing moneys or trust funds shall not prohibit the applicability thereto of s. 215.24 should the Governor determine that for the reasons mentioned in s. 215.24 the money or trust funds should be exempt herefrom, as it is the purpose of this law to exempt income from its force and effect when, by the operation of this law, federal matching funds or contributions or private grants to any trust fund would be lost to the state.

Section 57. Subsection (3) of section 215.28, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:



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215.28 United States securities, purchase by state and

county officers and employees; deductions from salary .--All deductions so made by any such disbursing authority shall be deposited in a trust account separate and apart from the funds of the state, county, or subordinate agency. Such trust account shall be created in the State Treasury and shall be administered by the State Board of Administration. Such account will be subject to withdrawal only for the purchase of United States securities on behalf of officers and employees, or for refunds to such persons in accordance with the provisions of this law. Whenever the sum of \$18.75 or the purchase price of the security requested to be purchased is accumulated from deductions so made from the salaries or wages of an officer or employee, such disbursing agent shall arrange the purchase of the bond or security applied for and have it registered in the name or names requested in the deduction authorization. Securities so purchased will be delivered in such manner as may be convenient for the issuing agent and the purchaser. Any interest earned on moneys in such account while awaiting the accumulation of the purchase price of the security shall be transferred to the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund as reimbursement for administrative costs incurred by the Division of Retirement of the State Board of Administration Department of Management Services under this section.

Section 58. Subsection (7) of section 215.44, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:



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215.44 Board of Administration; powers and duties in relation to investment of trust funds.--

(7) Investment and debt purchasing procedures and contracts of funds held in trust by the State Board of Administration, whether directly or incidentally related to the investment or debt transactions, and purchases of commodities or services related to the administration of pension benefits, are exempt from the provisions of chapter 287.

Section 59. Subsection (3) of section 215.50, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

215.50 Custody of securities purchased; income. --

(3) The Treasurer, as custodian of securities owned by the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund and the Florida Survivor Benefit Trust Fund, shall collect the interest, dividends, prepayments, maturities, proceeds from sales, and other income accruing from such assets. As such income is collected by the Treasurer, it shall be deposited directly into a commercial bank to the credit of the State Board of Administration. Such bank accounts as may be required for this purpose shall offer satisfactory collateral security as provided by chapter 280. In the event funds so deposited according to the provisions of this section are required for the purpose of paying benefits or other operational needs, the State Board of Administration shall remit to the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund in the State Treasury such amounts as are required may be requested by the Department of Management Services.

Section 60. Section 215.52, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:



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215.52 Rules and regulations.--The board <u>may adopt</u> shall have the power and authority to make reasonable rules and regulations necessary to implement general law conferring powers and duties upon it carry out the provisions of ss. 215.44-215.53.

Section 61. Subsections (2), (3), (11), and (13) of section 238.01, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

238.01 Definitions.--The following words and phrases as used in this chapter shall have the following meanings unless a different meaning is plainly required by the context:

- (2) "Division" means the Division of Retirement of the

 State Board of Administration "Department" means the Department
 of Management Services.
- (3) "Teacher" means any member of the teaching or professional staff and any certificated employee of any public free school, of any district school system and vocational school, any member of the teaching or professional staff of the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind, child training schools of the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Corrections, and any tax-supported institution of higher learning of the state, and any member and any certified employee of the Department of Education, any certified employee of the retirement system, any full-time employee of any nonprofit professional association or corporation of teachers functioning in Florida on a statewide basis, which seeks to protect and improve public school opportunities for children and advance the professional and welfare status of its members, any person now serving as superintendent, or who was serving as county



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superintendent of public instruction on July 1, 1939, and any hereafter duly elected or appointed superintendent, who holds a valid Florida teachers' certificate. In all cases of doubt the division Department of Management Services shall determine whether any person is a teacher as defined herein.

- (11) "Regular interest" means interest at such rate as may be set from time to time by the <u>division</u> Department of Management Services.
- "Earnable compensation" means the full compensation (13)payable to a teacher working the full working time for his or her position. In respect to plans A, B, C, and D only, in cases where compensation includes maintenance, the division Department of Management Services shall fix the value of that part of the compensation not paid in money; provided that all members shall from July 1, 1955, make contributions to the retirement system on the basis of "earnable compensation" as defined herein and all persons who are members on July 1, 1955, may, upon application, have their "earnable compensation" for the time during which they have been members prior to that date determined on the basis of "earnable compensation" as defined in this law, upon paying to the retirement system, on or before the date of retirement, a sum equal to the additional contribution with accumulated regular interest thereon they would have made if "earnable compensation" had been defined, at the time they became members, as it is now defined. However, earnable compensation for all plan years beginning on or after July 1, 1990, shall not include any amounts in excess of the compensation limitation (originally \$200,000) established by s.



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401(a)(17) of the Internal Revenue Code prior to the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, which limitation shall be adjusted for changes in the cost of living since 1989, in the manner provided by s. 401(a)(17) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1991. This limitation, which has been part of the Teachers' Retirement System since plan years beginning on or after July 1, 1990, shall be adjusted as required by federal law for qualified government plans.

Section 62. Section 238.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

238.02 Name and date of establishment.—A retirement system is established and placed under the management of the division Department of Management Services for the purpose of providing retirement allowances and other benefits for teachers of the state. The retirement system shall begin operations on July 1, 1939. It has such powers and privileges of a corporation as may be necessary to carry out effectively the provisions of this chapter and shall be known as the "Teachers' Retirement System of the State," and by such name all of its business shall be transacted, all of its funds invested, and all of its cash and securities and other property held in trust for the purpose for which received.

Section 63. Section 238.03, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

238.03 Administration.--

(1) The general administration and the responsibility for the proper operation of the retirement system and for making effective the provisions of this chapter are vested in the

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division Department of Management Services. Subject to the limitation of this chapter, the division department shall, from time to time, establish rules and regulations for the administration and transaction of the business of the retirement system and shall perform such other functions as are required for the execution of this chapter.

- (2) The <u>division</u> department shall keep in convenient form such data as shall be necessary for actuarial valuation of the various funds created by this chapter and for checking the experience of the retirement system.
- (3) The Department of Legal Affairs, at the option of the State Board of Administration, shall be the legal adviser of the division department.
- (4) The <u>division</u> department shall employ such agents, servants and employees as in its judgment may be necessary to carry out the terms and provisions of this chapter and shall provide for their compensation. Among the employees of the <u>division</u> department shall be an actuary who shall be the technical adviser of the <u>division</u> department on matters regarding the operation of the funds created by the provisions of this chapter and who shall perform such other duties as are required in connection therewith.
- (5) In the year 1943 and at least once in each 5-year period thereafter, the actuary shall make an actuarial investigation of the mortality, service and salary experience of the members and beneficiaries as defined in this chapter, and shall make a valuation of the various funds created by the chapter, and having regard to such investigation and valuation,



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the <u>division</u> <u>department</u> shall adopt such mortality and service tables as shall be deemed necessary, and shall certify the rates of contribution payable under the provisions of this chapter.

