

AN ACT

To amend sections 145.012, 145.09, 145.191, 145.194, 145.28, 145.29, 145.295, 145.297, 145.2914, 145.2915, 145.31, 145.311, 145.33, 145.35, 145.362, 145.363, 145.37, 145.384, 145.391, 145.40, 145.43, 145.431, 145.45, 145.46, 145.563, 145.58, 145.581, 145.584, 145.63, 145.64, 145.82, 145.88, 145.92, 145.95, 171.04, 311.01, 742.53, 742.63, 3301.079, 3307.04, 3307.35, 3307.39, 3307.41, 3307.56, 3307.563, 3307.57, 3307.58, 3307.62, 3307.66, 3307.70, 3307.71, 3307.711, 3307.73, 3309.01, 3309.11, 3309.26, 3309.261, 3309.28, 3309.301, 3309.35, 3309.381, 3309.42, 3309.45, 3309.49, 3309.51, 3309.55, 3309.56, 3309.57, 3309.571, 3309.691, 3309.82, 5505.03, 5505.04, 5505.12, 5505.14, 5505.15, 5505.16, 5505.17, 5505.174, 5505.18, 5505.33, 5505.34, 5505.59, and 5705.21; to enact sections 4113.75 and 5505.112 and new sections 145.402, 3307.561, and 3309.43; and to repeal sections 145.402, 3307.561, and 3309.43 of the Revised Code to revise the law governing Ohio's public retirement systems, to allow a private sector employer to automatically deduct from an employee's compensation contributions to an employee retirement plan or program, to change the optional qualifications to be eligible for the office of sheriff, and to authorize school districts with a safety and security tax levy to report how the district is using funding from that levy to the Ohio Department of Education.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio:

SECTION 1. That sections 145.012, 145.09, 145.191, 145.194, 145.28, 145.29, 145.295, 145.297, 145.2914, 145.2915, 145.31, 145.311, 145.33, 145.35, 145.362, 145.363, 145.37, 145.384, 145.391, 145.40, 145.43, 145.431, 145.45, 145.46, 145.563, 145.58, 145.581, 145.584, 145.63, 145.64, 145.82, 145.88, 145.92, 145.95, 171.04, 311.01, 742.53, 742.63, 3301.079, 3307.04, 3307.35, 3307.39, 3307.41, 3307.56, 3307.563, 3307.57, 3307.58, 3307.62, 3307.66, 3307.70, 3307.71, 3307.711, 3307.73, 3309.01, 3309.11, 3309.26, 3309.261, 3309.28, 3309.301, 3309.35, 3309.381, 3309.42, 3309.45, 3309.49, 3309.51, 3309.55, 3309.56, 3309.57, 3309.571, 3309.691, 3309.82, 5505.03, 5505.04, 5505.12, 5505.14, 5505.15, 5505.16, 5505.17, 5505.174, 5505.18, 5505.33, 5505.34, 5505.59, and 5705.21 be amended and sections 4113.75 and 5505.112 and new sections 145.402, 3307.561, and 3309.43 of the Revised Code be enacted as follows:

Sec. 145.012. (A) "Public employee," as defined in division (A) of section 145.01 of the Revised Code, does not include any person:

(1) Who is employed by a private, temporary-help service and performs services under the direction of a public employer or is employed on a contractual basis as an independent contractor under a personal service contract with a public employer;

(2) Who is an emergency employee serving on a temporary basis in case of fire, snow, earthquake, flood, or other similar emergency;

(3) Who is employed in a program established pursuant to the "Job Training Partnership Act," 96 Stat. 1322 (1982), 29 U.S.C.A. 1501;

(4) Who is an appointed member of either the motor vehicle salvage dealers board or the motor vehicle dealer's board whose rate and method of payment are determined pursuant to division (J) of section 124.15 of the Revised Code;

(5) Who is employed as an election worker and paid less than ~~five~~ six hundred dollars per calendar year for that service;

(6) Who is employed as a firefighter in a position requiring satisfactory completion of a firefighter training course approved under former section 3303.07 or section 4765.55 of the Revised Code or conducted under section 3737.33 of the Revised Code except for the following:

(a) Any firefighter who has elected under section 145.013 of the Revised Code to remain a contributing member of the public employees retirement system;

(b) Any firefighter who was eligible to transfer from the public employees retirement system to the Ohio police and fire pension fund under section 742.51 or 742.515 of the Revised Code and did not elect to transfer;

(c) Any firefighter who has elected under section 742.516 of the Revised Code to transfer from the Ohio police and fire pension fund to the public employees retirement system.

(7) Who is a member of the board of health of a city or general health district, which pursuant to sections 3709.051 and 3709.07 of the Revised Code includes a combined health district, and whose compensation for attendance at meetings of the board is set forth in division (B) of section 3709.02 or division (B) of section 3709.05 of the Revised Code, as appropriate;

(8) Who participates in an alternative retirement plan established under Chapter 3305. of the Revised Code;

(9) Who is a member of the board of directors of a sanitary district established under Chapter 6115. of the Revised Code;

(10) Who is a member of the unemployment compensation advisory council;

(11) Who is an employee, officer, or governor-appointed member of the board of directors of the nonprofit corporation formed under section 187.01 of the Revised Code;

(12) Who is employed by the nonprofit entity established to provide advocacy services and a client assistance program for people with disabilities under Section 319.20 of Am. Sub. H.B. 153 of the 129th general assembly and whose employment begins on or after October 1, 2012.

(B) No inmate of a correctional institution operated by the department of rehabilitation and correction, no patient in a hospital for the mentally ill or criminally insane operated by the department of mental health and addiction services, no resident in an institution for the mentally retarded operated by the department of developmental disabilities, no resident admitted as a patient of a veterans' home operated under Chapter 5907. of the Revised Code, and no resident of a county home shall be considered as a public employee for the purpose of establishing membership or calculating service credit or benefits under this chapter. Nothing in this division shall be construed to affect any service credit attained by any person who was a public employee before becoming an inmate, patient, or resident at any institution listed in this division, or the payment of any benefit for which such a person or such a person's beneficiaries otherwise would be eligible.

Sec. 145.09. The public employees retirement board shall elect from its membership a chairperson, ~~and~~ The board shall appoint an executive director who shall serve as secretary to the board, an actuary, and other employees as necessary for the transaction of the business of the public employees retirement system. The compensation of all persons so appointed

shall be fixed by the board. Such persons appointed by the board are not employees of the state and are not subject to Chapter 124. of the Revised Code.

If the board provides health care coverage to employees of the retirement system, it may permit employees of the Ohio public employees deferred compensation board to participate.

Effective ninety days after September 15, 2004, the board may not employ a state retirement system investment officer, as defined in section 1707.01 of the Revised Code, who does not hold a valid state retirement system investment officer license issued by the division of securities in the department of commerce.

Every expense voucher of an employee, officer, or board member of the public employees retirement system shall itemize all purchases and expenditures.

The board shall perform other functions as required for the proper execution of this chapter, and may adopt rules in accordance with section 111.15 of the Revised Code for the proper administration and management of this chapter.

The board may take all appropriate action to avoid payment by the system or its members of federal or state income taxes on contributions to the system or amounts earned on such contributions.

Notice of proposed rules shall be given to interested parties and rules adopted by the board shall be published and otherwise made available. When it files a rule with the joint committee on agency rule review pursuant to section 111.15 of the Revised Code, the board shall submit to the Ohio retirement study council a copy of the full text of the rule, and if applicable, a copy of the rule summary and fiscal analysis required by division (B) of section 127.18 of the Revised Code.

The board may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, contract and be contracted with. All of its business shall be transacted, all of its funds invested, all warrants for money drawn and payments made, and all of its cash and securities and other property shall be held in the name of the board, or in the name of its nominee, provided that nominees are authorized by retirement board resolution for the purpose of facilitating the ownership and transfer of investments.

If the Ohio retirement study council establishes a uniform format for any report the board is required to submit to the council, the board shall submit the report in that format.

Sec. 145.191. (A) Except as provided in division (F) of this section, a public employees retirement system member or contributor who, as of

December 31, 2002, has less than five years of total service credit is eligible to make an election under this section. A member or contributor who is employed in more than one position subject to this chapter is eligible to make only one election. The election applies to all positions subject to this chapter.

Not later than June 30, 2003, an eligible member or contributor may elect to participate in a PERS defined contribution plan. Unless a form evidencing an election is received by the system on or before that date, a member or contributor to whom this section applies is deemed to have elected to continue participating in the PERS defined benefit plan.

(B) An election under this section shall be made in writing on a form provided by the system and filed with the system.

(C) On the request of a member or contributor who made an election under this section, the system shall credit to the plan elected the accumulated contributions standing to the credit of the member or contributor in the employees' savings fund and cancel all service credit and eligibility for any payment, benefit, or right under the PERS defined benefit plan.

(D) For each member or contributor who elected under this section to participate in a PERS defined contribution plan and made a request under division (C) of this section, any additional deposits that were made by the member or contributor prior to April 6, 2007, under the version of division (C) of section 145.23 of the Revised Code as it existed immediately prior to that date shall be credited to the defined contribution plan.

(E) An election under this section is effective as of January 1, 2003, and, except as provided in section 145.814 of the Revised Code or rules governing the PERS defined benefit plan, is irrevocable on receipt by the system.

(F) An election may not be made under this section by a member or contributor who is either of the following:

(1) A PERS retirant who is a member under division ~~(D)~~(C) of section 145.38 of the Revised Code;

(2) A PERS law enforcement officer or a PERS public safety officer.

Sec. 145.194. (A) A member participating in a PERS defined contribution plan ~~at the time of commencing employment as~~ who becomes a PERS law enforcement officer or PERS public safety officer shall cease making contributions to ~~that a PERS defined contribution~~ plan. During employment as a PERS law enforcement officer or a PERS public safety officer and any concurrent employment in a position subject to this chapter, the member shall contribute only to the PERS defined benefit plan.

(B) A member described in division (A) of this section with contributions standing to the member's credit in a PERS defined contribution plan may elect to have those contributions deposited and credited in the PERS defined benefit plan in accordance with section 145.814 of the Revised Code and rules governing the PERS defined benefit plan.

Sec. 145.28. (A)~~(1)~~ As used in this section, "paying system" and "transferring system" have the same meanings as in section 145.37 of the Revised Code.

~~(B)(1)~~ Except as provided in division ~~(A)~~~~(B)~~(2) of this section, a member of the public employees retirement system with at least eighteen months of contributing service in the system, the state teachers retirement system, or the school employees retirement system who exempted self from membership in one or more of the systems pursuant to section 145.03 or 3309.23 of the Revised Code, or former section 3307.25 or 3309.25 of the Revised Code, or was exempt under section 3307.24 of the Revised Code, may purchase credit for each year or portion of a year of service for which the member was exempted.

(2) A member may not purchase credit under this section for exempted service if the service was exempted from contribution under section 145.03 of the Revised Code and subject to the tax on wages imposed by the "Federal Insurance Contributions Act," 68A Stat. 415 (1954), 26 U.S.C.A. 3101, as amended.

~~(B)(C)~~ Credit shall be purchased under this section in accordance with section 145.29 of the Revised Code.

~~(C)(D)~~ Credit purchasable under this section shall not exceed one year of service for any twelve-month period. If the period of service for which credit is purchasable under this section is concurrent with a period of service that will be used to calculate a retirement benefit from this system, the state teachers retirement system, or school employees retirement system, the amount of the credit shall be adjusted in accordance with rules adopted by the public employees retirement board.

A member who is also a member of the state teachers retirement system or the school employees retirement system shall purchase credit for any service for which the member exempted self under section 145.03 or 3309.23 of the Revised Code, or former section 3307.25 or 3309.25 of the Revised Code, or was exempt under section 3307.24 of the Revised Code, from the retirement system in which the member has the greatest number of years of service credit. If the member receives benefits under section 145.37 of the Revised Code, the retirement system that ~~determines and pays the~~

~~benefit~~ is the paying system under that section shall receive from the ~~other~~ system or systems that are transferring systems the amounts paid by the member for purchase of credit for exempt service plus interest at the actuarial assumption rate of the transferring system ~~paying that amount~~. The interest shall be for the period beginning on the date of the member's last payment for purchase of the credit and ending on the date of the member's retirement.

~~(D) If a member dies or withdraws from service, any payment made by the member under this section shall be considered as accumulated contributions of the member.~~

(E) The retirement board shall adopt rules to implement this section.

Sec. 145.29. (A) A member of the public employees retirement system who elects to purchase or otherwise obtain service credit under section 145.28, 145.291, 145.292, 145.293, or 145.299 or division (G) of section 145.47 of the Revised Code shall do both of the following:

(1) Submit a request to the public employees retirement board in a manner or form approved by the board;

(2) For each year, or portion of a year, of credit purchased or otherwise obtained, pay to the employees' savings fund an amount specified by the board that is equal to one hundred per cent of the additional liability resulting from purchasing or obtaining that year or portion of a year of credit as determined by an actuary employed by the board.

(B) Subject to board rules, a member may choose to purchase or otherwise obtain in any one payment only part of any service credit listed in division (A) of this section.

(C) If a member dies or withdraws from service, any payment made by the member to purchase or obtain any service credit listed in division (A) of this section shall be considered as accumulated contributions of the member.

Sec. 145.295. (A) As used in this section and section 145.2913 of the Revised Code:

(1) "Uniform retirement system" or "uniform system" means the Ohio police and fire pension fund or state highway patrol retirement system.

(2) "Military service credit" means credit purchased or obtained under this chapter or Chapter 742. or 5505. of the Revised Code for service in the armed forces of the United States.

(B) A member of the public employees retirement system who has contributions on deposit with, but is no longer contributing to, a uniform retirement system shall, in computing years of service, be given full credit for service credit earned under Chapter 742. or 5505. of the Revised Code or for military service credit if a transfer to the public employees retirement

system is made under this division. At the request of the member a transfer shall be made if all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The member's service credit in the public employees retirement system is greater than the amount of credit that would be transferred under this division.

(2) The member is eligible, or with the credit will be eligible, for a retirement or disability benefit.

~~(2)~~(3) The member agrees to retire or accept a disability benefit not later than ninety days after receiving notice from the public employees retirement system that the credit has been obtained.

~~(3)~~(4) For each year of service the uniform system transfers to the public employees retirement system the sum of the following:

(a) An amount equal to the member's accumulated contributions to the uniform system making the transfer and any payments by the member for military service credit;

(b) An amount equal to the lesser of the employer's contributions to the uniform system or the appropriate employer contribution under section 145.48 or 145.49 of the Revised Code;

(c) Interest, determined as provided in division (H) of this section, on the amounts specified in divisions (B)~~(3)~~(4)(a) and (b) of this section for the period from the last day of the year for which the service credit in the uniform system was earned or in which the military service credit was purchased or obtained to the date the transfer is made.

(C) A member of the public employees retirement system who has at least eighteen months of contributing service credit with the public employees retirement system, who is a former member of a uniform retirement system, and who has received a refund of the member's accumulated contributions to that uniform system may obtain credit for service credit earned under Chapter 742. or 5505. of the Revised Code or for military service credit if all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The member's service credit in the public employees retirement system is greater than the amount of credit that would be transferred under this division.

(2) The member is eligible, or with the credit will be eligible, for a retirement or disability benefit.

~~(2)~~(3) The member agrees to retire or accept a disability benefit not later than ninety days after receiving notice from the public employees retirement system that the credit has been obtained.

~~(3)~~(4) For each year of service, the public employees retirement system receives the sum of the following:

(a) An amount, which shall be paid by the member, equal to the amount refunded by the uniform system to the member for that year for accumulated contributions and payments for military service credit, with interest at a rate established by the public employees retirement board on that amount from the date of the refund to the date of the payment;

(b) Interest, which shall be transferred by the uniform system, on the amount refunded to the member that is attributable to the year of service from the last day of the year for which the service credit was earned or in which payment was made for military service credit to the date the refund was made;

(c) An amount, which shall be transferred by the uniform system, equal to the lesser of the employer's contributions to the uniform system or the appropriate employer contribution under section 145.48 or 145.49 of the Revised Code, with interest on that amount from the last day of the year for which the service credit was earned or in which payment was made for military service credit to the date of the transfer.

On receipt of payment from the member, the public employees retirement system shall notify the uniform system, which, on receipt of the notice, shall make the transfer required by this division. Interest shall be determined as provided in division (H) of this section.

(D) A member of the public employees retirement system who purchased credit under former division (A)(1) of this section, as it existed before August 25, 1995, for service as a member of a uniform retirement system may elect to have the amount the member paid for this service credit refunded to the member under this division if the member agrees to repurchase this service credit pursuant to division (C) of this section.

(E) Service credit purchased or otherwise obtained under this section shall be considered the equivalent of Ohio service credit.

The public employees retirement system shall withdraw the credit and refund all amounts paid or transferred under this section if either of the following occurs:

(1) The member fails to retire or accept a disability benefit not later than ninety days after receiving notice from the public employees retirement system that credit has been obtained.

(2) The member's application for a disability benefit is denied.

A member may choose to purchase only part of the credit the member is eligible to purchase under division (C) of this section, subject to rules of the public employees retirement board. A member is ineligible to purchase or otherwise obtain credit under this section for service to be used in calculation of any retirement benefit currently being paid or payable to the

member in the future under any other retirement program or for service credit that may be transferred under section 145.2913 of the Revised Code.

(F) If a member of the public employees retirement system who is not a current contributor elects to receive credit under section 742.21 or 5505.40 of the Revised Code for service for which the member contributed to the system or made payment for military service credit, the system shall transfer to the Ohio police and fire pension fund or the state highway patrol retirement system, as applicable, the amount specified in division (D) of section 742.21 or division (B)(2) of section 5505.40 of the Revised Code.

(G) A member of the public employees retirement system who earned service credit in the public employees retirement system for full-time service as a township or municipal police officer and received service credit in the Ohio police and fire pension fund under section 742.511 or 742.512 of the Revised Code for such service may elect to have the credit restored as public employees retirement system service credit by paying the public employees retirement system an amount equal to the accumulated contributions paid by the member to the Ohio police and fire pension fund under section 742.511 or 742.512 of the Revised Code. When such an election is made, the Ohio police and fire pension fund shall transfer to the public employees retirement system the amount previously transferred under section 742.511 or 742.512 of the Revised Code from the public employees retirement system to the Ohio police and fire pension fund.

(H) Interest charged under this section shall be calculated separately for each year of service credit. Unless otherwise specified in this section, it shall be calculated at the lesser of the actuarial assumption rate for that year of the public employees retirement system or of the uniform retirement system in which the credit was earned. The interest shall be compounded annually.

(I) At the request of the public employees retirement system, the uniform retirement system shall certify to the public employees retirement system a copy of the records of the service and contributions of a public employees retirement system member who seeks service credit under this section.

Sec. 145.297. (A) As used in this section, "employing unit" means:

(1) A municipal corporation, agency of a municipal corporation designated by the legislative authority, park district, conservancy district, sanitary district, health district, township, department of a township designated by the board of township trustees, metropolitan housing authority, public library, county law library, union cemetery, joint hospital, or other political subdivision or unit of local government.

(2) With respect to state employees, any entity of the state including any

department, agency, institution of higher education, board, bureau, commission, council, office, or administrative body or any part of such entity that is designated by the entity as an employing unit.

(3)(a) With respect to employees of a board of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services, that board.

(b) With respect to employees of a county board of developmental disabilities, that board.

(c) With respect to other county employees, the county or any county agency designated by the board of county commissioners.

(4) In the case of an employee whose employing unit is in question, the employing unit is the unit through whose payroll the employee is paid.

(B) An employing unit may establish a retirement incentive plan for its eligible employees. In the case of a county or county agency, decisions on whether to establish a retirement incentive plan for any employees other than employees of a board of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services or county board of developmental disabilities and on the terms of the plan shall be made by the board of county commissioners. In the case of a municipal corporation or an agency of a municipal corporation, decisions on whether to establish a retirement incentive plan and on the terms of the plan shall be made by the legislative authority.

All terms of a retirement incentive plan shall be in writing.

A retirement incentive plan shall provide for purchase by the employing unit of service credit for eligible employees who elect to participate in the plan and for payment by the employing unit of the entire cost of the service credit purchased.

Every retirement incentive plan shall remain in effect for at least one year. The employing unit shall give employees at least thirty days' notice before terminating the plan.

Every retirement incentive plan shall include provisions for the timely and impartial resolution of grievances and disputes arising under the plan.

No employing unit shall have more than one retirement incentive plan in effect at any time.

(C) Any classified or unclassified employee of the employing unit who is a member of the public employees retirement system shall be eligible to participate in the retirement incentive plan established by the employee's employing unit if the employee meets the following criteria:

(1) The employee is not any of the following:

(a) An elected official;

(b) A member of a board or commission;

(c) A person elected to serve a term of fixed length;

(d) A person appointed to serve a term of fixed length, other than a person appointed and employed by the person's employing unit.

