25-501-07

A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to the Special Risk Class of the Florida Retirement System; amending s. 3 121.0515, F.S.; authorizing certain employees 4 5 to purchase additional retirement credit for 6 past service at a 3-percent Special Risk Class 7 accrual value; providing for contribution rate increases to fund certain benefits; directing 8 the Division of Statutory Revision to adjust 9 10 certain contribution rates; providing a statement of important state interest; 11 12 providing an effective date. 13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 14 15 Section 1. Subsection (5) of section 121.0515, Florida 16 17 Statutes, is amended to read: 121.0515 Special risk membership.--18 (5) CREDIT FOR PAST SERVICE. -- A special risk member 19 may purchase retirement credit in the Special Risk Class based 20 21 upon past service, and may upgrade retirement credit for such 22 past service, to the extent of 3/2 percent of the member's 23 average monthly compensation as specified in s. 121.091(1)(a) for such service as follows: 2.4 (a) The member may purchase special risk credit for 25 26 past service with a city or special district which has elected to join the Florida Retirement System, or with a participating 27 agency to which a member's governmental unit was transferred, merged, or consolidated as provided in s. 121.081(1)(f), if 29 the member was employed with the city or special district at 30

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System or with the governmental unit at the time of its 2 transfer, merger, or consolidation with the participating agency. The service must satisfy the criteria set forth in 3 subsection (2) for special risk membership as a law 4 5 enforcement officer, a firefighter, or a correctional officer, or an emergency medical technician or a paramedic whose 7 employer was a licensed Advance Life Support (ALS) or Basic 8 Life Support (BLS) provider; however, no certificate or waiver of certificate of compliance with s. 943.1395 or s. 633.35 9 shall be required for such service. 10

(b) Contributions for upgrading the additional special risk credit pursuant to this subsection shall be equal to the difference in the contributions paid and the special risk percentage rate of gross salary in effect at the time of purchase for the period being claimed, plus interest thereon at the rate of 4 percent a year compounded annually from the date of such service until July 1, 1975, and 6.5 percent a year thereafter until the date of payment. This past service may be purchased by the member or by the employer on behalf of the member.

Section 2. Effective July 1, 2007, in order to fund the benefit improvements provided in s. 121.0515, Florida

Statutes, as amended by this act, the contribution rate that applies to the Special Risk Class of the defined benefit program of the Florida Retirement System shall be increased by 0.07 percentage points. This increase shall be in addition to all other changes to such contribution rates which may be enacted into law to take effect on that date. The Division of Statutory Revision is directed to adjust accordingly the contribution rates set forth in s. 121.71, Florida Statutes.

1	Section 3. The Legislature finds that a proper and
2	legitimate state purpose is served when employees and retirees
3	of the state and its political subdivisions, and the
4	dependents, survivors, and beneficiaries of such employees and
5	retirees, are extended the basic protections afforded by
6	governmental retirement systems. These persons must be
7	provided benefits that are fair and adequate and that are
8	managed, administered, and funded in an actuarially sound
9	manner, as required by s. 14, Art. X of the State Constitution
10	and part VII of chapter 112, Florida Statutes. Therefore, the
11	Legislature determines and declares that this act fulfills an
12	important state interest.
13	Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.
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16	SENATE SUMMARY
17	Increases the amount of past service that specified Special Risk Class members in the Florida Retirement
18	System may purchase or upgrade.
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