- (6) The actuary shall make an annual valuation of the assets and liabilities of the funds of the retirement system on the basis of the tables adopted by the <u>division</u> department in accordance with the requirements of this section, and shall prepare an annual statement of the amounts to be contributed by the state in accordance with s. 238.09.
- (7) The <u>division</u> department shall publish annually the valuation, as certified by the actuary, of the assets and liabilities of the various funds created by this chapter, a statement as to the receipts and disbursements of the funds, and a statement as to the accumulated cash and securities of the funds.
- (8) The <u>division</u> department shall keep a record of all of its proceedings and such record shall be open to inspection by the public.
- (9) The <u>division</u> department is authorized to photograph and reduce to microfilm as a permanent record, its ledger sheets showing the salary and contributions of members of the retirement system, also the records of deceased members of the system and thereupon to destroy the documents from which such films are photographed.
- Section 64. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1), paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (3), and subsection (4) of section 238.05, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
 - 238.05 Membership.--



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(1) The membership of the retirement system shall consist of the following:

- (b) All persons who became or who become teachers on or after July 1, 1939, except as provided in paragraph (a) and subsection (5) hereof, shall become members of the retirement system by virtue of their appointment as teachers. However, employees who are not members of the teaching or professional staff shall only become members of the retirement system by filing a notice with the <u>division</u> department of their election to become members.
- Except as otherwise provided in s. 238.07(9), (3) membership of any person in the retirement system will cease if he or she is continuously unemployed as a teacher for a period of more than 5 consecutive years, or upon the withdrawal by the member of his or her accumulated contributions as provided in s. 238.07(13), or upon retirement, or upon death; provided that the adjustments prescribed below are to be made for persons who enter the Armed Forces of the United States during a period of war or national emergency and for persons who are granted leaves of absence. Any member of the retirement system who within 1 year before the time of entering the Armed Forces of the United States was a teacher, as defined in s. 238.01, or was engaged in other public educational work within the state, and member of the Teachers' Retirement System at the time of induction, or who has been or is granted leave of absence, shall be permitted to elect to continue his or her membership in the Teachers' Retirement System; and membership service shall be allowed for



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the period covered by service in the Armed Forces of the United States or by leave of absence under the following conditions:

- (a) A person who has been granted leave of absence shall file with the <u>division</u> department before his or her next contribution is due an application to continue his or her membership during the period covered by the person's leave of absence and, if such application is filed, shall make his or her contribution to the retirement system on the basis of his or her last previous annual salary as a teacher, and shall, prior to retirement, pay in full to the system such contributions with accumulated regular interest. Such contributions with interest may be paid at one time or in monthly, quarterly, semiannual, or annual payments in the person's discretion.
- (b) A person who enters or who has entered the Armed Forces of the United States may either continue his or her membership according to the plan outlined under paragraph (a) or, in lieu thereof, may file with the <u>division</u> department at any time following the close of his or her military service an application that his or her membership be continued and that membership service be allowed for not more than 5 years of his or her period of service in the Armed Forces of the United States during any period of war or national emergency; provided that any such person shall, prior to retirement, pay in full his or her contributions with accumulated regular interest to the retirement system for the period for which he or she is entitled to membership service on the basis of his or her last previous annual salary as a teacher. Such contributions with interest may be paid to the division department at one time or in monthly,

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quarterly, semiannual, or annual payments in the person's discretion.

(4) The <u>division</u> department may in its discretion deny the right to become members to any class of teachers who are serving on a temporary or any other than a per annum basis, and it may also in its discretion make optional with members in any such class their individual entrance into membership.

Section 65. Subsections (3), (10), (12), (13), (15A), and (16) of section 238.07, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 238.07 Regular benefits; survivor benefits.--

Any member who, prior to July 1, 1955, elected to retire under one of plans A, B, C, or D may elect, prior to retirement, to retire under plan E in accordance with the terms Any person who became a member on or after July 1, 1955, shall retire under plan E, except as provided for under s. 238.31. With respect to plans A, B, C, or D, any member shall have the right at any time to change to a plan of retirement requiring a lower rate of contribution. The division Department of Management Services shall also notify the member of the rate of contribution such member must make from and after selecting such plan of retirement. Any member in service may retire upon reaching the age of retirement formerly selected by him or her, upon the member's written application to the division department setting forth at which time, not more than 90 days subsequent to the execution and filing of such application, it is his or her desire to retire notwithstanding that during such period of notification he or she may have separated from service. Upon receipt of such application for retirement, the division



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department shall retire such member not more than 90 days thereafter. Before such member may retire he or she must file with the <u>division</u> department his or her written selection of one of the optional benefits provided in s. 238.08.

- (10) Any member in service, who has 10 or more years of creditable service, may upon the application of his or her employer or upon his or her own application, be retired by the division department not less than 30 nor more than 90 days next following the date of filing such application, on a disability retirement allowance; provided that a physician licensed by this state examines and certifies that such member is mentally or physically incapacitated for the further performance of duty, that such incapacity is likely to be permanent, and that such member should be retired, and the division department concurs. In making the determination, the division department may require other evidence of disability as deemed appropriate.
- (12)(a) Once each year during the first 5 years following the retirement of a member on a disability retirement allowance, and once in every 3-year period thereafter, the <u>division</u> department may require any disability beneficiary who has not yet attained his or her minimum service retirement age to undergo a medical examination by a physician licensed by this state and to submit any other evidence of disability as required by the <u>division</u> department. Should a disability beneficiary who has not yet attained his or her minimum service retirement age refuse to submit to any such medical examination, his or her retirement allowance shall be discontinued until his or her withdrawal of such refusal, and should such refusal continue for



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1 year, all of the disability beneficiary's rights in and to his or her pension shall be forfeited.

- If the division department finds that a disability beneficiary is engaged in or is able to engage in a gainful occupation paying more than the difference between his or her disability retirement allowance and his or her average final compensation, the amount of the beneficiary's pension shall be reduced to an amount which, together with his or her annuity and the amount earnable by him or her, shall equal the amount of his or her average final compensation. Should the beneficiary's earning capacity later be changed, the amount of his or her pension may be further modified; provided that the pension so modified shall not exceed the amount of the pension allowable under subsection (11), at the time of retirement, nor an amount which, when added to the amount earnable by the beneficiary, together with his or her annuity, equals the amount of his or her average final compensation. A beneficiary restored to active service at a salary less than the average final compensation upon the basis of which he or she was retired shall not become a member of the retirement system at that time.
- (c) Should a disability beneficiary under his or her minimum service retirement age be at any time in service at a salary equal to or greater than his or her average final compensation upon the basis of which he or she was retired, the beneficiary's disability retirement allowance shall cease and he or she shall again become a member of the retirement system and shall contribute thereafter at the same rate at which he or she paid prior to disability. Any prior service certificate, on the

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basis of which his or her allowance was computed at the time of his or her disability retirement, shall be restored to full force and effect; and, in addition, upon his or her subsequent retirement he or she shall be credited with all his or her membership service on the basis of which his or her allowance was computed at the time of his or her disability retirement.