(2) The employee is or will be eligible to retire under section 145.33; ~~145.332~~, or 145.37 of the Revised Code on or before the date of termination of the retirement incentive plan. Service credit to be purchased for the employee under the retirement incentive plan shall be included in making such determination.

(3) The employee agrees to retire under section 145.33; ~~145.332~~, or 145.37 of the Revised Code within ninety days after receiving notice from the public employees retirement system that service credit has been purchased for the employee under this section.

Participation in the plan shall be available to all eligible employees except that the employing unit may limit the number of participants in the plan to a specified percentage of its employees who are members of the public employees retirement system on the date the plan goes into effect. The percentage shall not be less than five per cent of such employees. If participation is limited, employees with more total service credit have the right to elect to participate before employees with less total service credit. In the case of employees with the same total service credit, employees with a greater length of service with the employing unit have the right to elect to participate before employees with less service with the employing unit. Employees with less than eighteen months of service with the employing unit have the right to elect to participate only after all other eligible employees have been given the opportunity to elect to participate. For the purpose of determining which employees may participate in a plan, total service credit includes service credit purchased by the employee under this chapter after the date on which the plan is established.

A retirement incentive plan that limits participation may provide that an employee who does not notify the employing unit of the employee's decision to participate in the plan within a specified period of time will lose priority to participate in the plan ahead of other employees with less seniority. The time given to an employee to elect to participate ahead of other employees shall not be less than thirty days after the employee receives written notice that the employee may participate in the plan.

(D) A retirement incentive plan shall provide for purchase of the same amount of service credit for each participating employee, except that the employer may not purchase more service credit for any employee than the lesser of the following:

- (1) Five years of service credit;
- (2) An amount of service credit equal to one-fifth of the total service

credited to the participant under this chapter, exclusive of service credit purchased under this section.

For each year of service credit purchased under this section, the employing unit shall pay an amount equal to the additional liability resulting from the purchase of that year of service credit, as determined by an actuary employed by the public employees retirement board.

(E) Upon the election by an eligible employee to participate in the retirement incentive plan, the employee and the employing unit shall agree upon a date for payment or contracting for payment in installments to the public employees retirement system of the cost of the service credit to be purchased. The employing unit shall submit to the public employees retirement system a written request for a determination of the cost of the service credit, and within forty-five days after receiving the request, the board shall give the employing unit written notice of the cost.

The employing unit shall pay or contract to pay in installments the cost of the service credit to be purchased to the public employees retirement system on the date agreed to by the employee and the employing unit. The payment shall be made in accordance with rules adopted by the public employees retirement board. The rules may provide for payment in installments and for crediting the purchased credit to the employee's account upon the employer's contracting to pay the cost in installments. The board shall notify the member when the member is credited with service purchased under this section. If the employee does not retire within ninety days after receiving notice that the employee has been credited with the purchased service credit, the system shall refund to the employing unit the amount paid for the service credit.

No payment made to the public employees retirement system under this section shall affect any payment required by section 145.48 of the Revised Code.

(F) For the purpose of determining whether the cost of a retirement incentive plan established by a county or county agency under this section is an allowable cost for the purpose of federal funding for any year, the cost shall be considered abnormal or mass severance pay only if fifteen per cent or more of the county or county agency's employees participate in the plan in that year.

Nothing in this division shall relieve a county or county agency from seeking federal approval for any early retirement incentive plan that uses federal dollars in accordance with federal law.

Sec. 145.2914. (A) The public employees retirement board may adopt rules in accordance with section 145.09 of the Revised Code to establish a

program under which service credit earned under section 145.33 of the Revised Code or division (A)(2), (B)~~(2)~~(1)(b), or (C)(2) of section 145.332 of the Revised Code is treated as service credit earned under division (A)(1), (B)(1)(a), or (C)(1) of section 145.332 of the Revised Code if the member elects to do one of the following:

(1) Have the amount of service credit earned under section 145.33 of the Revised Code or division (A)(2), (B)~~(2)~~(1)(b), or (C)(2) of section 145.332 of the Revised Code reduced so there is no additional liability to the public employees retirement system;

(2) Make payment to the public employees retirement system in accordance with the rules. The number of years of service credit earned under section 145.33 of the Revised Code or division (A)(2), (B)~~(2)~~(1)(b), or (C)(2) of section 145.332 of the Revised Code that may be treated as service credit earned under division (A)(1), (B)(1)(a), or (C)(1) of section 145.332 of the Revised Code shall not exceed five.

(B) If the board adopts rules under division (A) of this section, all of the following apply to payments made under division (A)(2) of this section:

(1) For each year or portion of a year of service credit earned under section 145.33 of the Revised Code or division (A)(2), (B)~~(2)~~(1)(b), or (C)(2) of section 145.332 of the Revised Code that is to be treated as service credit earned under division (A)(1), (B)(1)(a), or (C)(1) of section 145.332 of the Revised Code, the member shall pay to the retirement system an amount specified by the retirement board that is not less than one hundred per cent of the additional liability resulting from the purchase of that year, or portion of a year, of service.

(2) Any amounts paid under this section shall be credited to the employees' savings fund.

(3) The amounts paid by the member under this section are subject to the limits established by division (n) of section 415 of the "Internal Revenue Code of 1986," 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C. 415(n), as amended.

(C) A member may make the election authorized by this section if the member is eligible to retire under this chapter or will become eligible to retire as a result of the election. The member shall agree to retire not later than ninety days after making the election under division (A)(1) of this section or receiving notice of the additional liability specified under division (B)(1) of this section. If the member makes the election under division (A)(2) of this section, payment shall be made in full for any credit earned under section 145.33 of the Revised Code or division (A)(2), (B)~~(2)~~(1)(b), or (C)(2) of section 145.332 of the Revised Code that is to be treated as service credit earned under division (A)(1), (B)(1)(a), or (C)(1) of section

145.332 of the Revised Code, but the member may choose to make payment for only part of the credit for which the member is eligible.

(D) If the member does not retire not later than ninety days after making the election under division (A)(1) of this section or the payment under division (A)(2) of this section, the system shall refund any payment and shall not treat the credit as service credit earned under division (A)(1), (B)(1)(a), or (C)(1) of section 145.332 of the Revised Code.

(E) The board's rules may deal with any other matter necessary to implement this section.

Sec. 145.2915. (A) As used in this section, "workers' compensation" means benefits paid under Chapter 4121. or 4123. of the Revised Code.

(B) A member of the public employees retirement system may purchase service credit under this section for any period during which the member was out of service with a public employer and receiving workers' compensation if the member returns to employment covered by this chapter.

(C) For credit purchased under this section:

(1) If the member is employed by one public employer, for each year of credit, the member shall pay to the system for credit to the employees' savings fund an amount equal to the employee contribution required under section 145.47 of the Revised Code that would have been paid had the member not been out of service based on the salary of the member before the member was out of service. To this amount shall be added an amount equal to compound interest at a rate established by the public employees retirement board from the first date the member was out of service to the final date of payment.

(2) If the member is employed by more than one public employer, the member is eligible to purchase credit under this section and make payments under division (C)(1)(b) of this section only for the position for which the member received workers' compensation. For each year of credit, the member shall pay to the system for credit to the employees' savings fund an amount equal to the employee contribution required under section 145.47 of the Revised Code that would have been paid had the member not been out of service based on the salary of the member earned for the position for which the member received workers' compensation before the member was out of service. To this amount shall be added an amount equal to compound interest at a rate established by the public employees retirement board from the first date the member was out of service to the final date of payment.

(D) The member may choose to purchase only part of such credit in any one payment, subject to board rules.

(E) If a member makes a payment under division (C) of this section, the

employer to which workers' compensation benefits are attributed shall pay to the system for credit to the employers' accumulation fund an amount equal to the employer contribution required under section 145.48 or 145.49 of the Revised Code corresponding to that payment that would have been paid had the member not been out of service based on the salary of the member before the member was out of service.

Compound interest at a rate established by the board from the later of the member's date of re-employment or ~~the effective date of this section January 7, 2013,~~ to the date of payment shall be added to this amount if the employer pays all or any portion of the amount ~~later than~~ after the end of the earlier of the following:

(1) A period of five years or a;

(2) A period that is three times the period during which the member was out of service and receiving workers' compensation beginning from.

The period described in division (E)(1) or (2) of this section begins with the later of the member's date of re-employment or ~~the effective date of this section January 7, 2013.~~

(F) The number of years purchased under this section shall not exceed three. Credit purchased under this section may be combined pursuant to section 145.37 of the Revised Code with credit purchased or obtained under Chapter 3307. or 3309. of the Revised Code for periods the member was out of service and receiving workers' compensation, but not more than a total of three years of credit may be used in determining retirement eligibility or calculating benefits under section 145.37 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 145.31. (A)(1) Except as provided in this section, a member or former member of the public employees retirement system with at least eighteen months of contributing service credit in this system, the state teachers retirement system, the school employees retirement system, the Ohio police and fire pension fund, or the state highway patrol retirement system, after the withdrawal of accumulated contributions and cancellation of service credit in this system, may restore such service credit by redepositing the amount withdrawn, with interest on such amount compounded annually at a rate to be determined by the public employees retirement board from the first day of the month of withdrawal to and including the month of redeposit. ~~The~~

(2) The amount redeposited shall be credited as follows:

~~(1)(a)~~ (a) The amount that equals the amount, if any, included under section 145.401 of the Revised Code in the withdrawal of accumulated contributions under section 145.40 of the Revised Code shall be credited to the employers' accumulation fund.

~~(2)~~(b) The remaining amount shall be credited to the member's account in the employees' savings fund.

(3) If the accumulated contributions were withdrawn under section 145.402 of the Revised Code, service credit may be restored only if the member or former member accrued eighteen months of contributing service credit after withdrawal of the accumulated contributions.

(B) The member may choose to purchase only part of ~~such~~ the credit available under this section in any one payment, subject to board rules. Except for any amount included under section 145.401 of the Revised Code in the withdrawal of accumulated contributions under section 145.40 of the Revised Code, the total payment to restore canceled service credit, plus any interest credited thereto, shall be considered as accumulated contributions of the member. If a former member is eligible to buy the service credit as a member of the Ohio police and fire pension fund, state highway patrol retirement system, or the city of Cincinnati retirement system, the former member is ineligible to restore that service credit under this section.

(C) Any employee who has been refunded the employee's accumulated contributions to the public employees retirement system solely by reason of membership in a former firemen's relief and pension fund or a former police relief and pension fund may restore membership in the public employees retirement system by redepositing with the system the amount refunded, with interest on such amount compounded annually at a rate to be determined by the board from the month of refund to and including the month of redeposit. The member may choose to purchase only part of such credit in any one payment, subject to board rules.

~~(B)~~(D) In lieu of an amount required by division (A) of this section, the board may by rule require deposit of an amount specified in the rule. The amount shall not exceed the additional liability to the retirement system that results from granting the credit.

Sec. 145.311. (A) A member of the public employees retirement system who has at least eighteen months of contributing service credit in the system, the Ohio police and fire pension fund, school employees retirement system, state teachers retirement system, or state highway patrol retirement system, and is a former member of or no longer contributing to the school employees retirement system or state teachers retirement system may restore service credit under section 3307.71 or 3309.26 of the Revised Code by making payments pursuant to this section through a payroll deduction plan established under section 145.294 of the Revised Code. A member seeking to restore this service credit shall notify the public employees retirement system on a form approved by the public employees retirement board. After

receiving the notice, the public employees retirement system shall request that the former retirement system calculate under section 3307.712 or 3309.262 of the Revised Code the cost to the member to restore service credit for each year or portion of a year of service for which the member seeks to restore the service credit. The amount the former retirement system certifies as the cost of restoring the service credit, plus interest described in division (B) of this section, is the cost to the member of restoring the service credit. On receiving the certification from the former retirement system, the public employees retirement system shall notify the member of the cost.

(B) For each year or portion of a year of service credit restored under section 3307.71 or 3309.26 of the Revised Code, a member shall pay to the public employees retirement system the amount certified by the former retirement system plus interest at a rate specified by the former retirement system under section 3307.712 or 3309.262 of the Revised Code for the period during which deductions are made under section 145.294 of the Revised Code.

(C) The public employees retirement board shall at least annually notify ~~transmit~~ to the former retirement system that a payment notice and any payments made to restore service credit under section 3307.71 or 3309.26 of the Revised Code ~~has been made. At the time the payment is transferred under division (D) of this section, the~~ The former retirement system shall restore the service credit for the year or portion of a year for which the payment was made.

~~(D) On application for a payment of accumulated contributions or an age and service retirement, disability, or survivor benefit under Chapter 145., 3307., or 3309. of the Revised Code by a member who made payments under this section to restore service credit in a former retirement system, the public employees retirement system shall pay to the former retirement system an amount equal to the total amount paid by the member under this section.~~

~~(E)~~ The board shall adopt rules to implement this section.

Sec. 145.33. (A)(1) Except as provided in section 145.332 of the Revised Code, when a member retires on age and service retirement, the member's total annual single lifetime allowance shall be an amount adjusted in accordance with division (A)(2) or (B) of this section and determined by multiplying the member's total service credit by the following:

(a) If the member is eligible for age and service retirement under division (A) or (B) of section 145.32 of the Revised Code, two and two-tenths per cent of the member's final average salary for each of the first thirty years of service plus two and one-half per cent of the member's final

average salary for each subsequent year of service;

(b) If the member is eligible for age and service retirement under division (C) of section 145.32 of the Revised Code, two and two-tenths per cent of the member's final average salary for each of the first thirty-five years of service plus two and one-half per cent of the member's final average salary for each subsequent year of service.

(2)(a) For a member eligible to retire under division (A) of section 145.32 of the Revised Code, the member's allowance under division (A)(1) of this section shall be adjusted by the factors of attained age or years of service to provide the greater amount as determined by the following schedule:

Attained Birthday	or	Years of Total Service Credit	Percentage of Base Amount
58		25	75
59		26	80
60		27	85
61			88
		28	90
62			91
63			94
		29	95
64			97
65		30 or more	100

(b) For a member eligible to retire under division (B) ~~or (C)~~ of section 145.32 of the Revised Code, the member's allowance under division (A)(1) of this section shall be reduced by a percentage determined by the board's actuary for each year the member retires before ~~whichever of the following occurs first: attaining age sixty-six, attaining age fifty-two with thirty-one years of total service credit, or earning thirty-two years of total service credit.~~

~~(c) For a member eligible to retire under division (C) of section 145.32 of the Revised Code, the member's allowance under division (A)(1) of this section shall be reduced by a percentage determined by the board's actuary for each year the member retires before whichever of the following occurs first: attaining age sixty-seven, or attaining age fifty-five with thirty-two years of total service credit based on the number of years the commencement of the allowance precedes the member's eligibility for an unreduced allowance.~~

~~(d)(c)~~ The actuary may use an actuarially based average percentage

reduction for purposes of division (A)(2)(b) ~~or (e)~~ of this section.

(3) For a member eligible to retire under division (A) or (B) of section 145.32 of the Revised Code, the right to a benefit shall vest in accordance with the following schedule, based on the member's attained age by September 1, 1976:

Attained Birthday	Percentage of Base Amount
66	102
67	104
68	106
69	108
70 or more	110

(B) The total annual single lifetime allowance that a member shall receive under this section shall not exceed the lesser of the following:

- (1) Any limit established under section 145.333 of the Revised Code;
- (2) One hundred per cent of the member's final average salary;
- (3) The limit established by section 415 of the "Internal Revenue Code of 1986," 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C.A. 415, as amended.

(C) Retirement allowances determined under this section shall be paid as provided in section 145.46 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 145.35. (A) As used in this section, "~~on-duty~~ and sections 145.362 and 145.363 of the Revised Code:

(1) "Examining physician" means a physician appointed by the public employees retirement board to conduct a medical examination of a disability benefit applicant or recipient.

(2) "Medical consultant" means a physician appointed by the board to review a member's application for a disability benefit or an appeal of a denial or termination of a benefit.

(3) "On-duty" illness or injury" means an illness or injury that occurred during or resulted from performance of duties under the direct supervision of a public employer.

(B) The public employees retirement system shall provide disability coverage to each member who has at least five years of total service credit and disability coverage for on-duty illness or injury to each member who is a PERS law enforcement officer or PERS public safety officer, regardless of length of service.

The coverage shall extend only to illness or injury that occurs before the member's contributing service terminates or, in the case of illness or injury that results from contributing service, becomes evident not later than two

years after the date the contributing service ends. The coverage shall not extend to disability resulting from elective cosmetic surgery other than reconstructive surgery.

Not later than October 16, 1992, the public employees retirement board shall give each person who is a member on July 29, 1992, the opportunity to elect disability coverage either under section 145.36 of the Revised Code or under section 145.361 of the Revised Code. The board shall mail notice of the election, accompanied by an explanation of the coverage under each of the Revised Code sections and a form on which the election is to be made, to each member at the member's last known address. The board shall also provide the explanation and form to any member on request.

Regardless of whether the member actually receives notice of the right to make an election, a member who fails to file a valid election under this section shall be considered to have elected disability coverage under section 145.36 of the Revised Code. To be valid, an election must be made on the form provided by the retirement board, signed by the member, and filed with the board not later than one hundred eighty days after the date the notice was mailed, or, in the case of a form provided at the request of a member, a date specified by rule of the retirement board. Once made, an election is irrevocable, but if the member ceases to be a member of the retirement system, the election is void. If a person who makes an election under this section also makes an election under section 3307.62 or 3309.39 of the Revised Code, the election made for the system that pays a disability benefit to that person shall govern the benefit.

Disability coverage shall be provided under section 145.361 of the Revised Code for persons who become members after July 29, 1992, and for members who elect under this division to be covered under section 145.361 of the Revised Code.

The retirement board may adopt rules governing elections made under this division.

(C) Application for a disability benefit may be made by a member, by a person acting in the member's behalf, or by the member's employer, provided the member has disability coverage under section 145.36 or 145.361 of the Revised Code and is not receiving a disability benefit under any other Ohio state or municipal retirement program. Application must be made within two years from the date the member's contributing service under the PERS defined benefit plan terminated or the date the member ceased to make contributions to the PERS defined benefit plan under section 145.814 of the Revised Code, unless the ~~retirement board~~ board's medical consultant determines that the member's medical records demonstrate

conclusively that at the time the two-year period expired, the member was physically or mentally incapacitated for duty and unable to make an application. Application may not be made by or for any person receiving age and service retirement benefits under section 145.33, 145.331, 145.332, or 145.37 or former section 145.34 of the Revised Code or any person who, pursuant to section 145.40 of the Revised Code, has been paid the accumulated contributions standing to the credit of the person's individual account in the employees' savings fund. The application shall be made on a form provided by the retirement board.

(D) The benefit payable to any member who is approved for a disability benefit shall become effective on the first day of the month immediately following the later of the following:

- (1) The last day for which compensation was paid;
- (2) The attainment of eligibility for a disability benefit.

(E) Medical examination of a member who has applied for a disability benefit shall be conducted by a competent disinterested examining physician ~~or physicians selected by the board~~ to determine whether the member is mentally or physically incapacitated for the performance of duty by a disabling condition either permanent or presumed to be permanent. The disability must have occurred since last becoming a member or have increased since last becoming a member to such extent as to make the disability permanent or presumed to be permanent. A disability is presumed to be permanent if it is expected to last for a continuous period of not less than twelve months following the filing of the application.

The standard used to determine whether a member is incapacitated for duty is that the member is mentally or physically incapable of performing the duties of the most recent public position held by the member ~~held at the time the disabling condition began or of a position with similar duties.~~

If the A member shall receive a disability benefit under section 145.36 or 145.361 of the Revised Code if all of the following apply:

(1) The board's examining physician ~~or physicians determine~~ determines that the member qualifies for a disability benefit, ~~the~~ and the board's medical consultant concurs with the determination;

(2) The board concurs with the medical consultant's determination, ~~and the;~~

(3) The member agrees to medical treatment as specified in division (F) of this section, ~~the member shall receive a disability benefit under section 145.36 or 145.361 of the Revised Code. The.~~

A disability benefit described in this division may be commenced prior to the board's concurrence with the determination if the conditions specified

in divisions (E)(1) and (3) of this section are met.

The action of the board shall be final.

(F) The public employees retirement board shall adopt rules requiring a disability benefit recipient, as a condition of continuing to receive a disability benefit, to agree in writing to obtain any medical treatment recommended by the board's ~~physician~~ medical consultant and submit medical reports regarding the treatment. If the board determines that a disability benefit recipient is not obtaining the medical treatment or the board does not receive a required medical report, the disability benefit shall be suspended until the treatment is obtained, the report is received by the board, or the board's ~~physician~~ medical consultant certifies that the treatment is no longer helpful or advisable. Should the recipient's failure to obtain treatment or submit a medical report continue for one year, the recipient's right to the disability benefit shall be terminated as of the effective date of the original suspension.

The board shall require the recipient of a disability benefit who is described in section 145.363 of the Revised Code to comply with that section.

(G) A disability benefit that has been granted a member but has not commenced shall not be paid if the member continues in or returns to employment with the same employer in the same position or in a position with duties similar to those of the position the member held at the time the benefit was granted.

(H) In the event an employer files an application for a disability benefit as a result of a member having been separated from service because the member is considered to be mentally or physically incapacitated for the performance of the member's present duty, and the ~~physician or physicians selected by the board~~ board's medical consultant reports to the board that the member is physically and mentally capable of performing service similar to that from which the member was separated and the board concurs in the report, the board shall so certify to the employer and the employer shall restore the member to the member's previous position and salary or to a similar position and salary.

Sec. 145.362. A disability benefit recipient whose application for a disability benefit was received by the public employees retirement system before ~~the effective date of this amendment~~ January 7, 2013, shall, regardless of when the disability occurred, retain membership status and shall be considered on leave of absence from employment during the first five years following the effective date of a disability benefit, notwithstanding any contrary provisions in this chapter.

A disability benefit recipient whose application for a disability benefit is received by the system on or after ~~the effective date of this amendment~~ January 7, 2013, shall, regardless of when the disability occurred, retain membership status and shall be considered on leave of absence from employment during the first three years following the effective date of a disability benefit, except that, if the member is receiving rehabilitative services acceptable to a the board's examining physician or physicians ~~selected by the board~~, the board may permit the recipient to retain membership status and be considered on leave of absence from employment for up to five years following the effective date of a disability benefit.

The public employees retirement board shall require any disability benefit recipient to undergo an annual medical examination, except that the board may waive the medical examination if the board's ~~physician or physicians certify~~ medical consultant certifies that the recipient's disability is ongoing or for any other reason specified in rules adopted by the board. If any disability benefit recipient refuses to submit to a medical examination, the recipient's disability benefit shall be suspended until withdrawal of the refusal. Should the refusal continue for one year, all the recipient's rights in and to the disability benefit shall be terminated as of the effective date of the original suspension.

On completion of the examination by ~~an~~ the board's examining physician ~~or physicians selected by the board~~, the physician ~~or physicians~~ shall report to the board's medical consultant and certify ~~to the board~~ whether the disability benefit recipient meets the applicable standard for termination of a disability benefit. If the examining physician certifies that the recipient meets the applicable standard for termination of a disability benefit and the medical consultant concurs, the medical consultant shall certify to the board that the recipient meets the applicable standard for termination.

(A) Regardless of when the disability occurred, if the recipient's application for a disability benefit was received by the system before ~~the effective date of this amendment~~ January 7, 2013, or, if on or after that date, the recipient has been receiving the benefit for less than three years or is receiving rehabilitative services acceptable to the board's examining physician or physicians and considered on leave of absence, or, if, ~~when at the disability occurred~~ time contributing service terminated, the recipient was a PERS law enforcement officer, the standard for termination is that the recipient is no longer physically and mentally incapable of resuming the service from which the recipient was found disabled.

(B) Regardless of when the disability occurred, if the recipient's

application for a disability benefit is received by the system on or after ~~the effective date of this amendment~~ January 7, 2013, the recipient has been receiving the benefit for three years or longer, the recipient was not a PERS law enforcement officer ~~when at the disability occurred~~ time contributing service terminated, and the recipient is not receiving rehabilitative services acceptable to the board's examining physician ~~or physicians~~, the standard for termination is that the recipient is not physically or mentally incapable of performing the duties of any position that meets all of the following criteria:

(1) Replaces not less than seventy-five per cent of the member's final average salary, adjusted each year by the actual average increase in the consumer price index prepared by the United States bureau of labor statistics (U.S. city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers: "all items 1982-1984=100");

(2) Is reasonably to be found in the member's regional job market;

(3) Is one that the member is qualified for by experience or education.

If the board concurs in the report that the disability benefit recipient meets the applicable standard for termination of a disability benefit, the payment of the disability benefit shall be terminated not later than three months after the date of the board's concurrence or upon employment as a public employee. If the leave of absence has not expired, the retirement board shall certify to the disability benefit recipient's last employer before being found disabled that the recipient is no longer physically and mentally incapable of resuming service that is the same or similar to that from which the recipient was found disabled. The employer shall restore the recipient to the recipient's previous position and salary or to a position and salary similar thereto, unless the recipient was dismissed or resigned in lieu of dismissal for dishonesty, misfeasance, malfeasance, or conviction of a felony.

Each disability benefit recipient shall file with the board an annual statement of earnings, current medical information on the recipient's condition, and any other information required in rules adopted by the board. The board may waive the requirement that a disability benefit recipient file an annual statement of earnings or current medical information if the board's ~~physician~~ medical consultant certifies that the recipient's disability is ongoing.

The board shall annually examine the information submitted by the recipient. If a disability benefit recipient refuses to file the statement or information, the disability benefit shall be suspended until the statement and information are filed. If the refusal continues for one year, the recipient's right to the disability benefit shall be terminated as of the effective date of the original suspension.

If a disability benefit recipient is restored to service by, or elected to an elective office with, an employer covered by this chapter, the recipient's disability benefit shall cease.

The board may terminate a disability benefit at the request of the recipient if the board's medical consultant determines that the recipient is no longer disabled.

If disability retirement under section 145.36 of the Revised Code is terminated for any reason, the annuity and pension reserves at that time in the annuity and pension reserve fund shall be transferred to the employees' savings fund and the employers' accumulation fund, respectively. If the total disability benefit paid is less than the amount of the accumulated contributions of the member transferred to the annuity and pension reserve fund at the time of the member's disability retirement, the difference shall be transferred from the annuity and pension reserve fund to another fund as may be required. In determining the amount of a member's account following the termination of disability retirement for any reason, the total amount paid shall be charged against the member's refundable account.

If a disability allowance paid under section 145.361 of the Revised Code is terminated for any reason, the reserve on the allowance at that time in the annuity and pension reserve fund shall be transferred from that fund to the employers' accumulation fund.

If a former disability benefit recipient again becomes a contributor, other than as an other system retirant under section 145.38 of the Revised Code, to this system, the state teachers retirement system, or the school employees retirement system, and completes an additional two years of service credit, the former disability benefit recipient shall be entitled to full service credit, not exceeding five years' service credit, for the period as a disability benefit recipient, except that if the board adopts a rule requiring payment for the service credit it shall be granted only if the former disability benefit recipient pays an amount determined under the rule. The rule shall not require payment of more than the additional liability to the retirement system resulting from granting the credit. The former recipient may choose to purchase only part of the credit in any one payment.

If any employer employs any member who is receiving a disability benefit, the employer shall file notice of employment with the retirement board, designating the date of employment. In case the notice is not filed, the total amount of the benefit paid during the period of employment prior to notice shall be charged to and paid by the employer.

Sec. 145.363. This section does not apply to a disability recipient who, ~~when at the disability occurred~~ time contributing service terminated, was a

PERS law enforcement officer.

(A) A recipient of a disability benefit granted under this chapter whose application for such benefit is received by the public employees retirement system on or after ~~the effective date of this section~~ January 7, 2013, shall, regardless of when the disability occurred, apply for social security disability insurance benefit payments under 42 U.S.C. 423 if the recipient meets the requirements of divisions (a)(1)(A),(B), and (C) of that section. The application for a social security disability insurance benefit shall be made ~~not before the later than~~ of the ninety-first days day after the recipient is granted a disability benefit under this chapter or the ninety-first day after the recipient attains eligibility to apply for a social security disability insurance benefit, unless the public employees retirement ~~board~~ board's medical consultant determines from the member's medical records that the member is physically or mentally unable to make the application. The recipient shall file with the system a copy of the completed application ~~with the public employees retirement system~~ or other evidence of application satisfactory to the board and the system shall accept the copy or other evidence as evidence of the member's application. If a recipient fails without just cause to apply for social security disability insurance benefit payments or to file a copy or other evidence of the application with the system, the disability benefit under this chapter shall be suspended until application is made and a copy or other evidence of the application filed with the system. If the recipient's failure to file a copy or other evidence of the application continues for one year, the disability benefit shall be terminated as of the effective date of the original suspension.

(B) Regardless of whether the recipient's disability is ongoing, a recipient of a disability benefit under this chapter who also receives social security disability insurance benefit payments shall file an annual statement of earnings under section 145.362 of the Revised Code and include a copy of the social security disability insurance benefit annual reward letter that specifies the amount of the social security disability insurance program benefit.

(C) Except as provided in division (D) of this section, if any year the total of a disability benefit recipient's benefit under this chapter and social security disability insurance benefit payments exceeds the recipient's adjusted final average salary, the annual benefit under this chapter shall be reduced so that the annual total equals the recipient's adjusted final average salary.

The recipient's adjusted final average salary shall be determined by annually increasing the recipient's final average salary by the percentage

increase in the consumer price index, not exceeding three per cent, as determined by the United States bureau of labor statistics (U.S. city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers: "all items 1982-84=100") for the twelve-month period ending on the thirtieth day of June of the immediately preceding calendar year. If the consumer price index for that period did not increase, no increase shall be made to the recipient's adjusted final average salary for that period. No adjustment to a benefit shall exceed the limit established by section 415 of the "Internal Revenue Code of 1986," 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C. 415, as amended.

If a disability benefit recipient receives retroactive payments of social security disability insurance benefits, the system may reduce future disability benefit payments under this chapter to recoup any overpayments.

(D) The reductions required by division (C) of this section do not apply to a recipient of a disability benefit under this chapter who has not less than five years of service credit for periods during which the recipient had earnings from other employment that was subject to the tax imposed by the "Federal Insurance Contributions Act," 26 U.S.C. 3101.

Sec. 145.37. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "State retirement system" means the public employees retirement system, school employees retirement system, or state teachers retirement system.

(2) "Total service credit" means all service credit earned in the state retirement systems, except credit for service subject to section 145.38 of the Revised Code. Total service credit shall not exceed one year of credit for any twelve-month period.

(3) In addition to the meaning given in division (N) of section 145.01 of the Revised Code, "disability benefit" means "disability benefit" as defined in sections 3307.01 and 3309.01 of the Revised Code.

(4) "Paying system" means the state retirement system in which the member has the greatest service credit, without adjustment or, if a member who has equal service credit in two or more retirement systems, the retirement system in which the member has the greatest total contributions.

(5) "Transferring system" means the state retirement system transferring a member's contributions and service credit in that system to the paying system.

(6) "Retention percentage" means five per cent, or a percentage determined under division (D) of this section, of a member's earnable salary in the case of a member of the public employees retirement system or five per cent, or a percentage determined under division (D) of this section, of a member's compensation in the case of a member of the state teachers

retirement system or school employees retirement system.

(B) To coordinate and integrate membership in the state retirement systems, ~~the following provisions apply:~~

~~(1) Subject to division (B)(2) of this section,~~ at the election of a member, total contributions and service credit in all state retirement systems, including amounts paid to restore service credit under sections 145.311, 3307.711, and 3309.261 of the Revised Code, shall be used in determining the eligibility and total retirement or disability benefit payable. When total contributions and service credit are so combined, the following provisions apply:

~~(a)(1)~~ Age and service retirement shall be effective on the first day of the month immediately following the later of:

~~(i)(a)~~ The last day for which compensation was paid;

~~(ii)(b)~~ The attainment of minimum age or service credit eligibility for benefits provided under this section;

~~(iii)(c)~~ Ninety days prior to receipt by the board of the member's completed application for retirement.

~~(b)(2)~~ Disability benefits shall be effective on the first day of the month immediately following the later of the following:

~~(i)(a)~~ The last day for which compensation was paid;

~~(ii)(b)~~ The attainment of eligibility for a disability benefit.

~~(c) Eligibility for a disability benefit shall be determined by the (3) The board of the state retirement paying system that will calculate shall do both of the following:~~

~~(a) Determine a member's eligibility for a retirement or disability benefit:~~

~~(b) Calculate and pay the member's retirement or disability benefit, as provided in division (B)(1)(d) of this section. The state retirement~~

~~(4)(a) Each transferring system calculating and paying the disability benefit in which the member has service credit shall certify the determination to the board of each other state retirement paying system in which the member has service credit and shall be accepted by that board as sufficient for granting a disability benefit.~~

~~(d) The board of the state retirement system in which the member had the greatest service credit, without adjustment, shall calculate and pay the total retirement or disability benefit. Where the member's credit is equal in two or more state retirement systems, the system having the largest total contributions of the member shall calculate and pay the total benefit.~~

~~(e) all of the following:~~

~~(i) The service credit earned by the member in the transferring system;~~

(ii) The beginning and ending dates of the service credit period covered by the transferring system;

(iii) Any breaks in service by the member, excluding school breaks;

(iv) If available, a statement listing the member's monthly contributions and service credit earned, obtained, or purchased in the transferring system.

(b) The certification under division (B)(4)(a) of this section may be reviewed by both the transferring system and the paying system.

(5) In determining the total credit to be used in calculating a retirement or disability benefit, ~~total combined service credit shall not exceed~~ credit shall not be reduced below that certified by the transferring system, except as follows:

(a) Not more than one year of credit may be certified by the transferring system for any one "year" as defined in the law of the transferring system making the calculation.

~~(b)~~ The paying system may reduce any credit certified by the transferring system that is concurrent with any period of service credit the member earned from the paying system.

(c) The paying system may reduce any credit certified by the transferring system if the amount certified, when added to the paying system's service credit for any one "year" as defined in the law of the paying system, exceeds one year.

~~(6)(a) The state retirement paying system calculating and paying a retirement or disability benefit shall receive from the other transferring system or systems all of the following for each year of service:~~

(i) The amount contributed by the member, or, in the case of service credit purchased by the member, paid by the member, that is attributable to the year of service;

(ii) An amount equal to the lesser of the employer's contributions made on behalf of the member to the ~~retirement~~ transferring system for that year of service ~~less the retention percentage~~ or the amount that would have been contributed by the employer for the service had the member been a member of the public employees retirement system at the time the credit was earned ~~less the retention percentage~~;

(iii) Interest compounded annually on the amounts specified in divisions (B)~~(4)(b)~~~~(6)(a)~~(i) and (ii) of this section at the lesser of the actuarial assumption rate for that year of the ~~retirement paying~~ system ~~determining and paying the benefit~~ or the ~~other retirement~~ transferring system or systems ~~transferring amounts under this section~~.

(b) If applicable, the public employees retirement system shall pay to the ~~retirement paying~~ system ~~calculating and paying the benefit~~ a portion of

the amount paid on behalf of the member by an employer under section 145.483 of the Revised Code. The portion shall be paid from the employers' accumulation fund and shall equal the product obtained by multiplying by two the amount the member would have contributed during the period the employer failed to deduct contributions, as described in section 145.483 of the Revised Code.

~~(g)(7)~~ The annuity rates and mortality tables of the ~~state retirement paying~~ system ~~making the calculation and paying the benefit~~ shall be exclusively applicable.

~~(h)(8)~~ Deposits made for the purpose of an additional annuity, together with earnings as provided in section 145.62 of the Revised Code, upon the request of the member, shall be transferred to the ~~state retirement paying~~ system ~~paying the benefit~~. The return upon such deposits shall be that offered by the ~~state retirement paying~~ system ~~making the calculation and paying the benefit~~.

~~(i)(9)~~ A former member receiving a retirement or disability benefit under this section, who accepts employment amenable to coverage in any state retirement system that participated in the former member's combined benefit, shall be subject to the applicable provisions of law governing such re-employment. If a former member should be paid any amount in a retirement benefit, to which the former member is not entitled under the applicable provisions of law governing such re-employment, such amount shall be recovered by the ~~state retirement paying~~ system ~~paying such benefit~~ by utilizing any recovery procedure available under the ~~code provisions of the state retirement system covering such~~ paying system's re-employment provisions.

(C) A PERS retirant or other system retirant, as defined in section 145.38 of the Revised Code, is not eligible to receive any benefit under this section for service subject to section 145.38 of the Revised Code.

(D) The retention percentage used in the calculation under division (B)(6)(a)(ii) of this section shall be reviewed by the state retirement systems not less than once every five years after the effective date of this amendment or on request of any of the systems. If the retirement systems agree, the retention percentage may be changed if any system's employer contribution rate increases or decreases or the systems agree that a change is in the interest of one or more of the systems.

Sec. 145.384. (A) As used in this section, "PERS retirant" means a PERS retirant who is not subject to division (C) of section 145.38 of the Revised Code. For purposes of this section, "PERS retirant" also includes both of the following:

- (1) A member who retired under section 145.383 of the Revised Code;
- (2) A retirant whose retirement allowance resumed under section 145.385 of the Revised Code.

(B)(1) An other system retirant or PERS retirant who has made contributions under section 145.38 or 145.383 of the Revised Code or, in the case of a retirant described in division (A)(2) of this section, section 145.47 of the Revised Code may file an application with the public employees retirement system to receive either a benefit, as provided in division (B)(2) of this section, or payment of the retirant's contributions made under those sections, as provided in division (H) of this section.

(2) A benefit under this section shall consist of an annuity having a reserve equal to the amount of the retirant's accumulated contributions for the period of employment, other than the contributions excluded pursuant to division (B)(4)(a) or (b) of section 145.38 of the Revised Code, and an amount of the employer's contributions determined by the board.

(a) Unless, as described in division (I) of this section, the application is accompanied by a statement of the spouse's consent to another form of payment or the board waives the requirement of spousal consent, a PERS retirant or other system retirant who is married at the time of application for a benefit under this section shall receive a monthly annuity under which the actuarial equivalent of the retirant's single life annuity is paid in a lesser amount for life and one-half of the lesser amount continues after the retirant's death to the surviving spouse.

(b) A PERS retirant or other system retirant who is not subject to division (B)(2)(a) of this section shall elect either to receive the benefit as a monthly annuity or a lump sum payment discounted to the present value using a rate of interest determined by the board. A retirant who elects to receive a monthly annuity shall select one of the following as the plan of payment:

- (i) The retirant's single life annuity;
- (ii) The actuarial equivalent of the retirant's single life annuity in an equal or lesser amount for life and continuing after death to a surviving beneficiary designated at the time the plan of payment is selected.

If a retirant who is eligible to select a plan of payment under division (B)(2)(b) of this section fails to do so, the benefit shall be paid as a monthly annuity under the plan of payment specified in rules adopted by the public employees retirement board.

(c) Notwithstanding divisions (B)(2)(a) and (b) of this section, if a monthly annuity would be less than twenty-five dollars per month, the retirant shall receive a lump sum payment.

(C)(1) The death of a spouse or other designated beneficiary under a plan of payment described in division (B)(2) of this section cancels that plan of payment. The PERS retiree or other system retiree shall receive the equivalent of the retiree's single life annuity, as determined by the board, effective the first day of the month following the date of death.

(2) On divorce, annulment, or marriage dissolution, a PERS retiree or other system retiree receiving a benefit described in division (B)(2) of this section under which the beneficiary is the spouse may, with the written consent of the spouse or pursuant to an order of the court with jurisdiction over the termination of the marriage, elect to cancel the plan and receive the equivalent of the retiree's single life annuity as determined by the board. The election shall be made on a form provided by the board and shall be effective the month following its receipt by the board.

(D) Following a marriage or remarriage, a PERS retiree or other system retiree who is receiving a benefit described in division (B)(2)(b)(i) of this section may elect a new plan of payment under division (B)(2)(b) of this section based on the actuarial equivalent of the retiree's single life annuity as determined by the board.

If the marriage or remarriage occurs on or after June 6, 2005, the election must be made not later than one year after the date of the marriage or remarriage.

The plan elected under this division shall be effective on the date of receipt by the board of an application on a form approved by the board, but any change in the amount of the benefit shall commence on the first day of the month following the effective date of the plan.

(E) A benefit payable under division (B)(2) of this section shall commence on the latest of the following:

(1) The last day for which compensation for all employment subject to section 145.38, 145.383, or 145.385 of the Revised Code was paid;

(2) Attainment by the PERS retiree or other system retiree of age sixty-five;

(3) If the PERS retiree or other system retiree was previously employed under section 145.38, 145.383, or 145.385 of the Revised Code and is receiving or previously received a benefit under this section, completion of a period of twelve months since the effective date of the last benefit under this section;

(4) Ninety days prior to receipt by the board of the member's completed application for retirement;

(5) A date specified by the retiree.

(F)(1) If a PERS retiree or other system retiree dies while employed in

employment subject to section 145.38, 145.383, or 145.385 of the Revised Code, a lump sum payment shall be paid to the retirant's beneficiary under division (G) of this section. The lump sum shall be calculated in accordance with division (H) of this section if the retirant was under age sixty-five at the time of death. It shall be calculated in accordance with division (B)(2) of this section if the retirant was age sixty-five or older at the time of death.