- (13) Should a member cease to be a teacher except by death or by retirement under the provisions of this chapter, the member shall be paid the amount of his or her accumulated contributions. Should a member die before retirement, the amount of his or her accumulated contributions shall be paid to such person, if any, as he or she shall have nominated by written designation duly executed and filed with the <u>division</u> department; otherwise, to his or her executors or administrators.
- (15A)(a) Any member of the Teachers' Retirement System who has heretofore, or who hereafter, retires with no less than 10 years of creditable service and who has passed his or her 65th birthday, may, upon application to the <u>division department</u>, have his or her retirement allowance redetermined and thereupon shall be entitled to a monthly service retirement allowance which shall be equal to \$4 multiplied by the number of years of the member's creditable service which shall be payable monthly during his or her retirement; provided, that the amount of retirement allowance as determined hereunder, shall be reduced by an amount equal to:
- Any social security benefits received by the member,
 and



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2. Any social security benefits that the member is eligible to receive by reason of his or her own right or through his or her spouse.

- (b) No payment shall be made to a member of the Teachers' Retirement System under this act, until the <u>division</u> department has determined the social security status of such member.
- (c) Eligibility of a member of the Teachers' Retirement System shall be determined under the social security laws and regulations; provided, however, that a member shall be considered eligible if the member or the member's spouse has reached 65 years of age and would draw social security if the member or the member's spouse were not engaged in activity that results in the member or the member's spouse receiving income that would make him or her ineligible to receive social security benefits. A member of the Teachers' Retirement System shall be deemed to be eligible for social security benefits if the member has this eligibility in his or her own right or through his or her spouse.
- (d) The <u>division</u> <u>department</u> shall review, at least annually, the social security status of all members of the Teachers' Retirement System receiving payment under this act and shall increase or decrease payments to such members as shall be necessary to carry out the intent of this act.
- (e) No member of the Teachers' Retirement System shall have his or her retirement allowance reduced or any of his or her rights impaired by reason of this act.
 - (f) This subsection shall take effect on January 1, 1962.
 - (16)(a) Definitions under survivor benefits are:

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1. A dependent is a child, widow, widower, or parent of the deceased member who was receiving not less than one-half of his or her support from the deceased member at the time of the death of such member.

- 2. A child is a natural or legally adopted child of a member, who:
 - a. Is under 18 years of age, or
- b. Is over 18 years of age but not over 22 years of age and is enrolled as a student in an accredited educational institution, or
- c. Is 18 years of age or older and is physically or mentally incapable of self-support, when such mental and physical incapacity occurred prior to such child obtaining the age of 18 years. Such person shall cease to be regarded as a child upon the termination of such physical or mental disability. The determination as to such physical or mental incapability shall be vested in the division department.

- No person shall be considered a child who has married or, except as provided in sub-subparagraph 2.b. or as to a child who is physically or mentally incapable of self-support as hereinbefore set forth, has become 18 years of age.
- 3. A parent is a natural parent of a member and includes a lawful spouse of a natural parent.
- 4. A beneficiary is a person who is entitled to benefits under this subsection by reason of his or her relation to a deceased member during the lifetime of such member.

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In addition to all other benefits to which a member shall, subject to the conditions set out below, be entitled, the beneficiary of such member shall, upon the death of such member, receive the following benefits:

Minimum period of paid service of member in Florida as regular full-time teacher

Beneficiaries of Benefits deceased member

One calendar day Widow or widower who has care of dependent child or member.

\$190 per month for one child. \$250 per month if more than children of deceased one child, maximum benefits \$250 per month.

- 2. One calendar day One or more dependent children if there is no surviving widow or widower.
 - \$190 per month per child; maximum benefits \$250 per month if more than one child.
- 3. One calendar day Dependent parents 65 For each parent, years or older. \$100 per month for life.

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4.	One calendar day	Designated	\$500 lump-sum death
		beneficiary and, if	benefits payable
		no designated	only once.
		beneficiary, then	
		the executor or	
		administrator of	
		deceased member.	

5.	One calendar day	Dependent widow or	\$150 per month for
		widower 50 years of	life.
		age and less than 65	
		years of age.	

6.	Ten years	Widow or	widower 65	\$175 per	month	for
		years of	age or	life.		
		older.				

7.	Retired member	Designated	\$500 lump-sum death
		beneficiary and if	benefits payable
		no designated	only once.
		beneficiary, then	
		the executor or	
		administrator of	
		deceased retired	
		member.	

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Beginning on July 1, 1971, the lump-sum death benefit, provided in item 7 above for the retired teacher, shall apply to all present and future retirees of the systems.

- The payment of survivor benefits shall begin as of the month immediately following the death of the member except where the beneficiary has not reached the age required to receive benefits under paragraph (b), in which event the payment of survivor benefits shall begin as of the month immediately following the month in which the beneficiary reaches the required age. Provided that if death occurs during the first 3 years of employment, the payment of survivor benefits shall be reduced by the amount of monthly benefits the member's survivors are entitled to receive under federal social security as either a survivor of the member or as a covered worker under federal social security.
 - (d) Limitations on rights of beneficiary are:
- The person named as beneficiary in paragraph (b) shall, in no event, be entitled to receive the benefits set out in such paragraph unless the death of the member under whom such beneficiary claims occurs within the period of time after the member has served in Florida as follows:

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4354	Minimum number of years	Period after serving in
4355	of service in Florida	Florida in which
4356		death of member
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43592 years



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4360	6 to 95 years
4361	10 or more10 years

- 2. Upon the death of a member, the <u>division</u> department shall make a determination of the beneficiary or beneficiaries of the deceased member and shall pay survivor benefits to such beneficiary or beneficiaries beginning 1 month immediately following the death of the member except where the beneficiary has not reached the age required to receive benefits under paragraph (b), in which event the payment of survivor benefits shall begin as of the month immediately following the month in which the beneficiary reaches the required age. When required by the <u>division</u> department, the beneficiary or beneficiaries shall file an application for survivor benefits upon forms prescribed by the division department.
- 3. The beneficiaries of a member to receive survivor benefits are fixed by this subsection, and a member may not buy or otherwise change such benefits. He or she may, however, designate the beneficiary to receive the \$500 death benefits. If a member fails to make this designation, the \$500 death benefits shall be paid to his or her executor or administrator.
- 4. The beneficiary or beneficiaries of a member whose death occurs while he or she is in service or while he or she is receiving a disability allowance under subsection (11), shall receive survivor benefits under this subsection determined by the years of service in Florida of the deceased member as set out in paragraph (b). The requirement that the death of a member must occur within a certain period of time after service

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in Florida as set out in subparagraph (d)1. shall not apply to a member receiving a disability benefit at the time of his or her death.

Section 66. Subsection (2), paragraph (b) of subsection (5), and subsections (6) and (7) of section 238.08, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

238.08 Optional benefits.--A member may elect to receive his or her benefits under the terms of this chapter according to the provisions of any one of the following options:

(2) Option two. A member may elect to receive on retirement the actuarial equivalent (at that time) of his or her retirement allowance in a reduced retirement allowance payable throughout life, with the provisions that if the member dies before he or she has received in payment of his or her annuity the amount of his or her accumulated contributions, as they were at the time of his or her retirement, the balance shall be paid to such person, if any, as he or she shall nominate by written designation duly acknowledged and filed with the division department; otherwise, to his or her executors or administrators.