(2) If at the time of death a PERS retirant or other system retirant receiving a monthly annuity under division (B)(2)(b)(i) of this section has received less than the retirant would have received as a lump sum payment, the difference between the amount received and the amount that would have been received as a lump sum payment shall be paid to the retirant's beneficiary under division (G) of this section.

(3) If a beneficiary receiving a monthly annuity under division (B)(2) of this section dies and, at the time of the beneficiary's death, the total of the amounts paid to the retirant and beneficiary are less than the amount the retirant would have received as a lump sum payment, the difference between the total of the amounts received by the retirant and beneficiary and the amount that the retirant would have received as a lump sum payment shall be paid to the beneficiary's estate.

(G) A PERS retirant or other system retirant employed under section 145.38, 145.383, or 145.385 of the Revised Code may designate one or more persons as beneficiary to receive any benefits payable under division (B)(2)(b) of this section due to death. The designation shall be in writing duly executed on a form provided by the public employees retirement board, signed by the PERS retirant or other system retirant, and filed with the board prior to death. The last designation of a beneficiary revokes all previous designations. The PERS retirant's or other system retirant's marriage, divorce, marriage dissolution, legal separation, withdrawal of account, birth of a child, or adoption of a child revokes all previous designations. If there is no designated beneficiary or the beneficiary is not located within ninety days, the beneficiary ~~is the beneficiary determined under division (D) of section 145.43 of the Revised Code. If~~ shall be determined in the following order of precedence:

- (1) Surviving spouse;
- (2) Children, share and share alike;
- (3) Parents, share and share alike;
- (4) Estate.

If any benefit payable under this section due to the death of a PERS retirant or other system retirant is not claimed by a beneficiary within five years after the death, the amount payable shall be transferred to the income

fund and thereafter paid to the beneficiary or the estate of the PERS retirant or other system retirant on application to the board.

(H)(1) A PERS retirant or other system retirant who applies under division (B)(1) of this section for payment of the retirant's contributions and is unmarried or is married and, unless the board has waived the requirement of spousal consent, includes with the application a statement of the spouse's consent to the payment, shall be paid the contributions made under section 145.38 or 145.383 of the Revised Code or, in the case of a retirant described in division (A)(2) of this section, section 145.47 of the Revised Code, plus interest as provided in section 145.471 of the Revised Code, if the following conditions are met:

(a) The retirant has not attained sixty-five years of age and has terminated employment subject to section 145.38, 145.383, or 145.385 of the Revised Code for any cause other than death or the receipt of a benefit under this section.

(b) Three months have elapsed since the termination of the retirant's employment subject to section 145.38, 145.383, or 145.385 of the Revised Code, other than employment exempted from contribution pursuant to section 145.03 of the Revised Code.

(c) The retirant has not returned to public service, other than service exempted from contribution pursuant to section 145.03 of the Revised Code, during the three-month period.

(2) Payment of a retirant's contributions cancels the retirant's right to a benefit under division (B)(2) of this section.

(I) A statement of a spouse's consent under division (B)(2) of this section to the form of a benefit or under division (H) of this section to a payment of contributions is valid only if signed by the spouse and witnessed by a notary public. The board may waive the requirement of spousal consent if the spouse is incapacitated or cannot be located, or for any other reason specified by the board. Consent or waiver is effective only with regard to the spouse who is the subject of the consent or waiver.

(J) No amount received under this section shall be included in determining an additional benefit under section 145.323 of the Revised Code or any other post-retirement benefit increase.

Sec. 145.391. The public employees retirement board may establish and maintain a qualified governmental excess benefit arrangement that meets the requirements of division (m) of section 415 of the "Internal Revenue Code of 1986," 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C.A. 415, as amended, and any regulations adopted thereunder. If established, the arrangement shall be a separate portion of the public employees retirement system and be maintained solely

for the purpose of providing to retired members that part of a benefit otherwise payable under this chapter that exceeds the limits established by section 415 of the "Internal Revenue Code of 1986," as amended. If established, the amounts required to fund the arrangement shall be included in the employer's contribution required by sections 145.48 and 145.51 of the Revised Code.

Members participating in an arrangement established under this section shall not be permitted to elect to defer compensation to the arrangement. Contributions to and benefits paid under an arrangement shall not be payable from a trust that is part of the system unless the trust is maintained solely for the purpose of providing such benefits.

The board shall adopt rules to administer an arrangement established under this section.

Sec. 145.40. (A)(1) Subject to the provisions of section 145.57 of the Revised Code and except as provided in ~~section 145.402 of the Revised Code~~ and division (B) of this section, if a member elects to become exempt from contribution to the public employees retirement system pursuant to section 145.03 of the Revised Code or ceases to be a public employee for any cause other than death, retirement, receipt of a disability benefit, or current employment in a position in which the member has elected to participate in an alternative retirement plan under section 3305.05 or 3305.051 of the Revised Code, upon application the public employees retirement board shall pay the member the member's accumulated contributions, plus any applicable amount calculated under section 145.401 of the Revised Code, provided that both the following apply:

(a) Three months have elapsed since the member's service subject to this chapter, other than service exempted from contribution pursuant to section 145.03 of the Revised Code, was terminated;

(b) The member has not returned to service subject to this chapter, other than service exempted from contribution pursuant to section 145.03 of the Revised Code, during that three-month period.

The payment of such accumulated contributions shall cancel the total service credit of such member in the public employees retirement system.

(2) A member described in division (A)(1) of this section who is married at the time of application for payment and is eligible for age and service retirement under section 145.32, 145.33, 145.331, or 145.332 of the Revised Code or would be eligible for age and service retirement under any of those sections but for a forfeiture ordered under division (A) or (B) of section 2929.192 of the Revised Code shall submit with the application a written statement by the member's spouse attesting that the spouse consents

to the payment of the member's accumulated contributions. Consent shall be valid only if it is signed and witnessed by a notary public.

The board may waive the requirement of consent if the spouse is incapacitated or cannot be located, or for any other reason specified by the board. Consent or waiver is effective only with regard to the spouse who is the subject of the consent or waiver.

(B) This division applies to any member who is employed in a position in which the member has made an election under section 3305.05 or 3305.051 of the Revised Code and due to the election ceases to be a public employee for purposes of that position.

Subject to section 145.57 of the Revised Code, the public employees retirement system shall do the following:

(1) On receipt of a certified copy of a form evidencing an election under section 3305.05 or 3305.051 of the Revised Code, pay to the appropriate provider, in accordance with section 3305.052 of the Revised Code, the amount described in section 3305.052 of the Revised Code;

(2) If a member has accumulated contributions, in addition to those subject to division (B)(1) of this section, standing to the credit of the member's individual account and is not otherwise employed in a position in which the member is considered a public employee for the purposes of that position, pay, to the provider the member selected pursuant to section 3305.05 or 3305.051 of the Revised Code, the member's accumulated contributions. The payment shall be made on the member's application.

(C) Payment of a member's accumulated contributions under division (B) of this section cancels the member's total service credit in the public employees retirement system. A member whose accumulated contributions are paid to a provider pursuant to division (B) of this section is forever barred from claiming or purchasing service credit under the public employees retirement system for the period of employment attributable to those contributions.

Sec. 145.402. (A) As used in this section, "other retirement system" means the state teachers retirement system or the school employees retirement system.

(B) Except as provided in this section, on application, a member of the public employees retirement system who is also a member of one or both of the other retirement systems and has ceased to be a public employee for the purposes of this chapter may be paid, in accordance with section 145.40 of the Revised Code, the member's accumulated contributions to the public employees retirement system, plus any applicable amount calculated under section 145.401 of the Revised Code. This payment does not affect the

member's membership in the other retirement systems or any right the member may have to a benefit or return of contributions under those systems.

(C) This section does not apply to a member of one of the other retirement systems whose employment under that system is with the public employer that was the employer under the public employees retirement system at the time the member's service subject to this chapter terminated.

Sec. 145.43. (A) As used in this section and in section 145.45 of the Revised Code:

(1) "Child" means a biological or legally adopted child of a deceased member. If a court hearing for an interlocutory decree for adoption was held prior to the member's death, "child" includes the child who was the subject of the hearing notwithstanding the fact that the final decree of adoption, adjudging the surviving spouse as the adoptive parent, is made subsequent to the member's death.

(2) "Parent" is a parent or legally adoptive parent of a deceased member.

(3) "Dependent" means a beneficiary who receives one-half of the beneficiary's support from a member during the twelve months prior to the member's death.

(4) "Surviving spouse" means an individual who establishes a valid marriage to a member at the time of the member's death by marriage certificate or pursuant to division (E) of this section.

(5) "Survivor" means a surviving spouse, child, or parent.

(6) "Accumulated contributions" has the meaning given in section 145.01 of the Revised Code, except that, notwithstanding that section, it does not include additional amounts deposited in the employees' savings fund pursuant to the version of division (C) of section 145.23 of the Revised Code as it existed immediately prior to April 6, 2007, or pursuant to section 145.62 of the Revised Code.

(B) Except as provided in division (C)(1) of section 145.45 of the Revised Code, should a member die before age and service retirement, the member's accumulated contributions and any applicable amount calculated under section 145.401 of the Revised Code, shall be paid to the person or persons the member has designated under section 145.431 of the Revised Code. A member may designate two or more persons as beneficiaries to be paid the accumulated account in a lump sum. Subject to rules adopted by the public employees retirement board, a member who designates two or more persons as beneficiaries shall specify the percentage of the lump sum that each beneficiary is to be paid. If the member has not specified the percentages, the lump sum shall be divided equally among the beneficiaries.

The last designation of any beneficiary revokes all previous designations. The member's marriage, divorce, marriage dissolution, legal separation, or withdrawal of account, or the birth of the member's child, or adoption of a child, shall constitute an automatic revocation of the member's previous designation. If a deceased member was also a member of the school employees retirement system or the state teachers retirement system, the beneficiary last established among the systems shall be the sole beneficiary in all the systems.

If the accumulated contributions of a deceased member are not claimed by a beneficiary or by the estate of the deceased member within five years after the death, the contributions shall remain in the employees' savings fund or may be transferred to the income fund and thereafter shall be paid to the beneficiary or to the member's estate upon application to the board. The board shall formulate and adopt the necessary rules governing all designations of beneficiaries.

(C) Except as provided in division (C)(1) of section 145.45 of the Revised Code, if a member dies before age and service retirement and is not survived by a designated beneficiary, the following shall qualify, with all attendant rights and privileges, in the following order of precedence, the member's:

- (1) Surviving spouse;
- (2) Children, share and share alike;
- (3) A dependent parent, if that parent takes survivor benefits under division (B) of section 145.45 of the Revised Code;
- (4) Parents, share and share alike;
- (5) Estate.

If the beneficiary is deceased or is not located within ninety days, the beneficiary ceases to qualify for any benefit and the beneficiary next in order of precedence shall qualify as a beneficiary.

Any payment made to a beneficiary as determined by the board shall be a full discharge and release to the board from any future claims.

(D) Any amount due a retirant or disability benefit recipient receiving a monthly benefit and unpaid to the retirant or recipient at death shall be paid to the beneficiary designated ~~under section 145.431 of the Revised Code~~ in writing duly executed on a form provided by the board, signed by the retirant or recipient, and filed with the board. If no such designation has been filed, or if the designated beneficiary is not located within ninety days, any amounts payable under this chapter due to the death of the retirant or recipient shall be paid in the following order of precedence to the retirant's or recipient's:

- (1) Surviving spouse;
- (2) Children, share and share alike;
- (3) Parents, share and share alike;
- (4) Estate.

The payment shall be a full discharge and release to the board from any future claim for the payment.

Any amount due a beneficiary receiving a monthly benefit and unpaid to the beneficiary at the beneficiary's death shall be paid to the beneficiary's estate.

(E) If the validity of marriage cannot be established to the satisfaction of the board for the purpose of disbursing any amount due under this section or section 145.45 of the Revised Code, the board may accept a decision rendered by a court having jurisdiction in the state in which the member was domiciled at the time of death that the relationship constituted a valid marriage at the time of death, or the "spouse" would have the same status as a widow or widower for purposes of sharing the distribution of the member's intestate personal property.

(F) As used in this division, "recipient" means an individual who is receiving or may be eligible to receive an allowance or benefit under this chapter based on the individual's service to a public employer.

If the death of a member, a recipient, or any individual who would be eligible to receive an allowance or benefit under this chapter by virtue of the death of a member or recipient is caused by one of the following beneficiaries, no amount due under this chapter to the beneficiary shall be paid to the beneficiary in the absence of a court order to the contrary filed with the board:

(1) A beneficiary who is convicted of, pleads guilty to, or is found not guilty by reason of insanity of a violation of or complicity in the violation of either of the following:

(a) Section 2903.01, 2903.02, or 2903.03 of the Revised Code;

(b) An existing or former law of any other state, the United States, or a foreign nation that is substantially equivalent to section 2903.01, 2903.02, or 2903.03 of the Revised Code.

(2) A beneficiary who is indicted for a violation of or complicity in the violation of the sections or laws described in division (F)(1)(a) or (b) of this section and is adjudicated incompetent to stand trial;

(3) A beneficiary who is a juvenile found to be a delinquent child by reason of committing an act that, if committed by an adult, would be a violation of or complicity in the violation of the sections or laws described in division (F)(1)(a) or (b) of this section.

Sec. 145.431. Designation of a beneficiary for the purposes of section 145.40 of the Revised Code or ~~payment of benefits or a~~ return of contributions to the beneficiary of a member participating in a PERS defined contribution plan shall be made under this section. A beneficiary shall be designated in writing duly executed on a form provided by the public employees retirement board and signed by the member. A designation under this section is not valid unless received by the board prior to the member's death.

A beneficiary designation made under this section applies to the PERS defined benefit plan or PERS defined contribution plan in which the member participated or, if the member participated in both the defined benefit plan and one or more defined contribution plans, to both the defined benefit plan and the defined contribution plans.

The last designation of any beneficiary revokes all previous designations. The member's marriage, divorce, marriage dissolution, legal separation, or withdrawal of account, or the birth of the member's child, or adoption of a child, shall constitute an automatic revocation of the member's previous designation.

Sec. 145.45. Except as provided in division (C)(1) of this section, in lieu of accepting the payment of the accumulated account of a member who dies before service retirement, a beneficiary, as determined in this section or section 145.43 of the Revised Code, may elect to forfeit the accumulated contributions and to substitute certain other benefits under division (A) or (B) of this section.

(A)(1) If a deceased member was eligible for a service retirement benefit as provided in section 145.33, 145.331, or 145.332 of the Revised Code, a surviving spouse or other sole dependent beneficiary may elect to receive a monthly benefit computed as ~~the joint survivor benefit designated as "plan A" in section 145.46 of the Revised Code~~ a joint-life plan under which the spouse or beneficiary receives one hundred per cent of the actuarial equivalent of the deceased member's lesser retirement allowance payable for the member's life, which the member would have received had the member retired on the last day of the month of death and had the member at that time selected such ~~joint-survivor~~ a plan. Payment shall begin with the month subsequent to the member's death, except that a surviving spouse who is less than sixty-five years old may defer receipt of such benefit. Upon receipt, the benefit shall be calculated based upon the spouse's age at the time of first payment, and shall accrue regular interest during the time of deferral.

(2) Beginning on a date selected by the public employees retirement

board, which shall be not later than July 1, 2004, a surviving spouse or other sole dependent beneficiary may elect, in lieu of a monthly payment under division (A)(1) of this section, a plan of payment consisting of both of the following:

(a) A lump sum in an amount the surviving spouse or other sole dependent beneficiary designates that constitutes a portion of the allowance that would be payable under division (A)(1) of this section;

(b) The remainder of that allowance in monthly payments.

The total amount paid as a lump sum and a monthly benefit shall be the actuarial equivalent of the amount that would have been paid had the lump sum not been selected.

The lump sum amount designated by the surviving spouse or other sole dependent beneficiary under division (A)(2)(a) of this section shall be not less than six times and not more than thirty-six times the monthly amount that would be payable to the surviving spouse or other sole dependent beneficiary under division (A)(1) of this section and shall not result in a monthly payment that is less than fifty per cent of that monthly amount.

(B) If a deceased member had, except as provided in division (B)(7) of this section, at least one and one-half years of contributing service credit, with, except as provided in division (B)(7) of this section, at least one-quarter year of contributing service credit within the two and one-half years prior to the date of death, or was receiving at the time of death a disability benefit as provided in section 145.36, 145.361, or 145.37 of the Revised Code, qualified survivors who elect to receive monthly benefits shall receive the greater of the benefits provided in division (B)(1)(a) or (b) and (4) of this section as allocated in accordance with division (B)(5) of this section.

(1)(a) Number of Qualified survivors affecting the benefit	Annual Benefit as a Per Cent of Decedent's Final Average Salary	Or Monthly Benefit shall not be less than
1	25%	\$250
2	40	400
3	50	500
4	55	500
5 or more	60	500
(b) Years of Service	Annual Benefit as a Per Cent of Member's Final Average	

	Salary
20	29%
21	33
22	37
23	41
24	45
25	48
26	51
27	54
28	57
29 or more	60

(2) Benefits shall begin as qualified survivors meet eligibility requirements as follows:

(a) A qualified spouse is the surviving spouse of the deceased member, who is age sixty-two, or regardless of age meets one of the following qualifications:

(i) Except as provided in division (B)(7) of this section, the deceased member had ten or more years of Ohio service credit.

(ii) The spouse is caring for a qualified child.

(iii) The spouse is adjudged physically or mentally incompetent.

A spouse of a member who died prior to August 27, 1970, whose eligibility was determined at the member's death, and who is physically or mentally incompetent on or after August 20, 1976, shall be paid the monthly benefit which that person would otherwise receive when qualified by age.

(b) A qualified child is any child of the deceased member who has never been married and to whom one of the following applies:

(i) Is under age eighteen, or under age twenty-two if the child is attending an institution of learning or training pursuant to a program designed to complete in each school year the equivalent of at least two-thirds of the full-time curriculum requirements of such institution and as further determined by board policy;

(ii) Regardless of age, is adjudged physically or mentally incompetent at the time of the member's death.

(c) A qualified parent is a dependent parent aged sixty-five or older or regardless of age if physically or mentally incompetent, a dependent parent whose eligibility was determined by the member's death prior to August 20, 1976, and who is physically or mentally incompetent on or after August 20, 1976, shall be paid the monthly benefit for which that person would otherwise qualify.

(3) "Physically or mentally incompetent" as used in this section may be

determined by a court of jurisdiction, or by a physician appointed by the retirement board. Incapability of making a living because of a physically or mentally disabling condition shall meet the qualifications of this division.

(4) Benefits to a qualified survivor shall terminate upon ceasing to meet eligibility requirements as provided in this division, a first marriage, abandonment, adoption, or during active military service. Benefits to a deceased member's surviving spouse that were terminated under a former version of this section that required termination due to remarriage and were not resumed prior to September 16, 1998, shall resume on the first day of the month immediately following receipt by the board of an application on a form provided by the board.

Upon the death of any subsequent spouse who was a member of the public employees retirement system, state teachers retirement system, or school employees retirement system, the surviving spouse of such member may elect to continue receiving benefits under this division, or to receive survivor's benefits, based upon the subsequent spouse's membership in one or more of the systems, for which such surviving spouse is eligible under this section or section 3307.66 or 3309.45 of the Revised Code. If the surviving spouse elects to continue receiving benefits under this division, such election shall not preclude the payment of benefits under this division to any other qualified survivor.

Benefits shall begin or resume on the first day of the month following the attainment of eligibility and shall terminate on the first day of the month following loss of eligibility.

(5)(a) If a benefit is payable under division (B)(1)(a) of this section, benefits to a qualified spouse shall be paid in the amount determined for the first qualifying survivor in division (B)(1)(a) of this section. All other qualifying survivors shall share equally in the benefit or remaining portion thereof.

(b) All qualifying survivors shall share equally in a benefit payable under division (B)(1)(b) of this section, except that if there is a surviving spouse, the surviving spouse shall receive not less than the amount determined for the first qualifying survivor in division (B)(1)(a) of this section.

(6) The beneficiary of a member who is also a member of the state teachers retirement system or of the school employees retirement system, must forfeit the member's accumulated contributions in those systems and in the public employees retirement system, if the beneficiary takes a survivor benefit. Such benefit shall be exclusively governed by section 145.37 of the Revised Code.

(7) The following restrictions do not apply if the deceased member was contributing toward benefits under section 145.332 of the Revised Code at the time of death:

(a) That the deceased member have had at least one and one-half years of contributing service credit, with at least one-quarter year of contributing service within the two and one-half years prior to the date of death;

(b) If the deceased member was killed in the line of duty, that the deceased member have had ten or more years of Ohio service credit as described in division (B)(2)(a)(i) of this section.

For the purposes of division (B)(7)(b) of this section, "killed in the line of duty," means either that death occurred in the line of duty or that death occurred as a result of injury sustained in the line of duty.

(C)(1) Regardless of whether the member is survived by a spouse or designated beneficiary, if the public employees retirement system receives notice that a deceased member described in division (A) or (B) of this section has one or more qualified children, all persons who are qualified survivors under division (B) of this section shall receive monthly benefits as provided in division (B) of this section.

If, after determining the monthly benefits to be paid under division (B) of this section, the system receives notice that there is a qualified survivor who was not considered when the determination was made, the system shall, notwithstanding section 145.561 of the Revised Code, recalculate the monthly benefits with that qualified survivor included, even if the benefits to qualified survivors already receiving benefits are reduced as a result. The benefits shall be calculated as if the qualified survivor who is the subject of the notice became eligible on the date the notice was received and shall be paid to qualified survivors effective on the first day of the first month following the system's receipt of the notice.

If the retirement system did not receive notice that a deceased member has one or more qualified children prior to making payment under section 145.43 of the Revised Code to a beneficiary as determined by the retirement system, the payment is a full discharge and release of the system from any future claims under this section or section 145.43 of the Revised Code.

(2) If benefits under division (C)(1) of this section to all persons, or to all persons other than a surviving spouse or other sole beneficiary, terminate, there are no children under the age of twenty-two years, and the surviving spouse or beneficiary qualifies for benefits under division (A) of this section, the surviving spouse or beneficiary may elect to receive benefits under division (A) of this section. The benefits shall be effective on the first day of the month immediately following the termination.

(D) The final average salary used in the calculation of a benefit payable pursuant to division (A) or (B) of this section to a survivor or beneficiary of a disability benefit recipient shall be adjusted for each year between the disability benefit's effective date and the recipient's date of death by the lesser of three per cent or the actual average percentage increase in the consumer price index prepared by the United States bureau of labor statistics (U.S. city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers: "all items 1982-84=100").

(E) If the survivor benefits due and paid under this section are in a total amount less than the member's accumulated account that was transferred from the public employees' savings fund to the survivors' benefit fund, then the difference between the total amount of the benefits paid shall be paid to the beneficiary under section 145.43 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 145.46. (A) A retirement allowance calculated under section 145.33, 145.331, or 145.332 of the Revised Code shall be paid as provided in this section.

Unless the member is required by division (C) of this section to select a specified plan of payment, a member may elect a plan of payment as provided in division (B)(1), (2), or (3) of this section. An election shall be made at the time the member makes application for retirement and on a form provided by the public employees retirement board. A plan of payment elected under this section shall be effective only if approved by the board, which shall approve it only if it is certified by an actuary engaged by the board to be the actuarial equivalent of the retirement allowance calculated under section 145.33, 145.331, or 145.332 of the Revised Code.

(B) The following plans of payment shall be offered by the public employees retirement system:

(1) "Joint-life plan," an allowance that consists of the actuarial equivalent of the member's retirement allowance determined under section 145.33, 145.331, or 145.332 of the Revised Code in a lesser amount payable for life and one-half or some other portion equal to ten per cent or more of the allowance continuing after death to the member's designated beneficiary for the beneficiary's life. The beneficiary shall be nominated by written designation filed with the retirement board. The amount payable to the beneficiary shall not exceed the amount payable to the member.

(2) "Single-life plan," the member's retirement allowance determined under section 145.33, 145.331, or 145.332 of the Revised Code;

(3) "Multiple-life plan," an allowance that consists of the actuarial equivalent of the member's retirement allowance determined under section 145.33, 145.331, or 145.332 of the Revised Code in a lesser amount payable

to the retirant for life and some portion of the lesser amount continuing after death to two, three, or four surviving beneficiaries designated at the time of the member's retirement. Unless required under division (C) of this section, no portion allocated under this plan of payment shall be less than ten per cent. The total of the portions allocated shall not exceed one hundred per cent of the member's lesser allowance.

(C) A member shall select a plan of payment as follows:

(1) Subject to division (C)(2) of this section, if the member is married at the time of retirement, the member shall select a joint-life plan and receive a plan of payment that consists of the actuarial equivalent of the member's retirement allowance determined under section 145.33, 145.331, or 145.332 of the Revised Code in a lesser amount payable for life and one-half of such allowance continuing after death to the member's surviving spouse for the life of the spouse. A married member is not required to select this plan of payment if the member's spouse consents in writing to the member's election of a plan of payment other than described in this division or the board waives the requirement that the spouse consent;

(2) If prior to the effective date of the member's retirement, the public employees retirement board receives a copy of a court order issued under section 3105.171 or 3105.65 of the Revised Code or the laws of another state regarding division of marital property the board shall accept the member's election of a plan of payment under this section only if the member complies with both of the following:

(a) The member elects a plan of payment that is in accordance with the order.

(b) If the member is married, the member elects a multiple-life plan and designates the member's current spouse as a beneficiary under that plan unless that spouse consents in writing to not being designated a beneficiary under any plan of payment or the board waives the requirement that the current spouse consent.

(D) An application for retirement shall include an explanation of all of the following:

(1) That, if the member is married, unless the spouse consents to another plan of payment or there is a court order dividing marital property issued under section 3105.171 or 3105.65 of the Revised Code or the laws of another state regarding the division of marital property that provides for payment in a specified amount, the member's retirement allowance will be paid under a joint-life plan and consist of the actuarial equivalent of the member's retirement allowance in a lesser amount payable for life and one-half of the allowance continuing after death to the surviving spouse for

the life of the spouse;

(2) A description of the alternative plans of payment, including all plans described in division (B) of this section, available with the consent of the spouse;

(3) That the spouse may consent to another plan of payment and the procedure for giving consent;

(4) That consent is irrevocable once notice of consent is filed with the board.

Consent shall be valid only if it is signed, in writing, and witnessed by a notary public. The board may waive the requirement of consent if the spouse is incapacitated or cannot be located or for any other reason specified by the board. Consent or waiver is effective only with regard to the spouse who is the subject of the consent or waiver.

(E)(1) Beginning on a date selected by the retirement board, which shall be not later than July 1, 2004, a member may elect to receive a retirement allowance under a plan of payment consisting of both a lump sum in an amount the member designates that constitutes a portion of the member's retirement allowance under a plan described in division (B) of this section and the remainder as a monthly allowance under that plan.

The total amount paid as a lump sum and a monthly benefit shall be the actuarial equivalent of the amount that would have been paid had the lump sum not been selected.

(2) The lump sum designated by a member shall be not less than six times and not more than thirty-six times the monthly amount that would be payable to the member under the plan of payment elected under division (B) of this section had the lump sum not been elected and shall not result in a monthly allowance that is less than fifty per cent of that monthly amount.

(F) If the retirement allowances, as a single life annuity or payment plan as provided in this section, due and paid are in a total amount less than (1) the accumulated contributions, and (2) other deposits made by the member as provided by this chapter, standing to the credit of the member at the time of retirement, then the difference between the total amount of the allowances paid and the accumulated contributions and other deposits shall be paid to the beneficiary provided under division (D) of section 145.43 of the Revised Code.

(G)(1) The death of a spouse or any designated beneficiary following retirement shall cancel the portion of the plan of payment providing continuing lifetime benefits to the deceased spouse or deceased designated beneficiary. The retirant shall receive the actuarial equivalent of the retirant's single lifetime benefit, as determined by the board, based on the

number of remaining beneficiaries, with no change in the amount payable to any remaining beneficiary. The change shall be effective the month following the date of death.

(2) On divorce, annulment, or marriage dissolution, a retirant receiving a retirement allowance under a plan that provides for continuation of all or part of the allowance after death for the lifetime of the retirant's surviving spouse may, with the written consent of the spouse or pursuant to an order of the court with jurisdiction over the termination of the marriage, elect to cancel the portion of the plan providing continuing lifetime benefits to that spouse. The retirant shall receive the actuarial equivalent of the retirant's single lifetime benefit as determined by the retirement board based on the number of remaining beneficiaries, with no change in amount payable to any remaining beneficiary. The election shall be made on a form provided by the board and shall be effective the month following its receipt by the board.

(H)(1) Following a marriage or remarriage, both of the following apply:

(a) A retirant who is receiving the retirant's retirement allowance under a single-life plan may elect a new plan of payment under division (B)(1) ~~or~~ (3) of this section based on the actuarial equivalent of the retirant's single lifetime benefit as determined by the board.

(b) A retirant who is receiving a retirement allowance pursuant to a plan of payment providing for payment to a former spouse pursuant to a court order described in division (C)(2) of this section may elect a new plan of payment in the form of a multiple-life plan based on the actuarial equivalent of the retirant's single lifetime retirement allowance as determined by the board if the new plan of payment elected does not reduce the payment to the former spouse.

(2) If the marriage or remarriage occurs on or after June 6, 2005, the election must be made not later than one year after the date of the marriage or remarriage.

The plan elected under this division shall become effective on the date of receipt by the board of an application on a form approved by the board, but any change in the amount of the retirement allowance shall commence on the first day of the month following the effective date of the plan.

(I) Any person who, prior to July 24, 1990, selected an optional plan of payment at retirement that provided for a return to the single life benefit after the designated beneficiary's death shall have the retirant's benefit adjusted to the optional plan equivalent without such provision.

(J) A retirant's receipt of the first month's retirement allowance constitutes the retirant's final acceptance of the plan of payment and may be

changed only as provided in this chapter.

Sec. 145.563. Notwithstanding section 145.561 of the Revised Code:

(A) The public employees retirement system may adjust an allowance or benefit payable under this chapter if an error occurred in calculation of the allowance or benefit;

(B) If any person who is a member, former member, contributor, former contributor, retirant, beneficiary, or alternate payee, as defined in section 3105.80 of the Revised Code, is paid any benefit or payment by the public employees retirement system, including any payment made to a third party on the person's behalf, to which the person is not entitled, the benefit or payment shall be repaid to the retirement system by the person or third party. ¶ A repayment required by this section may include a penalty or interest on the amount of the benefit or payment, as specified in rules adopted by the public employees retirement board. The rules shall specify the method for calculating a penalty or interest and the conditions under which a penalty or interest may be assessed.

If the person or third party fails to make the repayment, the retirement system shall withhold the amount or a portion of the amount due from any benefit or payment due the person or the person's beneficiary under this chapter, or may collect the amount in any other manner provided by law.

Sec. 145.58. (A) The public employees retirement board shall adopt rules establishing eligibility for any coverage provided under this section. The rules shall base eligibility on years and types of service credit earned by members. Eligibility determinations shall be made in accordance with the rules, except that an individual who, as a result of making a false statement in an attempt to secure a benefit under this section, is convicted of violating section 2921.13 of the Revised Code is ineligible for coverage.

(B) The board may enter into agreements with insurance companies, health insuring corporations, or government agencies authorized to do business in the state for issuance of a policy or contract of health, medical, hospital, or surgical ~~benefits~~ coverage, or any combination thereof, for eligible individuals receiving age and service retirement or a disability or survivor benefit subscribing to the plan, or for PERS retirants employed under section 145.38 of the Revised Code, for coverage ~~of benefits~~ in accordance with division ~~(C)~~(D)(2) of section 145.38 of the Revised Code. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the policy or contract may also include coverage for any eligible individual's spouse and dependent children and for any of the eligible individual's sponsored dependents as the board determines appropriate. If all or any portion of the policy or contract premium is to be paid by any individual receiving age and

service retirement or a disability or survivor benefit, the individual shall, by written authorization, instruct the board to deduct the premium agreed to be paid by the individual to the company, corporation, or agency.

The board may contract for coverage on the basis of part or all of the cost of the coverage to be paid from appropriate funds of the public employees retirement system. The cost paid from the funds of the system shall be included in the employer's contribution rate provided by sections 145.48 and 145.51 of the Revised Code. The board may by rule provide coverage to individuals who are not eligible under the rules adopted under division (A) of this section if the coverage is provided at no cost to the retirement system. The board shall not pay or reimburse the cost for coverage under this section or section 145.584 of the Revised Code for any such individual.

The board may provide for self-insurance of risk or level of risk as set forth in the contract with the companies, corporations, or agencies, and may provide through the self-insurance method specific ~~benefits~~ coverage as authorized by rules of the board.

(C) The board shall, beginning the month following receipt of satisfactory evidence of the payment for coverage, pay monthly to each recipient of service retirement, or a disability or survivor benefit under the public employees retirement system who is eligible for coverage under part B of the medicare program established under Title XVIII of "The Social Security Act Amendments of 1965," 79 Stat. 301 (1965), 42 U.S.C.A. 1395j, as amended, an amount determined by the board for such coverage, except that the board shall make no such payment to any individual who is not eligible for coverage under the rules adopted under division (A) of this section or pay an amount that exceeds the amount paid by the recipient for the coverage.

At the request of the board, the recipient shall certify to the retirement system the amount paid by the recipient for coverage described in this division.

(D) The board shall establish by rule requirements for the coordination of any coverage; or payment; ~~or benefit~~ provided under this section or section 145.584 of the Revised Code with any similar coverage; or payment; ~~or benefit~~ made available to the same individual by the Ohio police and fire pension fund, state teachers retirement system, school employees retirement system, or state highway patrol retirement system.

(E) The board shall make all other necessary rules pursuant to the purpose and intent of this section.

Sec. 145.581. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Long-term care insurance" has the same meaning as in section 3923.41 of the Revised Code.

(2) "Retirement systems" means the public employees retirement system, the Ohio police and fire pension fund, the state teachers retirement system, the school employees retirement system, and the state highway patrol retirement system.

(B) The public employees retirement board ~~shall~~ may establish a long-term care insurance program consisting of the programs authorized by divisions (C) and (D) of this section. Such program may be established independently or jointly with one or more of the other retirement systems. If the program is established jointly, the board shall adopt rules in accordance with section 111.15 of the Revised Code to establish the terms and conditions of such joint participation.

(C) The board ~~shall~~ may establish a program under which it makes long-term care insurance available to any person who participated in a policy of long-term care insurance for which the state or a political subdivision contracted under section 124.84 or 124.841 of the Revised Code and is the recipient of a pension, benefit, or allowance from the system. To implement the program under this division, the board, subject to division (E) of this section, may enter into an agreement with the insurance company, health insuring corporation, or government agency that provided the insurance. The board shall, under any such agreement, deduct the full premium charged from the person's benefit, pension, or allowance notwithstanding any employer agreement to the contrary.

Any long-term care insurance policy entered into under this division is subject to division (C) of section 124.84 of the Revised Code.

(D)(1) The board, subject to division (E) of this section, ~~shall~~ may establish a program under which a recipient of a pension, benefit, or allowance from the system who is not eligible for such insurance under division (C) of this section may participate in a contract for long-term care insurance. Participation may include the recipient's dependents and family members.

(2) The board ~~shall~~ may adopt rules in accordance with section 111.15 of the Revised Code governing the program. ~~The~~ Any rules adopted by the board shall establish methods of payment for participation under this section, which may include deduction of the full premium charged from a recipient's pension, benefit, or allowance, or any other method of payment considered appropriate by the board.

(E) Prior to entering into any agreement or contract with an insurance company or health insuring corporation for the purchase of, or participation

in, a long-term care insurance policy under this section, the board shall request the superintendent of insurance to certify the financial condition of the company or corporation. The board shall not enter into the agreement or contract if, according to that certification, the company or corporation is insolvent, is determined by the superintendent to be potentially unable to fulfill its contractual obligations, or is placed under an order of rehabilitation or conservation by a court of competent jurisdiction or under an order of supervision by the superintendent.

Sec. 145.584. (A) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) of this section, the board of the public employees retirement system shall make available to each retirant or disability benefit recipient receiving a monthly allowance or benefit on or after January 1, 1968, who has attained the age of sixty-five years, and who is not eligible to receive hospital insurance benefits under the federal old age, survivors, and disability insurance program without payment of premiums, ~~hospital~~ one of the following:

(1) Hospital insurance coverage substantially equivalent to the federal hospital insurance benefits, Social Security Amendments of 1965, 79 Stat. 291, 42 U.S.C.A. 1395c, as amended;

(2) An amount, determined by the board, to reimburse the retirant or disability benefit recipient for payment of premiums for federal hospital insurance benefits described in this division, which amount shall not exceed the premiums paid. This

This coverage or amount shall also be made available to the spouse, widow, or widower of such retirant or disability benefit recipient provided such spouse, widow, or widower has attained age sixty-five and is not eligible to receive hospital insurance benefits under the federal old age, survivors, and disability insurance program without payment of premiums. The widow or widower of a retirant or disability benefit recipient shall be eligible for such coverage or amount only if he or she is the recipient of a monthly allowance or benefit from this system. A portion of the cost of the premium or amount for the spouse may be paid from the appropriate funds of the ~~public employees retirement~~ system. The remainder of the cost shall be paid by the recipient of the allowance or benefit.

The cost of such coverage or amount, paid from the funds of the system, shall be included in the employer's rate provided by section 145.48 of the Revised Code. The retirement board is authorized to make all necessary rules pursuant to the purpose and intent of this section, and ~~shall~~ may contract for such coverage as provided in section 145.58 of the Revised Code.

At the request of the board, the recipient of reimbursement under this

section shall certify to the retirement system the premium paid for the federal insurance benefits described in division (A) of this section. Payment of the amount described in division (A)(2) of this section shall begin for the first month that the recipient is participating in both the federal hospital insurance benefits and a health care arrangement offered by the system.

(B) The board need not make the hospital insurance coverage or amount described in division (A) of this section available to any person for whom it is prohibited by section 145.58 of the Revised Code from paying or reimbursing the premium cost of such insurance.

Sec. 145.63. (A) Deposits under section 145.62 of the Revised Code, together with earnings, shall be refunded under whichever of the following circumstances applies:

(1) On withdrawal of accumulated contributions as provided in sections 145.40 and 145.43 of the Revised Code or payment of a lump sum under section 145.384 of the Revised Code;

(2) On the death of a contributor prior to retirement;

(3) In the case of a contributor participating in the PERS defined benefit plan, on application of the contributor prior to attaining eligibility for age and service retirement;

(4) In the case of a contributor under section 145.38 or 145.383 of the Revised Code, on application of the contributor prior to attaining eligibility for a benefit under section 145.384 of the Revised Code;

(5) In the case of a contributor who has attained eligibility for an age and service retirement benefit or a benefit under section 145.384 of the Revised Code and is not married, on application;

(6) In the case of a contributor who has attained eligibility for an age and service retirement benefit or a benefit under section 145.384 of the Revised Code and is married, on application if the application is accompanied by a statement of the spouse's consent to the refund or the public employees retirement board waives the requirement that the spouse consent;

(7) In the case of a contributor who has attained eligibility for an age and service retirement benefit as a consequence of section 145.37 of the Revised Code and will receive a retirement or disability benefit from the state teachers retirement system or school employees retirement system but has not requested a transfer of funds to the other retirement system under division (B)(1)(g)(8) of section 145.37 of the Revised Code, at the time the public employees retirement system pays to the other retirement system the amount required under division (B)(1)(e)(6) of that section;

(8) In the case of a disability benefit recipient under section 145.36 of

the Revised Code who is not eligible for an age and service retirement allowance, on the effective date of disability retirement.

(B) The consent of a spouse to a refund is valid only if it is in writing, signed, and witnessed by a notary public.

The board may waive the requirement of consent if the spouse is incapacitated or cannot be located or for any other reason specified by the board. Consent or waiver is effective only with regard to the spouse who is the subject of the consent or waiver.

Sec. 145.64. (A) As used in this section, "joint-life plan," "single-life plan," and "multiple-life plan" have the same meanings as in division (B) of section 145.46 of the Revised Code.

(B) A contributor who has not received a refund of amounts deposited under section 145.62 or the version of division (C) of section 145.23 of the Revised Code as it existed immediately prior to April 6, 2007, may file an application with the public employees retirement system for a benefit under this section. Except as provided in section 145.62 of the Revised Code, the benefit shall consist of an annuity that shall be paid as described in division (B) of section 145.46 of the Revised Code.

The application must be filed prior to receipt of an age and service retirement benefit from the retirement system or, in the case of a contributor under section 145.38 or 145.383 of the Revised Code, a benefit under section 145.384 of the Revised Code. A contributor who fails to file an application for a benefit under this section prior to receipt of an age and service retirement benefit or a benefit under section 145.384 of the Revised Code shall be eligible only for a refund under section 145.63 of the Revised Code.

(1) Except as provided in division (B)(2) of this section, a contributor who is married at the time of application for a benefit under this section shall receive the benefit as a monthly annuity under a joint-life plan.

(2) A contributor may receive a benefit under this section under a plan of payment other than a joint-life plan if one of the following is the case:

(a) The contributor is unmarried;

(b) The benefit application is accompanied by a statement of the spouse's consent to another plan of payment or the public employees retirement board waives the requirement that the spouse consent;

(c) A plan of payment providing for payment in a specified portion of the benefit continuing after the member's death to a former spouse is required by a court order issued under section 3105.171 or 3105.65 of the Revised Code or the laws of another state regarding division of marital property prior to the effective date of the contributor's benefit application.