(5)

(b) A member who elects Option three or Option four shall, on a form provided for that purpose, designate his or her spouse as beneficiary to receive the benefits which continue to be payable upon the death of the member. After such benefits have commenced under Option three or Option four, the retired member may change the designation of his or her spouse as beneficiary only twice. If such a retired member remarries and wishes to

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make such a change, he or she may do so by filing with the division department a notarized change of spouse designation form and shall notify the former spouse in writing of such change. Upon receipt of a completed change of spouse designation form, the division department shall adjust the member's monthly benefit by the application of actuarial tables and calculations developed to ensure that the benefit paid is the actuarial equivalent of the present value of the member's current benefit. The consent of a retired member's formerly designated spouse as beneficiary to any such change shall not be required.

- (6) Notwithstanding any provision in this chapter to the contrary, the following provisions shall apply to any member of the retirement system who has accumulated at least 10 years of service and dies prior to retirement:
- (a) If the deceased member's surviving spouse has previously received a refund of the member's accumulated contributions made to the retirement system, such spouse may pay to the <u>division</u> department an amount equal to the sum of the amount of the deceased member's contributions previously refunded and regular interest compounded annually on the amount of such refunded contributions from the date of refund to the date of payment to the <u>division</u> department, and by so doing be entitled to receive the monthly retirement benefit provided in paragraph (c).
- (b) If the deceased member's surviving spouse has not received a refund of the deceased member's accumulated contributions, such spouse shall, upon application to the

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<u>division</u> <u>department</u> within 30 days of the death of the member, receive the monthly retirement benefit provided in paragraph (c).

- (c) The monthly benefit payable to the spouse described in paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) shall be the amount which would have been payable to the deceased member's spouse, assuming that the member retired on the date of his or her death and had selected the option in subsection (3), such benefit to be based on the ages of the spouse and member as of the date of death of the member. The benefit shall commence on the first day of the month following the payment of the aforesaid amount to the division department, if paragraph (a) is applicable, or on the first day of the month following the receipt of the spouse's application by the division department, if paragraph (b) is applicable.
- (7) The surviving spouse or other dependent of any member whose employment is terminated by death shall, upon application to the <u>division</u> department, be permitted to pay the required contributions for any service performed by the member which could have been claimed by the member at the time of his or her death. Such service shall be added to the creditable service of the member and shall be used in the calculation of any benefits which may be payable to the surviving spouse or other surviving dependent.
- Section 67. Paragraphs (a), (c), and (d) of subsection (1), paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (3), subsection (4), and paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section 238.09, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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238.09 Method of financing.--All of the assets of the retirement system shall be credited, according to the purposes for which they are held, to one of four funds; namely, the Annuity Savings Trust Fund, the Pension Accumulation Trust Fund, the Expense Trust Fund, and the Survivors' Benefit Trust Fund.

- (1) The Annuity Savings Trust Fund shall be a fund in which shall be accumulated contributions made from the salaries of members under the provisions of paragraph (c) or paragraph (f). Contribution to, payments from, the Annuity Savings Trust Fund shall be made as follows:
- (a) With respect to plan A, B, C, or D, upon the basis of such tables as the <u>division</u> Department of Management Services shall adopt, and regular interest, the actuary of the retirement system shall determine for each member the proportion of earnable compensation which, when deducted from each payment of his or her prospective earnable annual compensation prior to his or her minimum service retirement age, and accumulated at regular interest until such age, shall be computed to provide at such age:
- 1. An annuity equal to one one-hundred-fortieth of his or her average final compensation multiplied by the number of his or her years of membership in the case of each member electing to retire under the provisions of plan A or B.
- 2. An annuity equal to one one-hundred-twentieth of his or her average final compensation multiplied by the number of his or her years of membership service in the case of each member electing to retire under the provisions of plan C.



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3. An annuity equal to one one-hundredth of his or her average final compensation multiplied by the number of his or her years of membership service in the case of each member electing to retire under the provisions of plan D.

In the case of any member who has attained his or her minimum service retirement age prior to becoming a member, the proportion of salary applicable to such member, with respect to plan A, B, C, or D, shall be the proportion computed for the age 1 year younger than his or her minimum service retirement age.

- the proportion of the earnable compensation of each member who is compensated by the employer, and the employer shall cause to be deducted from the salary of each member on each and every payroll for each and every payroll period an amount equal to the proportion of the member's earnable compensation so computed. With respect to plan A, B, C, or D, the employer shall not make any deduction for annuity purposes from the compensation of a member who has attained the age of 60 years, if such member
- (d) In determining the amount earnable by a member in a payroll period, the <u>division</u> department may consider the rate of compensation payable to such member on the first day of the payroll period as continuing throughout such payroll period, and it may omit deductions from compensation for any period less than a full payroll period if a teacher was not a member on the first day of the payroll period, and to facilitate the making of deductions, it may modify any deduction required of any member

elects not to contribute.



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by such an amount as shall not exceed one-tenth of 1 percent of the annual salary from which said deduction is to be made.

- (3) The Pension Accumulation Trust Fund shall be the fund in which shall be accumulated all reserves for the payment of all annuities or benefits in lieu of annuities on retired members and all pensions and other benefits payable from contributions made by the members and by the employers, from which annuities, pensions and benefits in lieu thereof shall be paid. Contributions to, and payments from, the Pension Accumulation Trust Fund, other than as set forth in subsections (2) and (3) herein, shall be made as follows:
- (b) On the basis of regular interest and of such mortality and other tables as shall be adopted by the division department, the actuary engaged by the division department to make each valuation required by this chapter shall, during the period over which the accrued liability contribution is payable, determine, immediately after making such valuation, the uniform and constant percentage of the earnable compensation of the average new entrant, which, if contributed on the basis of his or her compensation throughout his or her entire period of service, would be sufficient to provide for the payment of any pension payable by the state on his or her account. The rate percent so determined shall be known as the normal contribution rate. After the accrued liability contribution has ceased to be payable, the normal contribution rate shall be the rate percent of the earnable compensation of all members, obtained by deducting from the total liabilities of the Pension Accumulation Trust Fund the amount of the funds in hand to the credit of that fund and



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dividing the remainder by 1 percent of the present value of the prospective future salaries of all members as computed on the basis of the mortality and service tables adopted by the division department and on the basis of regular interest. The normal rate of contribution shall be determined and certified to the division department by the actuary after each valuation and shall continue in force until a new valuation and certification are made.

- (c) Immediately succeeding the first valuation, the actuary engaged by the <u>division</u> department shall compute the rate percent of the total earnable compensation of all members which is equivalent to 4 percent of the amount of the total liability for pensions on account of all members and beneficiaries and not dischargeable by the present assets of the Pension Accumulation Trust Fund and by the aforesaid normal contribution if made on account of such members during the remainder of their active service. The rate percent, originally so determined, shall be known as the accrued liability contribution rate.
- (4) The Expense Trust Fund shall be the fund to which shall be credited all moneys contributed for the administrative expenses of the retirement system and from which shall be paid all expenses incurred in connection with the administration and operation of the retirement system. Contribution to the Expense Trust Fund shall be made by transfer from interest earnings on investments in the Annuity Savings Trust Fund. Such transfers shall be approved by the State Board of Administration in accordance with s. 215.44(4) regulated by the Legislature



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pursuant to budgets filed in accordance with the provisions of chapter 216.