(3) If a member is subject to division (B)(2)(c) of this section and the board has received a copy of the order described in that division, the board shall accept the member's election of a plan of payment under this section only if the member complies with both of the following:

(a) The member elects a plan of payment that is in accordance with the order described in division (B)(2)(c) of this section.

(b) If the member is married, the member elects a multiple-life plan and designates the member's current spouse as a beneficiary under that plan unless that spouse consents in writing to not being designated a beneficiary or the board waives the requirement that the current spouse consent.

(4) The contributor shall designate the beneficiary or beneficiaries under a plan of payment in writing at the time the plan is selected.

(5) A plan of payment, other than a single-life plan, shall be effective only if it is certified by an actuary engaged by the board to be the actuarial equivalent of the contributor's single-life plan annuity and is approved by the board.

(6) A contributor who is eligible to select a plan of payment under this section but fails to do so shall receive a monthly annuity under the plan of payment specified in rules adopted by the board.

(C) An annuity shall be paid monthly and consist of an amount determined by the public employees retirement system or the actuarial equivalent of that amount paid as described in this section.

Payments shall begin on whichever of the following applies:

(1) Except as provided in this division, the later of the effective date of the contributor's age and service retirement allowance or the first day of the month following the latest of:

(a) The last day for which compensation was paid;

(b) The attainment of the member's applicable minimum age or service credit eligibility as provided in section 145.32 or 145.332 of the Revised Code;

(c) The first day of the month following receipt of an application for an age and service retirement benefit.

(2) The later of the effective date of a benefit under section 145.384 of the Revised Code or the first day of the month following the latest of:

(a) The last day for which compensation for employment subject to section 145.38 or 145.383 of the Revised Code was paid;

(b) Attainment by the contributor of age sixty-five;

(c) If the contributor was previously employed as described in division (E)(3) of section 145.384 of the Revised Code, completion of a period of twelve months since the effective date of the last benefit under that section;

(d) Receipt of an application for a benefit under section 145.384 of the Revised Code.

(3) The ~~later of the~~ effective date of disability retirement under section 145.36 of the Revised Code ~~or if the date on which a member receiving disability retirement would have been~~ is eligible for an age and service retirement allowance on that date.

(4) The first day of the month following the last day for which a disability allowance is paid under section 145.361 of the Revised Code.

(D) The consent of a spouse to a plan of payment other than a joint-life plan is valid only if it is in writing, signed, and witnessed by a notary public. The board may waive the requirement of consent if the spouse is incapacitated or cannot be located or for any other reason specified by the board. Consent or waiver is effective only with regard to the spouse who is the subject of the consent or waiver.

(E)(1) The death of a spouse or any designated beneficiary shall cancel the portion of an annuity providing continuing lifetime payments to the deceased spouse or deceased designated beneficiary. The contributor shall receive the actuarial equivalent of the contributor's remaining annuity, as determined by the board, based on the number of remaining beneficiaries, with no change in the amount payable to any remaining beneficiary. If the retirement system receives notice of the death on or after ~~the effective date of this amendment~~ January 7, 2013, the change shall be effective the month following the date of death.

(2) On divorce, annulment, or marriage dissolution, a contributor receiving an annuity under a plan of payment that provides for continuation of all or part of the annuity after death for the lifetime of the contributor's surviving spouse may, with the written consent of the spouse or pursuant to an order of the court with jurisdiction over the termination of the marriage, elect to cancel the portion of the plan providing continuing lifetime payments to that spouse. The contributor shall receive the actuarial equivalent of the contributor's annuity as determined by the board based on the number of remaining beneficiaries, with no change in the amount payable to any remaining beneficiary. The election shall be made on a form provided by the board and shall be effective the month following its receipt by the board.

(F)(1) Following a marriage or remarriage, both of the following apply:

(a) A contributor who is receiving payments under a single-life plan may elect a new plan of payment based on the actuarial equivalent of the contributor's single-life plan annuity as determined by the board.

(b) A contributor receiving an annuity under this section pursuant to a

plan of payment providing for payment to a former spouse pursuant to a court order as described in division (B)(2)(c) of this section may elect a new plan of payment under a multiple-life plan based on the actuarial equivalent of the contributor's benefit as determined by the board if the new plan of payment does not reduce the payment to the former spouse.

(2) An election under division (F)(1) of this section must be made not later than one year after the date of the marriage or remarriage.

The plan elected shall become effective on the date of receipt by the board of an application on a form approved by the board, but any change in the amount of the annuity payment shall commence on the first day of the month following the effective date of the plan.

(G) If at the time of death a contributor receiving a monthly annuity under a single-life plan has received less than the retirant's deposits under section 145.62 or the version of division (C) of section 145.23 of the Revised Code as it existed immediately prior to April 6, 2007, plus earnings on those deposits, the difference between the amount received and the amount of the contributor's deposits plus earnings shall be paid to the contributor's beneficiary under section 145.65 of the Revised Code. If any designated beneficiary receiving a monthly annuity under this section dies and at the time of the beneficiary's death the amounts paid to the contributor and the beneficiary are less than the amount of the contributor's deposits plus earnings on those deposits, the difference between the amount received by the contributor and the beneficiary and the amount of the contributor's deposits plus earnings shall be paid to the beneficiary's estate.

(H) Receipt of the first month's annuity payment constitutes final acceptance of the plan of payment and may be changed only as provided in this section.

Sec. 145.82. (A) Except as provided in divisions (B) and (C) of this section, sections 145.201 to 145.70 of the Revised Code do not apply to a PERS defined contribution plan, except that a PERS defined contribution plan may incorporate provisions of those sections as specified in the plan document.

(B) The following sections of Chapter 145. of the Revised Code apply to a PERS defined contribution plan: ~~145.195~~ 145.01 to 145.20, 145.22, 145.221, 145.23, 145.25, 145.26, 145.27, 145.296, 145.38, 145.384, 145.391, ~~145.43~~, 145.431, 145.47, 145.48, 145.483, 145.51, 145.52, 145.53, 145.54, 145.55, 145.56, 145.563, 145.57, 145.571, 145.572, ~~145.573~~, ~~145.574~~, 145.69, and 145.70 of the Revised Code.

(C) A PERS defined contribution plan that includes definitely determinable benefits may incorporate by reference all or part of sections

145.201 to 145.79 of the Revised Code to allow a member participating in the plan to purchase service credit or to be eligible for any of the following:

- (1) Retirement, disability, survivor, or death benefits;
- (2) Health or long-term care insurance or any other type of health care benefit;
- (3) Additional increases under section 145.323 of the Revised Code;
- (4) A refund of contributions made by or on behalf of a member.

With respect to the benefits described in division (C)(1) of this section, the public employees retirement board may establish eligibility requirements and benefit formulas or amounts that differ from those of members participating in the PERS defined benefit plan. With respect to the purchase of service credit by a member participating in a PERS defined contribution plan, the board may reduce the cost of the service credit to reflect the different benefit formula established for the member.

Sec. 145.88. Amounts contributed under sections 145.85 and 145.86 of the Revised Code, and any earnings on those amounts, shall be deposited and credited in accordance with the PERS defined contribution plan that is selected by the member. The plan may include provisions authorizing the public employees retirement system to do either of the following:

(A) Withhold from the amounts contributed under sections 145.85 and 145.86 of the Revised Code a percentage of earnable salary or a fixed dollar amount that is determined by an actuary appointed by the public employees retirement board to be necessary to administer the plan;

(B) Withhold from the amounts contributed under section 145.86 of the Revised Code a percentage of earnable salary for the purpose of funding health care insurance coverage or any other type of health care benefit for a member participating in the plan.

Sec. 145.92. If a member participating in a PERS defined contribution plan is married at the time benefits under the plan are to commence, unless the spouse consents to another plan of payment or the spouse's consent is waived, the member's benefit under the plan shall be paid in a lesser amount payable for life and one-half of that amount continuing after death to the surviving spouse for the life of the spouse.

Consent is valid only if it is evidenced by a written document signed by the spouse and the signature is witnessed by a notary public. A plan may waive the requirement of consent if the spouse is incapacitated or cannot be located or for any other reason specified by the plan or in rules adopted by the public employees retirement board.

A plan shall waive the requirement of consent if a plan of payment that provides for payment in a specified portion of the ~~retirement allowance~~

benefit continuing after the member's death to a former spouse is required by a court order issued under section 3105.171 or 3105.65 of the Revised Code or laws of another state regarding division of marital property prior to the effective date of the member's retirement. If a court order requires this plan of payment, the member shall be required to annuitize the member's accumulated amounts in accordance with the order. If the member is married, the plan of payment selected by the member also shall provide for payment to the member's current spouse, unless the current spouse consents in writing to not being designated a beneficiary under the plan of payment or the current spouse's consent is waived by reason other than the court order.

Consent or waiver is effective only with regard to the spouse who is the subject of the consent or waiver.

Sec. 145.95. (A) Subject to division (B) of this section and sections 145.38, 145.56, 145.57, 145.572, 145.573, and 145.574 of the Revised Code, the right of a member participating in a PERS defined contribution plan to any payment or benefit accruing from contributions made by or on behalf of the member under sections 145.85 and 145.86 of the Revised Code shall vest in accordance with this section.

A member's right to any payment or benefit that is based on the member's contributions is nonforfeitable.

A member's right to any payment or benefit that is based on contributions by the member's employer is nonforfeitable as specified by the plan selected by the member.

(B) This section does not apply to an increase made under section 145.323 of the Revised Code for a recipient whose benefit effective date is on or after the effective date of this amendment January 7, 2013.

Sec. 171.04. The Ohio retirement study council shall:

(A) Make an impartial review from time to time of all laws governing the administration and financing of the pension and retirement funds under Chapters 145., 146., 742., 3307., 3309., and 5505. of the Revised Code and recommend to the general assembly any changes it may find desirable with respect to the allowances and benefits, sound financing of the cost of benefits, the prudent investment of funds, and the improvement of the language, structure, and organization of the laws;

(B) Make an annual report to the governor and to the general assembly covering its evaluation and recommendations with respect to the operations of the state retirement systems and their funds;

(C) Study all changes in the retirement laws proposed to the general assembly and report to the general assembly on their probable costs, actuarial implications, and desirability as a matter of public policy;

(D) Review semiannually the policies, objectives, and criteria adopted under sections 145.11, 742.11, 3307.15, 3309.15, and 5505.06 of the Revised Code for the operation of the investment programs of the state retirement systems, including a review of asset allocation targets and ranges, risk factors, asset class benchmarks, time horizons, total return objectives, relative volatility, and performance evaluation guidelines. The council shall, not later than thirty days after completing a review, submit to the governor and the general assembly a report summarizing its findings.

(E) Have prepared for each system by an independent actuary, at least once every ten years, an actuarial review of the actuarial valuations and quinquennial actuarial investigations prepared under sections 145.22, 742.14, 3307.20, 3309.21, and 5505.12 of the Revised Code, including a review of the actuarial assumptions and methods, the data underlying the valuations and investigations, and the adequacy of each system's employee and employer contribution rates to amortize its unfunded actuarial pension liability, if any, and to support the payment of benefits authorized by Chapter 145., 742., 3307., 3309., or 5505. of the Revised Code. The council shall submit to the governor and the general assembly a report summarizing ~~the~~ each review.

All costs associated with an actuarial review prepared pursuant to division (E) of this section shall be paid by the retirement system for which the review is prepared.

(F) Have conducted by an independent auditor at least once every ten years a fiduciary performance audit of each of the state retirement systems.

All costs associated with an audit conducted pursuant to division (F) of this section shall be paid by the retirement system audited.

(G) Provide each member of the council with copies of all proposed rules submitted to the council pursuant to sections 145.09, 742.10, 3307.04, 3309.04, and 5505.04 of the Revised Code and submit any recommendations to the joint committee on agency rule review.

Sec. 311.01. (A) A sheriff shall be elected quadrennially in each county. A sheriff shall hold office for a term of four years, beginning on the first Monday of January next after the sheriff's election.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this section, no person is eligible to be a candidate for sheriff, and no person shall be elected or appointed to the office of sheriff, unless that person meets all of the following requirements:

(1) The person is a citizen of the United States.

(2) The person has been a resident of the county in which the person is a candidate for or is appointed to the office of sheriff for at least one year immediately prior to the qualification date.

(3) The person has the qualifications of an elector as specified in section 3503.01 of the Revised Code and has complied with all applicable election laws.

(4) The person has been awarded a high school diploma or a certificate of high school equivalence issued for achievement of specified minimum scores on the general educational development test of the American council on education.

(5) The person has not been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a felony or any offense involving moral turpitude under the laws of this or any other state or the United States, and has not been convicted of or pleaded guilty to an offense that is a misdemeanor of the first degree under the laws of this state or an offense under the laws of any other state or the United States that carries a penalty that is substantially equivalent to the penalty for a misdemeanor of the first degree under the laws of this state.

(6) The person has been fingerprinted and has been the subject of a search of local, state, and national fingerprint files to disclose any criminal record. Such fingerprints shall be taken under the direction of the administrative judge of the court of common pleas who, prior to the applicable qualification date, shall notify the board of elections, board of county commissioners, or county central committee of the proper political party, as applicable, of the judge's findings.

(7) The person has prepared a complete history of the person's places of residence for a period of six years immediately preceding the qualification date and a complete history of the person's places of employment for a period of six years immediately preceding the qualification date, indicating the name and address of each employer and the period of time employed by that employer. The residence and employment histories shall be filed with the administrative judge of the court of common pleas of the county, who shall forward them with the findings under division (B)(6) of this section to the appropriate board of elections, board of county commissioners, or county central committee of the proper political party prior to the applicable qualification date.

(8) The person meets at least one of the following conditions:

(a) ~~Has obtained or held, within the four-year period ending immediately prior to the qualification date,~~ Holds a current valid basic peace officer certificate of training issued by the Ohio peace officer training commission or has been issued a certificate of training pursuant to section 5503.05 of the Revised Code, ~~and, within the four-year period ending immediately prior to the qualification date, has been employed as an appointee pursuant to section 5503.01 of the Revised Code or as a full-time~~

~~peace officer as defined in section 109.71 of the Revised Code performing duties related to the enforcement of statutes, ordinances, or codes;~~

~~(b) Has obtained or held, within the three year period ending immediately prior to the qualification date, a valid basic peace officer certificate of training issued by the Ohio peace officer training commission and has been employed for at least the last three years prior to the qualification date as a full-time law enforcement officer, as defined in division (A)(11) of section 2901.01 of the Revised Code, performing duties related to the enforcement of statutes, ordinances, or codes~~ Has been employed full-time by a law enforcement agency performing duties related to the enforcement of statutes, ordinances, or codes for a minimum of thirteen consecutive pay periods within the four-year period prior to the qualification date. As used in this division, "full-time" means a minimum of eighty hours of work in a fourteen-day period.

(9) The person meets at least one of the following conditions:

(a) ~~Has at least two consecutive years of supervisory experience as a peace officer at the rank of corporal or above, or has been appointed pursuant to section 5503.01 of the Revised Code and served at the rank of sergeant or above, in the five-year period ending immediately prior to the qualification date;~~

~~(b) Has completed satisfactorily at least two years of post-secondary education or the equivalent in semester or quarter hours in a bachelor's degree in any field or has an associate degree in law enforcement or criminal justice from a college or university authorized to confer degrees by the Ohio board of regents or the comparable agency of another state in which the college or university is located or in a school that holds a certificate of registration issued by the state board of career colleges and schools under Chapter 3332. of the Revised Code.~~

(C) Persons who meet the requirements of division (B) of this section, except the requirement of division (B)(2) of this section, may take all actions otherwise necessary to comply with division (B) of this section. If, on the applicable qualification date, no person has met all the requirements of division (B) of this section, then persons who have complied with and meet the requirements of division (B) of this section, except the requirement of division (B)(2) of this section, shall be considered qualified candidates under division (B) of this section.

(D) Newly elected sheriffs shall attend a basic training course conducted by the Ohio peace officer training commission pursuant to division (A) of section 109.80 of the Revised Code. A newly elected sheriff shall complete not less than two weeks of this course before the first Monday in January

next after the sheriff's election. While attending the basic training course, a newly elected sheriff may, with the approval of the board of county commissioners, receive compensation, paid for from funds established by the sheriff's county for this purpose, in the same manner and amounts as if carrying out the powers and duties of the office of sheriff.

Appointed sheriffs shall attend the first basic training course conducted by the Ohio peace officer training commission pursuant to division (A) of section 109.80 of the Revised Code within six months following the date of appointment or election to the office of sheriff. While attending the basic training course, appointed sheriffs shall receive regular compensation in the same manner and amounts as if carrying out their regular powers and duties.

Five days of instruction at the basic training course shall be considered equal to one week of work. The costs of conducting the basic training course and the costs of meals, lodging, and travel of appointed and newly elected sheriffs attending the course shall be paid from state funds appropriated to the commission for this purpose.

(E) In each calendar year, each sheriff shall attend and successfully complete at least sixteen hours of continuing education approved under division (B) of section 109.80 of the Revised Code. A sheriff who receives a waiver of the continuing education requirement from the commission under division (C) of section 109.80 of the Revised Code because of medical disability or for other good cause shall complete the requirement at the earliest time after the disability or cause terminates.

(F)(1) Each person who is a candidate for election to or who is under consideration for appointment to the office of sheriff shall swear before the administrative judge of the court of common pleas as to the truth of any information the person provides to verify the person's qualifications for the office. A person who violates this requirement is guilty of falsification under section 2921.13 of the Revised Code.

(2) Each board of elections shall certify whether or not a candidate for the office of sheriff who has filed a declaration of candidacy, a statement of candidacy, or a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate meets the qualifications specified in divisions (B) and (C) of this section.

(G) The office of a sheriff who is required to comply with division (D) or (E) of this section and who fails to successfully complete the courses pursuant to those divisions is hereby deemed to be vacant.

(H) As used in this section:

(1) "Qualification date" means the last day on which a candidate for the office of sheriff can file a declaration of candidacy, a statement of candidacy, or a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate, as applicable,

in the case of a primary election for the office of sheriff; the last day on which a person may be appointed to fill a vacancy in a party nomination for the office of sheriff under Chapter 3513. of the Revised Code, in the case of a vacancy in the office of sheriff; or a date thirty days after the day on which a vacancy in the office of sheriff occurs, in the case of an appointment to such a vacancy under section 305.02 of the Revised Code.

(2) "Newly elected sheriff" means a person who did not hold the office of sheriff of a county on the date the person was elected sheriff of that county.

Sec. 742.53. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Long-term care insurance" has the same meaning as in section 3923.41 of the Revised Code.

(2) "Retirement systems" has the same meaning as in division (A) of section 145.581 of the Revised Code.

(B) The board of trustees of the Ohio police and fire pension fund ~~shall~~ may establish a program under which members of the fund, employers on behalf of members, and persons receiving service or disability pensions or survivor benefits are permitted to participate in contracts for long-term care insurance. Participation may include dependents and family members. If a participant in a contract for long-term care insurance leaves employment, the participant and the participant's dependents and family members may, at their election, continue to participate in a program established under this section in the same manner as if the participant had not left employment, except that no part of the cost of the insurance shall be paid by the participant's former employer.

Such program may be established independently or jointly with one or more of the other retirement systems.

(C) The fund may enter into an agreement with insurance companies, health insuring corporations, or government agencies authorized to do business in the state for issuance of a long-term care policy or contract. However, prior to entering into such an agreement with an insurance company or health insuring corporation, the fund shall request the superintendent of insurance to certify the financial condition of the company or corporation. The fund shall not enter into the agreement if, according to that certification, the company or corporation is insolvent, is determined by the superintendent to be potentially unable to fulfill its contractual obligations, or is placed under an order of rehabilitation or conservation by a court of competent jurisdiction or under an order of supervision by the superintendent.

(D) The board ~~shall~~ may adopt rules in accordance with section 111.15

of the Revised Code governing the program. ~~The~~ Any rules adopted by the board shall establish methods of payment for participation under this section, which may include establishment of a payroll deduction plan under section 742.56 of the Revised Code, deduction of the full premium charged from a person's service or disability pension or survivor benefit, or any other method of payment considered appropriate by the board. If the program is established jointly with one or more of the other retirement systems, the rules also shall establish the terms and conditions of such joint participation.

Sec. 742.63. The board of trustees of the Ohio police and fire pension fund shall adopt rules for the management of the Ohio public safety officers death benefit fund and for disbursements of benefits as set forth in this section.