(5)

The division department shall annually certify to each (b) employer, at the time it makes the certification to the employer under paragraph (1)(c), the rate of twenty-five-hundredths percent to be applied by the employer to the salary of each member who is compensated by the employer, and the employer shall cause to be deducted from the salary of each member on each and every payroll for each and every payroll period an amount equal to twenty-five-hundredths percent of the member's salary paid by the employer and the employer shall remit monthly such deducted amounts to the division department which shall place the same in the Survivors' Benefit Trust Fund of the Teachers' Retirement System of the state. The amount of contributions by a member to the Survivors' Benefit Trust Fund shall, in no event, be refundable to the member or his or her beneficiaries.

Section 68. Section 238.10, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

238.10 Management of funds.--The <u>division</u> Department of Management Services, annually, shall allow regular interest on the amount for the preceding year to the credit of each of the funds of the retirement system, and to the credit of the individual account therein, if any, with the exception of the expense fund, from the interest and dividends earned from investments.



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Section 69. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and subsections (2) and (3) of section 238.11, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

238.11 Collection of contributions.--

- (1) The collection of contributions shall be as follows:
- Department of Management Services a warrant for the total amount of such deductions. Each employer shall also transmit monthly to the <u>division</u> department a warrant for such employer contribution set aside as provided for in paragraph (a) of this subsection. The <u>division</u> department, after making records of all such warrants, shall transmit them to the Department of Banking and Finance for delivery to the Treasurer of the state who shall collect them.
- (2) The collection of the state contribution shall be made as follows:
- (a) The amounts required to be paid by the state into the Teachers' Retirement System in this chapter shall be provided therefor in the General Appropriations Act. However, in the event a sufficient amount is not included in the General Appropriations Act to meet the full amount needed to pay the retirement compensation provided for in this chapter, the additional amount needed for such retirement compensation is hereby appropriated from the General Revenue Fund as approved by the division Department of Management Services.
- (b) The <u>division</u> Department of Management Services shall certify one-fourth of the amount so ascertained for each year to the Comptroller on or before the last day of July, October,

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January, and April of each year. The Comptroller shall, on or before the first day of August, November, February, and May of each year, draw his or her warrant or warrants on the Treasurer for the respective amounts due the several funds of the retirement system. On the receipt of the warrant or warrants of the Comptroller, the Treasurer shall immediately transfer to the several funds of the retirement system the amounts due.

- (3) All collection of contributions of a nonprofit professional association or corporation of teachers as referred to in s. 238.01(3) and (5) shall be made by such association or corporation in the following manner:
- (a) On April 1 of each year, the <u>division</u> Department of Management Services shall certify to any such nonprofit professional association or corporation of teachers the amounts which will become due and payable during the ensuing fiscal year to each of the funds of the retirement system to which such contributions are payable as set forth in this law.
- (b) The <u>division</u> Department of Management Services shall certify one-fourth of the amount so ascertained for each year to the nonprofit professional association or corporation of teachers on or before the last day of July, October, January, and April of each year. The nonprofit professional association or corporation of teachers shall, on or before the first day of August, November, February, and May of each year, draw its check payable to the <u>division</u> department for the respective amounts due the several funds of the retirement system. Upon receipt of the check, the <u>division</u> department shall immediately transfer to the several funds of the retirement system the amounts due,



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provided, however, that the amounts due the several funds of the retirement system from any such association or corporation for creditable service accruing to any such member before July 1, 1947, shall be paid prior to the retirement of any such member.

Section 70. Section 238.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

238.12 Duties of employers.--

- (1) Each employer shall keep such records and, from time to time, shall furnish such information as the <u>division</u>

 Department of Management Services may require in the discharge of its duties. Upon the employment of any teacher to whom this chapter may apply, the teacher shall be informed by his or her employer of his or her duties and obligations in connection with the retirement system as a condition of his or her employment. Every teacher accepting employment shall be deemed to consent and agree to any deductions from his or her compensation required in this chapter and to all other provisions of this chapter.
- (2) During September of each year, or at such other time as the <u>division</u> department shall approve, each employer shall certify to the <u>division</u> department the names of all teachers to whom this chapter applies.
- (3) Each employer shall, on the first day of each calendar month, or at such less frequent intervals as the <u>division</u> department may approve, notify the <u>division</u> department of the employment of new teachers, removals, withdrawals and changes in salary of members that have occurred during the preceding month, or the period covered since the last notification.

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



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Section 71. Section 238.14, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

238.14 Protection against fraud.—Any person who shall knowingly make any false statement, or shall falsify or permit to be falsified any record or records of this retirement system in any attempt to defraud such system as a result of such act, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. Should any change or error in records result in any member or beneficiary receiving from the retirement system more or less than he or she would have been entitled to receive had the records been correct, then on discovery of any such error the division department shall correct such error, and, as far as practicable, shall adjust the payments in such a manner that the actuarial equivalent of the benefit, to which such member or beneficiary was correctly entitled, shall be paid.

Section 72. Section 238.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

238.15 Exemption of funds from taxation, execution, and assignment.—The pensions, annuities or any other benefits accrued or accruing to any person under the provisions of this chapter and the accumulated contributions and cash securities in the funds created under this chapter are exempted from any state, county or municipal tax of the state, and shall not be subject to execution or attachment or to any legal process whatsoever, and shall be unassignable, except:

(1) That any teacher who has retired shall have the right and power to authorize in writing the division Department of

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Management Services to deduct from his or her monthly retirement allowance money for the payment of the premiums on group insurance for hospital, medical and surgical benefits, under a plan or plans for such benefits approved in writing by the Insurance Commissioner and Treasurer of the state, and upon receipt of such request the <u>division department</u> shall make the monthly payments as directed; and

- (2) As may be otherwise specifically provided for in this chapter.
- Section 73. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 238.171, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 4733 238.171 Monthly allowance; when made.--
 - (3)(a) On July 1, 1974, the <u>Department of Management</u>

 <u>Services director of the Division of Retirement</u> shall adjust the monthly allowance provided for incapacitated teachers under this section by increasing said allowance by a percentage which shall be equal to the percentage change in the average cost-of-living index, as defined in chapter 121, over the period between April 1, 1967, and March 31, 1973. The percent of increase, as of July 1, 1974, shall be 25.4 percent, which is the average cost-of-living increase percentage from April 1, 1967, through March 31, 1973.
- Section 74. Subsection (2) of section 238.181, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 4746 238.181 Reemployment after retirement; conditions and limitations.--
- (2)(a) Any person retired under this chapter, except under the disability retirement provisions of s. 238.07, may be

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reemployed by any private or public employer after retirement and receive retirement benefits and compensation from his or her employer without limitation, except that no person may receive both a salary from reemployment with any agency participating in the Florida Retirement System and retirement benefits under this chapter for a period of 12 months immediately subsequent to the date of retirement.

Any person to whom the limitation in paragraph (a) (b) applies who violates such reemployment limitation and who is reemployed with any agency participating in the Florida Retirement System before completion of the 12-month limitation period shall give timely notice of this fact in writing to his or her employer and to the division Department of Management Services and shall have his or her retirement benefits suspended for the balance of the 12-month limitation period. Any person employed in violation of this paragraph and any employing agency which knowingly employs or appoints such person without notifying the division department to suspend retirement benefits shall be jointly and severally liable for reimbursement to the retirement 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 while reemployed during this reemployment limitation period shall be repaid to the retirement trust fund, and retirement benefits shall remain suspended until such repayment has been made. Benefits suspended beyond the reemployment limitation shall



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apply toward repayment of benefits received in violation of the reemployment limitation.

A district school board may reemploy a retired member as a substitute or hourly teacher 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. District school boards reemploying such teachers are subject to the retirement contribution required by paragraph (g). Reemployment of a retired member as a substitute or hourly teacher 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 his or her first 12 months of retirement shall give timely notice in writing to his or her employer and to the division department of the date he or she will exceed the limitation. The division department shall suspend his or her retirement benefits for the remainder of his or her first 12 months of retirement. Any person employed in violation of this paragraph and any employing agency which knowingly employs or appoints such person without notifying the division department to suspend retirement benefits shall be jointly and severally liable for reimbursement to the retirement 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 his or her



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first 12 months of retirement shall be repaid to the Retirement System Trust Fund, and his or her 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 in violation of the 780-hour reemployment limitation.

A community college board of trustees may reemploy a 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 a community college, 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. Boards of trustees reemploying such instructors are subject to the retirement contribution required in paragraph (g). A retired member may be reemployed as an adjunct instructor for 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 his or her first 12 months of retirement shall give timely notice in writing to his or her employer and to the division department of the date he or she will exceed the limitation. The division department shall suspend his or her retirement benefits for the remainder of his or her first 12 months of retirement. Any person employed in violation of this paragraph and any employing agency which knowingly employs or appoints such person without notifying the division department to suspend retirement benefits shall be jointly and severally liable for reimbursement to the



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retirement 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 his or her 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 in violation of the 780-hour reemployment limitation.

The Board of Trustees of the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind may reemploy a 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 paragraph (g). 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 his or her first 12 months of retirement shall give timely notice in writing to his or her



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employer and to the division department of the date he or she will exceed the limitation. The division department shall suspend his or her retirement benefits for the remainder of his or her first 12 months of retirement. Any person employed in violation of this paragraph and any employing agency which knowingly employs or appoints such person without notifying the division department to suspend retirement benefits shall be jointly and severally liable for reimbursement to the retirement 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 his or her 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.

(f) The State University System may reemploy a retired member as an adjunct faculty member or as a participant in a phased retirement program within the State University System 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 State University System is subject to the retired contribution



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required in paragraph (g), as appropriate. A 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. Any retired member reemployed for more than 780 hours during his or her first 12 months of retirement shall give timely notice in writing to his or her employer and to the division department of the date he or she will exceed the limitation. The division department shall suspend his or her retirement benefits for the remainder of his or her first 12 months of retirement. Any person employed in violation of this paragraph and any employing agency which knowingly employs or appoints such person without notifying the division department to suspend retirement benefits shall be jointly and severally liable for reimbursement to the retirement 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 his or her 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 in violation of the 780hour reemployment limitation.

(g) The employment by an employer of any retiree of a state-administered retirement system shall have no effect on the



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average final compensation or years of creditable service of such retiree. Prior to July 1, 1991, upon employment of any person, other than an elected officer as provided in s. 121.053, who has been retired under any state-administered retirement program, the employer shall pay retirement contributions in an amount equal to the unfunded actuarial accrued liability portion of the employer contribution which would be required for a regular member of the Florida Retirement System. Effective July 1, 1991, contributions shall be made as provided in s. 121.122 for renewed membership.

(h) The limitations of this subsection 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.

Section 75. Section 238.32, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

238.32 Service credit in disputed cases.—The <u>division</u>

Department of Management Services may in its discretion allow or deny a member service credit in disputed or doubtful cases for employment in Florida and out-of-state schools in order to serve the best interests of the state and the member, subject to the membership dates set forth in s. 238.06(4).

Section 76. Subsection (4) of section 650.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

650.02 Definitions. -- For the purpose of this chapter:

(4) The term "state agency" means the <u>Division of</u>

<u>Retirement of the State Board of Administration</u> Department of Management Services.

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Section 77. Subsection (1) of section 650.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

650.06 Social Security Contribution Trust Fund.--

- (1) There is hereby established in the State Treasury to be administered by the State Board of Administration a special fund to be known as the "Social Security Contribution Trust Fund." Such fund shall consist of and there shall be deposited in such fund:
- (a) All contributions, interest, and penalties collected under ss. 650.04 and 650.05;
 - (b) All moneys appropriated thereto under this chapter;
- (c) Any property or securities and earnings thereof acquired through the use of moneys belonging to the fund;
 - (d) Interest earned upon any moneys in the fund; and
- (e) All sums recovered upon the bond of the custodian or otherwise for losses sustained by the fund and all other moneys received for the fund from any other source. All moneys in the fund shall be mingled and undivided. Subject to the provisions of this chapter, the state agency is vested with full power, authority and jurisdiction over the fund, including all moneys and property or securities belonging thereto, and may perform any and all acts whether or not specifically designated, which are necessary to the administration thereof and are consistent with the provisions of this chapter.

Section 78. The Department of Management Services may contract with the State Board of Administration to administer sections 112.05, 121.1815, 238.171, 250.22, and 112.351-112.362, Florida Statutes.

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Section 79. The Division of Retirement of the State Board of Administration is a state agency for the purpose of making payments under the retirement plans and other benefit programs administered by the board and the Division of Retirement. The Department of Financial Services shall issue benefit payments to persons or governmental entities eligible for such payments under the retirement plans and other benefit programs administered by the board and the Division of Retirement. The board is authorized to requisition the appropriate amounts from trust funds in the State Treasury established for this purpose.

Section 80. Subsections (1) and (6) of section 122.02, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

- 122.02 Definitions. -- The following words and phrases as used in this chapter shall have the following meaning unless a different meaning is plainly required by the context:
- (1) "State and county officers and employees" shall include all full-time officers or employees who receive compensation for services rendered from state or county funds, or from funds of drainage districts or mosquito control districts of a county or counties, or from funds of the State Board of Administration or from funds of closed bank receivership accounts or from funds of any state institution or who receive compensation for employment or service from any agency, branch, department, institution or board of the state, or any county of the state, for service rendered the state or county from funds from any source provided for their employment or service regardless of whether the same is paid by state or county warrant or not; provided that such compensation in



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whatever form paid shall be specified in terms of fixed monthly salaries by the employing state or county agency or state or county official and shall not include amounts allowed for professional employees for special or particular service or for subsistence or travel expenses; provided further the division department shall prescribe appropriate procedure for contribution deduction out of such compensation in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, provided further that such officers and employees defined herein shall not include those officers and employees excepted from the provisions by s. 122.18 of this law.