(A) As used in this section:

(1) "Member" means all of the following:

(a) A member of the Ohio police and fire pension fund, including a member of the fund who has elected to participate in the deferred retirement option plan established under section 742.43 of the Revised Code or a member of or contributor to a police or firemen's relief and pension fund established under former Chapter 521. or 741. of the Revised Code;

(b) A member of the state highway patrol retirement system, including a member who is participating in the deferred retirement option plan established under section 5505.50 of the Revised Code;

(c) A member of the public employees retirement system who at the time of the member's death was one of the following:

(i) A county sheriff or deputy sheriff;

(ii) A full-time regular police officer in a municipal corporation or township;

(iii) A full-time regular firefighter employed by the state, an instrumentality of the state, a municipal corporation, a township, a joint fire district, or another political subdivision;

(iv) A full-time park district ranger or patrol trooper;

(v) A full-time law enforcement officer of the department of natural resources;

(vi) A full-time department of public safety enforcement agent;

(vii) A full-time law enforcement officer of parks, waterway lands, or reservoir lands under the control of a municipal corporation;

(viii) A full-time law enforcement officer of a conservancy district;

(ix) A correction officer at an institution under the control of a county, a group of counties, a municipal corporation, or the department of rehabilitation and correction;

(x) A state university law enforcement officer;

(xi) An investigator, as defined in section 109.541 of the Revised Code, or an investigator commissioned as a special agent of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation.

(xii) A drug agent, as defined in section 145.01 of the Revised Code.

(d) A member of a retirement system operated by a municipal corporation who at the time of death was a full-time law enforcement officer of parks, waterway lands, or reservoir lands under the control of the municipal corporation.

(2) Notwithstanding section 742.01 of the Revised Code, "fire or police department" includes a fire department of the state or an instrumentality of the state or of a municipal corporation, township, joint fire district, or other political subdivision, the state highway patrol, a county sheriff's office, the security force of an institution under the control of the department of rehabilitation and correction, the security force of a jail or workhouse under the control of a county, group of counties, or municipal corporation, the security force of a metropolitan, county, or township park district, the security force of lands under the control of the department of natural resources, department of public safety enforcement agents, the security force of parks, waterway lands, or reservoir lands under the control of a municipal corporation, the security force of a conservancy district, the police department of a township or municipal corporation, and the police force of a state university.

(3) "Firefighter or police officer" includes a state highway patrol trooper, a county sheriff or deputy sheriff, a correction officer at an institution under the control of a county, a group of counties, a municipal corporation, or the department of rehabilitation and correction, a police officer employed by a township or municipal corporation, a firefighter employed by the state, an instrumentality of the state, a municipal corporation, a township, a joint fire district, or another political subdivision, a full-time park district ranger or patrol trooper, a full-time law enforcement officer of the department of natural resources, a full-time department of public safety enforcement agent, a full-time law enforcement officer of parks, waterway lands, or reservoir lands under the control of a municipal corporation, a full-time law enforcement officer of a conservancy district, and a state university law enforcement officer.

(4) "Correction officer" includes, in addition to any correction officer, any correction corporal, sergeant, lieutenant, or captain, and the equivalents of all such persons.

(5) "A park district ranger or patrol trooper" means a peace officer

commissioned to make arrests, execute warrants, and preserve the peace upon lands under the control of a board of park commissioners of a metropolitan, county, or township park district.

(6) "Metropolitan, county, or township park district" means a park district created under the authority of Chapter 511. or 1545. of the Revised Code.

(7) "Conservancy district" means a conservancy district created under the authority of Chapter 6101. of the Revised Code.

(8) "Law enforcement officer" means an officer commissioned to make arrests, execute warrants, and preserve the peace upon lands under the control of the governmental entity granting the commission.

(9) "Department of natural resources law enforcement officer" includes a forest officer designated pursuant to section 1503.29 of the Revised Code, a preserve officer designated pursuant to section 1517.10 of the Revised Code, a wildlife officer designated pursuant to section 1531.13 of the Revised Code, a park officer designated pursuant to section 1541.10 of the Revised Code, and a state watercraft officer designated pursuant to section 1547.521 of the Revised Code.

(10) "Retirement eligibility date" means the last day of the month in which a deceased member would have first become eligible, had the member lived, for the retirement pension provided under section 145.332, Chapter 145., 521., or 741., division (C)(1) of section 742.37, or division (A)(1) of section 5505.17 of the Revised Code or provided by a retirement system operated by a municipal corporation.

(11) "Death benefit amount" means an amount equal to the full monthly salary received by a deceased member prior to death, minus an amount equal to the benefit received under section 145.45, 742.37, 742.3714, or 5505.17 of the Revised Code or the benefit received from a retirement system operated by a municipal corporation, plus any increases in salary that would have been granted the deceased member.

(12) "Killed in the line of duty" means either of the following:

(a) Death in the line of duty;

(b) Death from injury sustained in the line of duty, including heart attack or other fatal injury or illness caused while in the line of duty.

(B) A spouse of a deceased member shall receive a death benefit each month equal to the full death benefit amount, provided that the deceased member was a firefighter or police officer killed in the line of duty and there are no surviving children eligible for a benefit under this section. The spouse shall receive this benefit during the spouse's natural life until the deceased member's retirement eligibility date, on which date the benefit provided

under this division shall terminate.

(C)(1) If a member killed in the line of duty as a firefighter or police officer is survived only by a child or children, the child or children shall receive a benefit each month equal to the full death benefit amount. If there is more than one surviving child, the benefit shall be divided equally among these children.

(2) If the death benefit paid under this division is divided among two or more surviving children and any of the children become ineligible to continue receiving a portion of the benefit as provided in division (H) of this section, the full death benefit amount shall be paid to the remaining eligible child or divided among the eligible children so that the benefit paid to the remaining eligible child or children equals the full death benefit amount.

(3) Notwithstanding divisions (C)(1) and (2) of this section, all death benefits paid under this division shall terminate on the deceased member's retirement eligibility date.

(D) If a member killed in the line of duty as a firefighter or police officer is survived by both a spouse and a child or children, the monthly benefit provided shall be as follows:

(1)(a) If there is a surviving spouse and one surviving child, the spouse shall receive an amount each month equal to one-half of the full death benefit amount and the child shall receive an amount equal to one-half of the full death benefit amount.

(b) If the surviving spouse dies or the child becomes ineligible as provided in division (H) of this section, the surviving spouse or child remaining eligible shall receive the full death benefit amount.

(2)(a) If there is a surviving spouse and more than one child, the spouse shall receive an amount each month equal to one-third of the full death benefit amount and the children shall receive an amount, equally divided among them, equal to two-thirds of the full death benefit amount.

(b) If a spouse and more than one child each are receiving a death benefit under division (D)(2)(a) of this section and the spouse dies, the children shall receive an amount each month, equally divided among them, equal to the full death benefit amount.

(c) If a spouse and more than one child each are receiving a benefit under division (D)(2)(a) of this section and any of the children becomes ineligible to receive a benefit as provided in division (H) of this section, the spouse and remaining eligible child or children shall receive a death benefit as follows:

(i) If there are two or more remaining eligible children, the spouse shall receive an amount each month equal to one-third of the full death benefit

amount and the children shall receive an amount each month, equally divided among them, equal to two-thirds of the full death benefit amount;

(ii) If there is one remaining eligible child, the spouse shall receive an amount each month equal to one-half of the full death benefit amount, and the child shall receive an amount each month equal to one-half of the full death benefit amount.

(d) If a spouse and more than one child each are receiving a benefit under division (D)(2)(a) of this section and all of the children become ineligible to receive a benefit as provided in division (H) of this section, the spouse shall receive the full death benefit amount.

(3) Notwithstanding divisions (D)(1) and (2) of this section, death benefits paid under this division to a surviving spouse shall terminate on the member's retirement eligibility date. Death benefits paid to a surviving child or children shall terminate on the deceased member's retirement eligibility date unless earlier terminated pursuant to division (H) of this section.

(E) If a member, on or after January 1, 1980, is killed in the line of duty as a firefighter or police officer and is survived by only a parent or parents dependent upon the member for support, the parent or parents shall receive an amount each month equal to the full death benefit amount. If there is more than one surviving parent dependent upon the deceased member for support, the death benefit amount shall be divided equally among the surviving parents. On the death of one of the surviving parents, the full death benefit amount shall be paid to the other parent.

(F)(1) The following shall receive a monthly death benefit under this division:

(a) A surviving spouse whose benefits are terminated in accordance with division (B) or (D)(3) of this section on the deceased member's retirement eligibility date, or who would qualify for a benefit under division (B) or (D) of this section except that the deceased member reached the member's retirement eligibility date prior to the member's death;

(b) A qualified surviving spouse of a deceased member of or contributor to a police or firemen's relief and pension fund established under former Chapter 521. or 741. of the Revised Code who was a firefighter or police officer killed in the line of duty.

(2) The monthly death benefit shall be one-half of an amount equal to the monthly salary received by the deceased member prior to the member's death, plus any salary increases the deceased member would have received prior to the member's retirement eligibility date. The benefit shall terminate on the surviving spouse's death. A death benefit payable under this division shall be reduced by an amount equal to any allowance or benefit payable to

the surviving spouse under section 742.3714 of the Revised Code.

(3) A benefit granted to a surviving spouse under division (F)(1)(b) of this section shall commence on the first day of the month immediately following receipt by the board of a completed application on a form provided by the board and any evidence the board may require to establish that the deceased spouse was killed in the line of duty.

(G)(1) If there is not a surviving spouse eligible to receive a death benefit under division (F) of this section or the surviving spouse receiving a death benefit under that division dies, a surviving child or children whose benefits under division (C) or (D) of this section are or have been terminated pursuant to division (C)(3) or (D)(3) of this section or who would qualify for a benefit under division (C) or (D) of this section except that the deceased member reached the member's retirement eligibility date prior to the member's death shall receive a monthly death benefit under this division. The monthly death benefit shall be one-half of an amount equal to the monthly salary received by the deceased member prior to the member's death, plus any salary increases the member would have received prior to the member's retirement eligibility date. If there is more than one surviving child, the benefit shall be divided equally among the surviving children.

(2) If two or more surviving children each are receiving a benefit under this division and any of those children becomes ineligible to continue receiving a benefit as provided in division (H) of this section, the remaining eligible child or children shall receive an amount equal to one-half of the monthly salary received by the deceased member prior to death, plus any salary increases the deceased member would have received prior to the retirement eligibility date. If there is more than one remaining eligible child, the benefit shall be divided equally among the eligible children.

(3) A death benefit, or portion of a death benefit, payable to a surviving child under this division shall be reduced by an amount equal to any allowance or benefit payable to that child under section 742.3714 of the Revised Code, but the reduction in that child's benefit shall not affect the amount payable to any other surviving child entitled to a portion of the death benefit.

(H) A death benefit paid to a surviving child under division (C), (D), or (G) of this section shall terminate on the death of the child or, unless one of the following is the case, when the child reaches age eighteen:

(1) The child, because of physical or mental disability, is unable to provide the child's own support, in which case the death benefit shall terminate when the disability is removed;

(2) The child is unmarried, under age twenty-two, and a student in and

attending an institution of learning or training pursuant to a program designed to complete in each school year the equivalent of at least two-thirds of the full-time curriculum requirements of the institution, as determined by the trustees of the fund.

(I) Acceptance of any death benefit under this section does not prohibit a spouse or child from receiving other benefits provided under the Ohio police and fire pension fund, the state highway patrol retirement system, the public employees retirement system, or a retirement system operated by a municipal corporation.

(J) No person shall receive a benefit under this section if any of the following occur:

(1) The person fails to exercise the right to a monthly survivor benefit under division (A) or (B) of section 145.45, division (D), (E), or (F) of section 742.37, or division (A)(3), (4), or ~~(7)~~(6) of section 5505.17 of the Revised Code; to a monthly survivor benefit from a retirement system operated by a municipal corporation; or to a retirement allowance under section 742.3714 of the Revised Code.

(2) The member's accumulated contributions under this chapter or Chapter 145. or 5505. of the Revised Code are refunded unless the member had been a member of the public employees retirement system and had fewer than eighteen months of total service credit at the time of death.

(3) In the case of a full-time park district ranger or patrol trooper, a full-time law enforcement officer of the department of natural resources, a full-time law enforcement officer of parks, waterway lands, or reservoir lands under the control of a municipal corporation, a full-time law enforcement officer of a conservancy district, a correction officer at an institution under the control of a county, group of counties, or municipal corporation, or a member of a retirement system operated by a municipal corporation who at the time of the member's death was a full-time law enforcement officer of parks, waterway lands, or reservoir lands under the control of the municipal corporation, the member died prior to April 9, 1981, in the case of a benefit under division (B), (C), or (D) of this section, or prior to January 1, 1980, in the case of a benefit under division (E) of this section.

(4) In the case of a full-time department of public safety enforcement agent who prior to June 30, 1999, was a liquor control investigator of the department of public safety, the member died prior to December 23, 1986;

(5) In the case of a full-time department of public safety enforcement agent other than an enforcement agent who, prior to June 30, 1999, was a liquor control investigator, the member died prior to June 30, 1999.

(K) A surviving spouse whose benefit was terminated prior to June 30, 1999, due to remarriage shall receive a benefit under division (B), (D), or (F) of this section beginning on the first day of the month following receipt by the board of an application on a form provided by the board. The benefit amount shall be determined as of that date.

(1) If the benefit will begin prior to the deceased member's retirement eligibility date, it shall be paid under division (B) or (D) of this section and shall terminate as provided in those divisions. A benefit paid to a surviving spouse under division (D) of this section shall be determined in accordance with that division, even if benefits paid to surviving children are reduced as a result.

(2) If the benefit will begin on or after the deceased member's retirement eligibility date, it shall be paid under division (F) of this section and shall terminate as provided in that division. A benefit paid to a surviving spouse under division (F) of this section shall be determined in accordance with that division, even if benefits paid to surviving children are terminated as a result.

Sec. 3301.079. (A)(1) The state board of education periodically shall adopt statewide academic standards with emphasis on coherence, focus, and essential knowledge and that are more challenging and demanding when compared to international standards for each of grades kindergarten through twelve in English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies.

(a) The state board shall ensure that the standards do all of the following:

(i) Include the essential academic content and skills that students are expected to know and be able to do at each grade level that will allow each student to be prepared for postsecondary instruction and the workplace for success in the twenty-first century;

(ii) Include the development of skill sets that promote information, media, and technological literacy;

(iii) Include interdisciplinary, project-based, real-world learning opportunities;

(iv) Instill life-long learning by providing essential knowledge and skills based in the liberal arts tradition, as well as science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and career-technical education;

(v) Be clearly written, transparent, and understandable by parents, educators, and the general public.

(b) Not later than July 1, 2012, the state board shall incorporate into the social studies standards for grades four to twelve academic content regarding the original texts of the Declaration of Independence, the

Northwest Ordinance, the Constitution of the United States and its amendments, with emphasis on the Bill of Rights, and the Ohio Constitution, and their original context. The state board shall revise the model curricula and achievement assessments adopted under divisions (B) and (C) of this section as necessary to reflect the additional American history and American government content. The state board shall make available a list of suggested grade-appropriate supplemental readings that place the documents prescribed by this division in their historical context, which teachers may use as a resource to assist students in reading the documents within that context.

(c) When the state board adopts or revises academic content standards in social studies, American history, American government, or science under division (A)(1) of this section, the state board shall develop such standards independently and not as part of a multistate consortium.

(2) After completing the standards required by division (A)(1) of this section, the state board shall adopt standards and model curricula for instruction in technology, financial literacy and entrepreneurship, fine arts, and foreign language for grades kindergarten through twelve. The standards shall meet the same requirements prescribed in division (A)(1)(a) of this section.

(3) The state board shall adopt the most recent standards developed by the national association for sport and physical education for physical education in grades kindergarten through twelve or shall adopt its own standards for physical education in those grades and revise and update them periodically.

The department of education shall employ a full-time physical education coordinator to provide guidance and technical assistance to districts, community schools, and STEM schools in implementing the physical education standards adopted under this division. The superintendent of public instruction shall determine that the person employed as coordinator is qualified for the position, as demonstrated by possessing an adequate combination of education, license, and experience.

(4) When academic standards have been completed for any subject area required by this section, the state board shall inform all school districts, all community schools established under Chapter 3314. of the Revised Code, all STEM schools established under Chapter 3326. of the Revised Code, and all nonpublic schools required to administer the assessments prescribed by sections 3301.0710 and 3301.0712 of the Revised Code of the content of those standards. Additionally, upon completion of any academic standards under this section, the department shall post those standards on the

department's web site.

(B)(1) The state board shall adopt a model curriculum for instruction in each subject area for which updated academic standards are required by division (A)(1) of this section and for each of grades kindergarten through twelve that is sufficient to meet the needs of students in every community. The model curriculum shall be aligned with the standards, to ensure that the academic content and skills specified for each grade level are taught to students, and shall demonstrate vertical articulation and emphasize coherence, focus, and rigor. When any model curriculum has been completed, the state board shall inform all school districts, community schools, and STEM schools of the content of that model curriculum.

(2) Not later than June 30, 2013, the state board, in consultation with any office housed in the governor's office that deals with workforce development, shall adopt model curricula for grades kindergarten through twelve that embed career connection learning strategies into regular classroom instruction.

(3) All school districts, community schools, and STEM schools may utilize the state standards and the model curriculum established by the state board, together with other relevant resources, examples, or models to ensure that students have the opportunity to attain the academic standards. Upon request, the department shall provide technical assistance to any district, community school, or STEM school in implementing the model curriculum.

Nothing in this section requires any school district to utilize all or any part of a model curriculum developed under this section.

(C) The state board shall develop achievement assessments aligned with the academic standards and model curriculum for each of the subject areas and grade levels required by divisions (A)(1) and (B)(1) of section 3301.0710 of the Revised Code.

When any achievement assessment has been completed, the state board shall inform all school districts, community schools, STEM schools, and nonpublic schools required to administer the assessment of its completion, and the department shall make the achievement assessment available to the districts and schools.

(D)(1) The state board shall adopt a diagnostic assessment aligned with the academic standards and model curriculum for each of grades kindergarten through two in reading, writing, and mathematics and for grade three in reading and writing. The diagnostic assessment shall be designed to measure student comprehension of academic content and mastery of related skills for the relevant subject area and grade level. Any diagnostic assessment shall not include components to identify gifted students. Blank

copies of diagnostic assessments shall be public records.

(2) When each diagnostic assessment has been completed, the state board shall inform all school districts of its completion and the department shall make the diagnostic assessment available to the districts at no cost to the district. School districts shall administer the diagnostic assessment pursuant to section 3301.0715 of the Revised Code beginning the first school year following the development of the assessment.

(E) The state board shall not adopt a diagnostic or achievement assessment for any grade level or subject area other than those specified in this section.

(F) Whenever the state board or the department consults with persons for the purpose of drafting or reviewing any standards, diagnostic assessments, achievement assessments, or model curriculum required under this section, the state board or the department shall first consult with parents of students in kindergarten through twelfth grade and with active Ohio classroom teachers, other school personnel, and administrators with expertise in the appropriate subject area. Whenever practicable, the state board and department shall consult with teachers recognized as outstanding in their fields.

If the department contracts with more than one outside entity for the development of the achievement assessments required by this section, the department shall ensure the interchangeability of those assessments.

(G) Whenever the state board adopts standards or model curricula under this section, the department also shall provide information on the use of blended or digital learning in the delivery of the standards or curricula to students in accordance with division (A)(4) of this section.

(H) The fairness sensitivity review committee, established by rule of the state board of education, shall not allow any question on any achievement or diagnostic assessment developed under this section or any proficiency test prescribed by former section 3301.0710 of the Revised Code, as it existed prior to September 11, 2001, to include, be written to promote, or inquire as to individual moral or social values or beliefs. The decision of the committee shall be final. This section does not create a private cause of action.

(I)(1)(a) The English language arts academic standards review committee is hereby created to review academic content standards in the subject of English language arts. The committee shall consist of the following members:

(i) Three experts who are residents of this state and who primarily conduct research, provide instruction, currently work in, or possess an

advanced degree in the subject area. One expert shall be appointed by each of the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the governor;

(ii) One parent or guardian appointed by the president of the senate;

(iii) One educator who is currently teaching in a classroom, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;

(iv) The chancellor of the Ohio board of regents, or the chancellor's designee;

(v) The state superintendent, or the superintendent's designee, who shall serve as the chairperson of the committee.

(b) The mathematics academic standards review committee is hereby created to review academic content standards in the subject of mathematics. The committee shall consist of the following members:

(i) Three experts who are residents of this state and who primarily conduct research, provide instruction, currently work in, or possess an advanced degree in the subject area. One expert shall be appointed by each of the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the governor;

(ii) One parent or guardian appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;

(iii) One educator who is currently teaching in a classroom, appointed by the president of the senate;

(iv) The chancellor, or the chancellor's designee;

(v) The state superintendent, or the superintendent's designee, who shall serve as the chairperson of the committee.