(6) "Division" means the Division of Retirement of the

State Board of Administration "Department" means the Department
of Management Services.

Section 81. Paragraph (d) of subsection (6) and subsection (9) of section 122.03, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

122.03 Contributions; participants; prior service

credit.--

employed by the state or a county of the state continuously from May 1, 1959, and who has not previously received credit for, or is not eligible to claim credit for, prior years of service under subsection (2); or any officer or employee who holds office or is employed by the state or a county of the state on June 1, 1961, and is continuously employed; or any officer or employee who holds office or is employed by the state or county of the state after June 1, 1961, and who is continuously



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employed for 3 years, during which period of time no back payments may be made:

- (d) Prior service allowance may be made only for those periods in which state or county records of service and salary are available, or at least three affidavits and such other information as might be required by the <u>division</u> department to meet the provisions of this law.
- (9) The surviving spouse or other dependent of any member whose employment is terminated by death shall, upon application to the <u>division</u> department, be permitted to pay the required contributions for any service performed by the member which could have been claimed by the member at the time of death. Such service shall be added to the creditable service of the member and shall be used in the calculation of any benefits which may be payable to the surviving spouse or other surviving dependent.

Section 82. Subsection (2) of section 122.05, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 122.05 Legislator services included.--
- (2) The <u>division</u> department and state officials administering <u>such</u> said retirement system shall make the contribution deductions required by law from the compensation hereafter received by any of the <u>said</u> participating members of the Legislature for service rendered the State Legislature in the same manner as in the case of other state employment.

Section 83. Subsection (2) of section 122.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

122.06 Legislative employee services included.--



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(2) The <u>division</u> <u>department</u> and other state officials administering said retirement system shall make the contribution deductions required by law from the compensation hereafter received by any of the said participating attaches for service rendered the State Legislature in the same manner as in the case of other state employment.

Section 84. Subsection (2) of section 122.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 122.07 Seasonal state employment included; time limit and procedure for claiming.--
- Any state employee as described in subsection (1) in the classification set forth in s. 122.01 may elect to receive credit as a state employee under the State and County Officers and Employees' Retirement System by providing to the division department a statement from the state in which he or she was employed, listing days employed and monthly earnings and such other information as may, in the opinion of the division department, be necessary or appropriate in the carrying out of this section. Credit shall be granted upon payment to the division department by such employee of an amount equal to the total retirement contribution that would have been required had the member worked in this state during the period based on the salary drawn by such employee during his or her last full month of employment by the state or any department thereof for each month during said fiscal year for which such employee was not employed by the state or any department thereof, but was employed by some other state, plus interest compounded annually each June 30 from the date of the service in another state to



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the date of payment at the rate of 4 percent until July 1, 1975, and 6.5 percent thereafter. The member shall have until his or her date of retirement to claim and purchase credit for such employment in another state.

Section 85. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1), paragraph (b) of subsection (4), and subsections (5) and (9) of section 122.08, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

122.08 Requirements for retirement; classifications.—There shall be two retirement classifications for all state and county officers and employees participating herein as hereafter provided in this section:

(1)(a) Any state or county officer or employee who has attained normal retirement age, which shall be age 60 for a person who had become a member prior to July 1, 1963, and age 62 for a person who had or shall become a member on or after July 1, 1963, and has accumulated at least 10 years' service in the aggregate within the contemplation of this law, and who has made or makes contributions to the State and County Officers and Employees' Retirement Trust Fund for 5 or more years as prescribed in this law, may voluntarily retire from office or employment and be entitled to receive retirement compensation, the amount of which shall be 2 percent for each year of service rendered, based upon the average final compensation, payable in equal monthly installments, upon his or her own requisition. Requisition requirements shall be set by the division department.

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- A member who elects an option in paragraph (a) shall on a form provided for that purpose designate his or her spouse as beneficiary to receive the benefits which continue to be payable upon the death of the member. After such benefits have commenced under an option in paragraph (a), the retired member may change the designation of his or her spouse as beneficiary only twice. If such a retired member remarries and wishes to make such a change, he or she may do so by filing with the division department a notarized change of spouse designation form and shall notify the former spouse in writing of such change. Upon receipt of a completed change of spouse designation form, the division department shall adjust the member's monthly benefit by the application of actuarial tables and calculations developed to ensure that the benefit paid is the actuarial equivalent of the present value of the member's current benefit. The consent of a retired member's formerly designated spouse as beneficiary to any such change shall not be required.
- (5) Tables for computing the actuarial equivalent shall be approved by the division department.
- (9) Notwithstanding any other provision in this chapter to the contrary, the following provisions shall apply to any officer or employee who has accumulated at least 10 years of service and dies:
- (a) If the deceased member's surviving spouse has previously received a refund of the member's contributions made to the retirement trust fund, such spouse may pay to the division department an amount equal to the sum of the amount of the deceased member's contributions previously refunded and



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interest at 3 percent compounded annually on the amount of such refunded contributions from the date of refund until July 1, 1975, and thereafter at the rate of 6.5 percent interest compounded annually to the date of payment to the <u>division</u> department, and by so doing be entitled to receive the monthly retirement benefit provided in paragraph (c).

- (b) If the deceased member's surviving spouse has not received a refund of the deceased member's contributions, such spouse shall, upon application to the <u>division</u> department, receive the monthly retirement benefit provided in paragraph (c).
- (c) The monthly benefit payable to the spouse described in paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) shall be the amount which would have been payable to the deceased member's spouse, assuming that the member retired on the date of death and had selected the option in subsection (4) which would afford the surviving spouse the greatest amount of benefits, such benefit to be based on the ages of the spouse and member as of the date of death of the member. Such benefit shall commence on the first day of the month following the payment of the aforesaid amount to the division department, if paragraph (a) is applicable, or on the first day of the month following the receipt of the spouse's application by the division department, if paragraph (b) is applicable.

Section 86. Section 122.09, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

122.09 Disability retirement; medical examinations.--Whenever any officer or employee of the state or

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county of the state has service credit as such officer or employee for 10 years within the contemplation of this law, the last 5 years of which, except for a single break not to exceed 1 year, must be continuous, unbroken service and who is regularly contributing to the State and County Officers and Employees' Retirement Trust Fund and shall while holding such office or employment become permanently and totally disabled, physically or mentally, or both, from rendering useful and efficient service as such officer or employee, such officer or employee may retire from his or her office or employment, and upon such retirement the officer or employee shall be paid, so long as the permanent and total disability continues, on his or her own monthly requisition, from the State and County Officers and Employees' Retirement Trust Fund hereinafter established, retirement compensation as provided in s. 122.08; provided that no officer or employee retiring under this section shall receive less than 50 percent of his or her average final compensation not to exceed \$75. No officer or employee of the state and county of the state shall be permitted to retire under the provisions of this section until examined by a duly qualified physician or surgeon or board of physicians and surgeons, to be selected by the Governor for that purpose, and found to be disabled in the degree and in the manner specified in this section. Any officer or employee retiring under this section shall be examined periodically by a duly qualified physician or surgeon or board of physicians and surgeons to be selected by the Governor for that purpose and paid from the retirement trust fund herein provided for, at such time as the division



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Department of Management Services shall direct to determine if such total disability has continued and in the event it be disclosed by said examination that said total disability has ceased to exist, then such officer or employee shall forthwith cease to be paid benefits under this section. Reference to s. 122.08 is for the purpose of computing benefits only. Any person heretofore retired under this section shall be eligible to qualify for the minimum benefits provided herein; however, minimum benefits shall not be paid retroactively.

Section 87. Subsection (4) of section 122.10, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 122.10 Separation from service; refund of contributions .--
- (4) Should any officer or employee elect to receive a refund as provided in this section, his or her application for refund shall be submitted in the manner prescribed by the regulations adopted by the <u>division department</u> and shall accompany the payroll certification, submitted to the <u>division department</u>, on which he or she was last paid prior to termination. The <u>division department</u> shall pay the entire refund due within 45 days after the first day of the month subsequent to receipt of such application for refund and said payroll certification.

Section 88. Subsection (1) of section 122.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

122.12 Designation of beneficiary; death of participant; forfeiture of contributions after benefits paid; survivor benefits.--

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(1) Any officer or employee may file, in writing, a designation of beneficiary and it shall be the duty of the division department to refund 100 percent, without interest, of the contributions made to the retirement trust fund by such deceased officer or employee to such designated beneficiary. The officer or employee shall have the privilege of changing, in writing, the designated beneficiary at any time. Upon failure to designate a beneficiary, the refund shall be made to the persons in the same order as designated in s. 222.15, for wages due deceased employees. If the deceased officer or employee has received any benefits under this law, no refund shall be made unless such officer or employee has elected to accept benefits under s. 122.08(3) or (4).

Section 89. Section 122.13, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

department shall make such rules as are necessary for the effective administration of this chapter, and the cost is hereby annually appropriated and shall be paid into the State and County Officers and Employees' Retirement Trust Fund out of the Intangible Tax Fund in the State Treasury in the amount necessary to administer efficiently the state and county retirement law. At the end of each fiscal year, beginning with fiscal year 1959-1960, the administrative cost of the state and county retirement system for the fiscal year just ended shall be refunded to the General Revenue Fund from interest earned on investments made subsequent to June 30, 1959.



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Section 90. Subsection (2) of section 122.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 122.15 Benefits exempt from taxes and execution.--
- (2) This subsection shall have no effect upon this section except that the <u>division</u> department may, upon written request from the retired member, deduct premiums for group hospitalization insurance from the retirement benefit paid such retired member.
- Section 91. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 5258 122.16, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 5259 122.16 Employment after retirement.--

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(b) Any person to whom the limitation in paragraph (a) applies who violates such reemployment limitation and is reemployed with any agency participating in the Florida Retirement System prior to completion of the 12-month limitation period shall give timely notice of this fact in writing to his or her employer and to the division department; and his or her retirement benefits shall be suspended for the balance of the 12-month limitation period. Any person employed in violation of this subsection and any employing agency which knowingly employs or appoints such person without notifying the division department to suspend retirement benefits shall be jointly and severally liable for reimbursement to the retirement 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



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received by such person while he or she is reemployed during this reemployment limitation period shall be repaid to the retirement trust fund, and his or her retirement benefits shall remain suspended until such repayment has been made. Any benefits suspended beyond the reemployment limitation period shall apply toward the repayment of benefits received in violation of the reemployment limitation.

Section 92. Subsection (3) of section 122.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 122.23 Definitions; ss. 122.21-122.321.--In addition to those definitions set forth in s. 122.02 the following words and phrases used in ss. 122.21-122.24, 122.26 to 122.321, inclusive, have the respective meanings set forth:
- (3) "Division" means the Division of Retirement of the

 State Board of Administration "Department" means the Department
 of Management Services.
- Section 93. Subsections (1) and (5) of section 122.30, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
 - 122.30 Appropriations.--
- (1) There is hereby annually appropriated from the intangible tax fund of the state to the <u>division</u> department as the state agency designated in chapter 650, a sum not to exceed \$10,000 to defray the expenses of such agency in connection with its continuing duties in relation to the social security coverage provided by this law.
- (5) In addition to amounts appropriated by other provisions of this chapter or other laws to defray cost of administration of this system, there is hereby appropriated out

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of the Intangible Tax Fund of the state for use of the <u>division</u> department in its administration of the two divisions of this system, the sum of \$100,000, or so much thereof as may be required for that purpose.

Section 94. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (1) and subsection (11) of section 122.34, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

122.34 Special provisions for certain sheriffs and full-time deputy sheriffs.--

(1)

- (b) Only those members who are full-time criminal law enforcement officers or agents, as certified by the employing authority, who perform duties according to rule, order, or established custom as full-time criminal law enforcement officers or agents shall be certified to the <u>division</u> department as high hazard members, and only such members will be approved by the division department.
- (c) The <u>division</u> <u>department</u> shall make such rules as are necessary for the effective administration of the intent of this section.
- (11) No high hazard member shall be permitted to receive benefits under this section until examined by a duly qualified physician or surgeon, or board of physicians and surgeons, to be selected by the Governor for that purpose, and found to be disabled in the degree and in the manner specified in this section. At such time as the <u>division Department of Management Services</u> directs, any high hazard member receiving disability benefits under this section shall submit to a medical



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examination to determine if such disability has continued, and the cost of such examination shall be paid from the retirement trust fund herein provided for; and in the event it is declared by said examination that said disability has cleared, such member shall be ordered to return to active duty with the same rank and salary that he or she had at the time of disability. Any such member who shall fail to return to duty following such order shall forfeit all rights and claims under this law. Every high hazard member retiring under this provision shall be paid so long as the member's permanent total or partial disability continues, on his or her own requisition.

Section 95. Section 122.351, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

122.351 Funding by local agencies.—Commencing on July 1, 1969, all county and local agencies covered under the provisions of s. 122.35 shall accumulate and be responsible for the payment of social security and retirement matching costs as required under s. 122.35, from the intangible tax allocation of that county and any other source available to the local governmental units, except that all agencies, other than the school boards, shall be given credit for 50 percent of their 1967-1969 actual employer matching cost, actual cost being that cost in cash actually paid by the employer for matching retirement and social security into the fund by the agency for said biennium. The above credit of 50 percent shall be calculated by the division department.

Section 96. The Department of Management Services shall, at the request of the Division of Retirement of the State Board



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of Administration, include within its annual budget request
those general revenue appropriations necessary for providing
retirement or other benefit payments to persons or governmental
entities pursuant to ss. 112.05, 121.1815, 238.171, and 250.22,
Florida Statutes, and any other provision of law authorizing or
requiring general revenue funding for said purpose. The
department shall transfer all moneys so appropriated into the
Florida Retirement System Contributions Clearing Trust Fund
created in s. 121.4503, Florida Statutes, wherefrom payments for
said benefits and associated costs shall be made by the
division.

Section 97. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003.

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