(c) The science academic standards review committee is hereby created to review academic content standards in the subject of science. The committee shall consist of the following members:

(i) Three experts who are residents of this state and who primarily conduct research, provide instruction, currently work in, or possess an advanced degree in the subject area. One expert shall be appointed by each of the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the governor;

(ii) One parent or guardian appointed by the president of the senate;

(iii) One educator who is currently teaching in a classroom, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;

(iv) The chancellor, or the chancellor's designee;

(v) The state superintendent, or the superintendent's designee, who shall serve as the chairperson of the committee.

(d) The social studies academic standards review committee is hereby

created to review academic content standards in the subject of social studies. The committee shall consist of the following members:

(i) Three experts who are residents of this state and who primarily conduct research, provide instruction, currently work in, or possess an advanced degree in the subject area. One expert shall be appointed by each of the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the governor;

(ii) One parent or guardian appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;

(iii) One educator who is currently teaching in a classroom, appointed by the president of the senate;

(iv) The chancellor, or the chancellor's designee;

(v) The state superintendent, or the superintendent's designee, who shall serve as the chairperson of the committee.

(2)(a) Each committee created in division (I)(1) of this section shall review the academic content standards for its respective subject area to ensure that such standards are clear, concise, and appropriate for each grade level and promote higher student performance, learning, subject matter comprehension, and improved student achievement. Each committee also shall review whether the standards for its respective subject area promote essential knowledge in the subject, lifelong learning, the liberal arts tradition, and college and career readiness and whether the standards reduce remediation.

(b) Each committee shall determine whether the assessments submitted to that committee under division (I)(4) of this section are appropriate for the committee's respective subject area and meet the academic content standards adopted under this section and community expectations.

(3) The department of education shall provide administrative support for each committee created in division (I)(1) of this section. Members of each committee shall be reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenses related to the operations of the committee. Members of each committee shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority.

(4) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in division (N) of section 3301.0711 of the Revised Code, the department shall submit to the appropriate committee created under division (I)(1) of this section copies of the questions and corresponding answers on the relevant assessments required by section 3301.0710 of the Revised Code on the first day of July following the school year that the assessments were administered. The department shall provide each committee with the entire content of each relevant assessment, including corresponding answers.

The assessments received by the committees are not public records of the committees and are not subject to release by the committees to any other person or entity under section 149.43 of the Revised Code. However, the assessments shall become public records in accordance with division (N) of section 3301.0711 of the Revised Code.

(J) Not later than ~~forty-five~~ sixty days prior to the adoption by the state board of updated academic standards under division (A)(1) of this section or updated model curricula under division (B)(1) of this section, the superintendent of public instruction shall present the academic standards or model curricula, as applicable, ~~to~~ in person at a public hearing of the respective committees of the house of representatives and senate that consider education legislation.

(K) As used in this section:

(1) "Blended learning" means the delivery of instruction in a combination of time in a supervised physical location away from home and online delivery whereby the student has some element of control over time, place, path, or pace of learning.

(2) "Coherence" means a reflection of the structure of the discipline being taught.

(3) "Digital learning" means learning facilitated by technology that gives students some element of control over time, place, path, or pace of learning.

(4) "Focus" means limiting the number of items included in a curriculum to allow for deeper exploration of the subject matter.

(5) "Vertical articulation" means key academic concepts and skills associated with mastery in particular content areas should be articulated and reinforced in a developmentally appropriate manner at each grade level so that over time students acquire a depth of knowledge and understanding in the core academic disciplines.

Sec. 3307.04. The general administration and the management of the state teachers retirement system is hereby vested in the state teachers retirement board, which shall adopt rules necessary for the fulfillment of its duties and responsibilities under Chapter 3307. of the Revised Code. The board shall adopt policies for the operation of the system, and the investment of funds as provided by section 3307.15 of the Revised Code, and may authorize its administrative officers, or committees composed of board members, to act for the board in accord with such policies ~~and subject to subsequent approval by the board.~~

The board may take all appropriate action to avoid payment by the system or its members of federal or state income taxes on contributions to

the system or amounts earned on such contributions and to comply with any plan qualification requirements, including those on distributions, established under Title 26 of the United States Code.

The attorney general shall prescribe procedures for the adoption of rules authorized under this chapter, consistent with the provision of section 111.15 of the Revised Code under which all rules shall be filed in order to be effective. Such procedures shall establish methods by which notice of proposed rules is given to interested parties and rules adopted by the board published and otherwise made available. When it files a rule with the joint committee on agency rule review pursuant to section 111.15 of the Revised Code, the board shall submit to the Ohio retirement study council a copy of the full text of the rule, and if applicable, a copy of the rule summary and fiscal analysis required by division (B) of section 127.18 of the Revised Code.

All rules adopted pursuant to this chapter, prior to August 20, 1976, shall be published and made available to interested parties by January 1, 1977.

Sec. 3307.35. (A) As used in this section and section 3307.352 of the Revised Code, "other system retirant" means ~~both~~ either of the following:

(1) A member or former member of the public employees retirement system, Ohio police and fire pension fund, school employees retirement system, state highway patrol retirement system, or Cincinnati retirement system who is receiving from a system of which the retirant is a member or former member age and service or commuted age and service retirement, a benefit, allowance, or distribution under a plan established under section 145.81 or 3309.81 of the Revised Code, or a disability benefit;

(2) A person who is participating or has participated in an alternative retirement plan established under Chapter 3305. of the Revised Code and is receiving a benefit, allowance, or distribution under the plan.

(B) Subject to this section and section 3307.353 of the Revised Code, a superannuate or other system retirant may be employed as a teacher.

(C) A superannuate or other system retirant employed in accordance with this section shall contribute to the state teachers retirement system in accordance with section 3307.26 of the Revised Code and the employer shall contribute in accordance with sections 3307.28 and 3307.31 of the Revised Code. Such contributions shall be received as specified in section 3307.14 of the Revised Code. A superannuate or other system retirant employed as a teacher is not a member of the state teachers retirement system, does not have any of the rights, privileges, or obligations of membership, except as provided in this section, and is not eligible to receive

health, medical, hospital, or surgical benefits under section 3307.39 of the Revised Code for employment subject to this section.

(D) The employer that employs a superannuate or other system retirant shall notify the state teachers retirement board of the employment not later than the end of the month in which the employment commences. Any overpayment of benefits to a superannuate by the retirement system resulting from an employer's failure to give timely notice may be charged to the employer and may be certified and deducted as provided in section 3307.31 of the Revised Code.

(E) On receipt of notice from an employer that a person who is an other system retirant has been employed, the state teachers retirement system shall notify the state retirement system of which the other system retirant was a member of such employment.

(F) A superannuate or other system retirant who has received an allowance or benefit for less than two months when employment subject to this section or section 3305.05 of the Revised Code commences shall forfeit the allowance or benefit for any month the superannuate or retirant is employed prior to the expiration of such period. The allowance or benefit forfeited each month shall be equal to the monthly amount the superannuate or other system retirant is eligible to receive under a single lifetime benefit plan of payment described in division (A) of section 3307.60 of the Revised Code. Contributions shall be made to the retirement system from the first day of such employment, but service and contributions for that period shall not be used in the calculation of any benefit payable to the superannuate or other system retirant, and those contributions shall be refunded on the superannuate's or retirant's death or termination of the employment. Contributions made on compensation earned after the expiration of such period shall be used in calculation of the benefit or payment due under section 3307.352 of the Revised Code.

For purposes of this division, "employment" does not include uncompensated volunteer work if the position is different from the superannuate's or other system retirant's position with the employer by which the superannuate or retirant was employed at the time of retirement.

(G) On receipt of notice from the Ohio police and fire pension fund, public employees retirement system, or school employees retirement system of the re-employment of a superannuate, the state teachers retirement system shall not pay, or if paid shall recover, the amount to be forfeited by the superannuate in accordance with section 145.38, 742.26, or 3309.341 of the Revised Code.

(H) If the disability benefit of an other system retirant employed under

this section is terminated, the retirant shall become a member of the state teachers retirement system, effective on the first day of the month next following the termination, with all the rights, privileges, and obligations of membership. If the retirant, after the termination of the retirant's disability benefit, earns two years of service credit under this retirement system or under the public employees retirement system, Ohio police and fire pension fund, school employees retirement system, or state highway patrol retirement system, the retirant's prior contributions as an other system retirant under this section shall be included in the retirant's total service credit, as defined in section 3307.50 of the Revised Code, as a state teachers retirement system member, and the retirant shall forfeit all rights and benefits of this section. Not more than one year of credit may be given for any period of twelve months.

(I) This section does not affect the receipt of benefits by or eligibility for benefits of any person who on August 20, 1976, was receiving a disability benefit or service retirement pension or allowance from a state or municipal retirement system in Ohio and was a member of any other state or municipal retirement system of this state.

(J) The state teachers retirement board may make the necessary rules to carry into effect this section and to prevent the abuse of the rights and privileges thereunder.

Sec. 3307.39. (A) The state teachers retirement board may enter into an agreement with insurance companies, health insuring corporations, or government agencies authorized to do business in the state for issuance of a policy or contract of health, medical, hospital, or surgical ~~benefits coverage~~, or any combination thereof, for those individuals receiving, under the STRS defined benefit plan, service retirement or a disability or survivor benefit who subscribe to the plan. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the policy or contract may also include coverage for any eligible individual's spouse and dependent children and for any of the individual's sponsored dependents as the board considers appropriate. If all or any portion of the policy or contract premium is to be paid by any individual receiving service retirement or a disability or survivor benefit, the individual shall, by written authorization, instruct the board to deduct the premium agreed to be paid by the individual to the companies, corporations, or agencies.

The board may contract for coverage on the basis of part or all of the cost of the coverage to be paid from appropriate funds of the state teachers retirement system. The cost paid from the funds of the system shall be included in the employer's contribution rate provided by section 3307.28 of

the Revised Code.

The board may enter into an agreement under this division for coverage of recipients of benefits under an STRS defined contribution plan if the plan selected includes health, medical, hospital, or surgical ~~benefits coverage~~, or any combination thereof. The board may contract for coverage on the basis that the cost of the coverage will be paid by the recipient or by the plan to which the recipient contributed under this chapter. The board may offer to recipients plans that provide for different levels of coverage or for prepayment of the cost of coverage.

The board may provide for self-insurance of risk or level of risk as set forth in the contract with the companies, corporations, or agencies, and may provide through the self-insurance method specific ~~benefits coverage~~ as authorized by the rules of the board.

(B) The board may make a monthly payment to each recipient of service retirement, or a disability or survivor benefit under the STRS defined benefit plan who is enrolled in coverage under part B of the medicare program established under Title XVIII of "The Social Security Amendments of 1965," 79 Stat. 301 (1965), 42 U.S.C.A. 1395j, as amended, and may make a monthly payment to a recipient of benefits under an STRS defined contribution plan who is eligible for that insurance coverage if the monthly payments are funded through the plan selected by the recipient. The payment shall be the greater of the following:

(1) Twenty-nine dollars and ninety cents;

(2) An amount determined by the board, which shall not exceed ninety per cent of the basic premium for the coverage, except that the amount shall not exceed the amount paid by the recipient.

At the request of the board, the recipient shall certify the amount paid by the recipient for coverage described in this division.

The board shall make all payments under this division beginning the month following receipt of satisfactory evidence of the payment for the coverage.

(C) The board shall establish by rule requirements for the coordination of any coverage, or payment, ~~or benefit~~ provided under this section with any similar coverage, or payment, ~~or benefit~~ made available to the same individual by the public employees retirement system, Ohio police and fire pension fund, school employees retirement system, or state highway patrol retirement system.

(D) The board shall make all other necessary rules pursuant to the purpose and intent of this section.

Sec. 3307.41. The right of an individual to a pension, an annuity, or a

retirement allowance itself, the right of an individual to any optional benefit, or any other right or benefit accrued or accruing to any individual under this chapter, the various funds created by section 3307.14 of the Revised Code, and all moneys, investments, and income from moneys or investments are exempt from any state tax, except the tax imposed by section 5747.02 of the Revised Code, and are exempt from any county, municipal, or other local tax, except income taxes imposed pursuant to section 5748.02, 5748.08, or 5748.09 of the Revised Code, and, except as provided in sections 3105.171, 3105.65, 3115.32, ~~3119.80, 3119.81, 3121.02, 3121.03, 3123.06,~~ 3307.37, 3307.372, and 3307.373 and Chapters 3119., 3121., 3123., and 3125. of the Revised Code, shall not be subject to execution, garnishment, attachment, the operation of bankruptcy or insolvency laws, or any other process of law whatsoever, and shall be unassignable except as specifically provided in this chapter ~~or~~ and sections 3105.171, 3105.65, and 3115.32, ~~3119.80, 3119.81, 3121.02, 3121.03, and 3123.06~~ and Chapters 3119., 3121., 3123., and 3125. of the Revised Code.

Sec. 3307.56. (A)(1) Subject to ~~sections~~ section 3307.37 ~~and 3307.561~~ of the Revised Code and except as provided in division (B)(2) of this section, a member participating in the STRS defined benefit plan who ceases to be a teacher for any cause other than death, retirement, receipt of a disability benefit, or current employment in a position in which the member has elected to participate in an alternative retirement plan under section 3305.05 or 3305.051 of the Revised Code, upon application, shall be paid the accumulated contributions standing to the credit of the member's individual account in the teachers' savings fund plus an amount calculated in accordance with section 3307.563 of the Revised Code. If the member or the member's legal representative cannot be found within ten years after the member ceased making contributions pursuant to section 3307.26 of the Revised Code, the accumulated contributions may be transferred to the guarantee fund and thereafter paid to the member, to the member's beneficiaries, or to the member's estate, upon proper application.

(2) A member described in division (A)(1) of this section who is married at the time of application for payment and is eligible for age and service retirement under section 3307.58 or 3307.59 of the Revised Code or would be eligible for age and service retirement under either of those sections but for a forfeiture ordered under division (A) or (B) of section 2929.192 of the Revised Code shall submit with the application a written statement by the member's spouse attesting that the spouse consents to the payment of the member's accumulated contributions. Consent shall be valid only if it is signed and witnessed by a notary public. If the statement is not

submitted under this division, the application shall be considered an application for service retirement and shall be subject to division (G)(1) of section 3307.60 of the Revised Code.

The state teachers retirement board may waive the requirement of consent if the spouse is incapacitated or cannot be located, or for any other reason specified by the board. Consent or waiver is effective only with regard to the spouse who is the subject of the consent or waiver.

(B) This division applies to any member who is employed in a position in which the member has elected under section 3305.05 or 3305.051 of the Revised Code to participate in an alternative retirement plan and due to the election ceases to be a teacher for the purposes of that position.

Subject to ~~sections~~ section 3307.37 ~~and 3307.561~~ of the Revised Code, the state teachers retirement system shall do the following:

(1) On receipt of a certified copy of an election under section 3305.05 or 3305.051 of the Revised Code, pay, in accordance with section 3305.052 of the Revised Code, the amount described in that section to the appropriate provider;

(2) If a member has accumulated contributions, in addition to those subject to division (B)(1) of this section, standing to the credit of a member's individual account and is not otherwise in a position in which the member is considered a teacher for the purposes of that position, pay, to the provider the member selected pursuant to section 3305.05 or 3305.051 of the Revised Code, the accumulated contributions standing to the credit of the member's individual account in the teachers' saving fund plus an amount calculated in accordance with section 3307.563 of the Revised Code. The payment shall be made on the member's application.

(C) Payment of a member's accumulated contributions under division (B) of this section cancels the member's total service credit in the state teachers retirement system. A member whose accumulated contributions are paid to a provider pursuant to division (B) of this section is forever barred from claiming or purchasing service credit under the state teachers retirement system for the period of employment attributable to those contributions.

Sec. 3307.561. (A) As used in this section, "other retirement system" means the public employees retirement system or the school employees retirement system.

(B) Except as provided in division (C) of this section, on application, a member of the state teachers retirement system who is also a member of one or both of the other retirement systems and has ceased to be a teacher for purposes of this chapter may be paid, in accordance with section 3307.56 of

the Revised Code, the member's accumulated contributions to the state teachers retirement system, plus any applicable amount calculated under section 3307.563 of the Revised Code. This payment does not affect the member's membership in the other retirement systems or any right the member may have to a benefit or return of contributions under those systems.

(C) This section does not apply to a member of one of the other retirement systems whose employment under that system is with the public employer that was the employer under the state teachers retirement system at the time the member's service subject to this chapter terminated.

Sec. 3307.563. For the purposes of this section, "service credit" includes only service credit obtained pursuant to sections 3307.53, 3307.71, 3307.712, 3307.72, and 3307.77 of the Revised Code.

(A) The state teachers retirement system shall add to a member's accumulated contributions to be paid under section 3307.56 or 3307.562 of the Revised Code an amount paid from the employers' trust fund equal to one of the following:

(1) If the member has less than three full years of service credit, an amount equal to interest on the member's accumulated contributions, compounded annually, at a rate not greater than four per cent established by the board;

(2) If the member has three or more full years of service credit, but less than five full years, an amount equal to interest on the member's accumulated contributions, compounded annually, at a rate not greater than six per cent established by the board;

(3) If the member has five or more full years of service credit, the sum of the following amounts:

(a) An amount equal to interest on the member's accumulated contributions, compounded annually, at a rate not greater than six per cent established by the board;

(b) An amount equal to fifty per cent of the sum of the member's contributions under section 3307.26, any contributions restored under ~~section~~ sections 3307.71 and 3307.712 of the Revised Code to the extent that the amount paid to restore the credit included amounts received by the member under division (A)(3)(b) of this section, and contributions deducted or paid under ~~division (C) of~~ section 3307.77 of the Revised Code plus interest on that amount at a rate not greater than six per cent established by the board.

Interest for each year included in the calculation under this section shall be calculated from the first day of the following year to the last day of the

month preceding payment under section 3307.56 or 3307.562 of the Revised Code.

(B) Notwithstanding sections 3307.56 and 3307.562 of the Revised Code, neither a member who returned to contributing service after receiving disability benefits nor the beneficiaries, survivors, or estate of a deceased member who was granted disability benefits prior to death is eligible for the payment of any amount calculated under this section.

Sec. 3307.57. To coordinate and integrate membership in the state retirement systems, the following provisions apply:

(A) As used in this section:

(1) "Retirement systems" means the public employees retirement system, state teachers retirement system, and school employees retirement system.

(2) In addition to the meaning given in section 3307.50 of the Revised Code, "disability benefit" means "disability benefit" as defined in sections 145.01 and 3309.01 of the Revised Code;

(3) "Actuarial assumption rate" means the investment rate of return assumed for projecting assets in the STRS defined benefit plan.

(4) "Total service credit" means the total credit in all retirement systems, except that such credit shall not exceed one year for any period of twelve months.

(5) "Paying system" means the state retirement system in which the member has the greatest service credit, without adjustment or, if the member has equal service credit in two or more retirement systems, the retirement system in which the member has the greatest total contributions.

(6) "Transferring system" means the state retirement system transferring a member's contributions and service credit in that system to the paying system.

(7) "Retention percentage" means five per cent, or a percentage determined under division (D) of this section, of a member's earnable salary in the case of a member of the public employees retirement system or five per cent, or a percentage determined under division (D) of this section, of a member's compensation in the case of a member of the state teachers retirement system or school employees retirement system.

(B) At the option of a member participating in the STRS defined benefit plan, total contributions and service credit in all retirement systems, including amounts paid to restore service credit under sections 145.311, 3307.711, and 3309.261 of the Revised Code, shall be used in determining ~~the eligibility for~~ benefits. If total contributions and service credit are combined, the following provisions apply:

(1) Service retirement or a disability benefit is effective on the first day of the month next following the later of:

(a) The last day for which compensation was paid;

(b) The attainment of minimum age or service credit for benefits provided under this section.

~~(2) "Total service credit" includes the total credit in all retirement systems except that such credit shall not exceed one year for any period of twelve months.~~

~~(3) Eligibility for a disability benefit shall be determined by the The board of the state retirement paying system that will calculate shall do both of the following:~~

~~(a) Determine a member's eligibility for a retirement or disability benefit;~~

~~(b) Calculate and pay the member's retirement or disability benefit, as provided in division (B)(4) of this section. The state retirement~~

~~(3)(a) Each transferring system calculating and paying the disability benefit in which the member has service credit shall certify the determination to the board of each other state retirement paying system in which the member has service credit and shall be accepted by that board as sufficient for granting a disability benefit.~~

~~(4) The board of the state retirement system in which the member had the greatest service credit, without adjustment, shall calculate and pay the total benefit. If the member's credit is equal in two or more retirement systems, the system having the member's largest total contributions shall calculate and pay the total benefit.~~

~~(5) all of the following:~~

~~(i) The service credit earned by the member in the transferring system;~~

~~(ii) The beginning and ending dates of the service credit period covered by the transferring system;~~

~~(iii) Any breaks in service by the member, excluding school breaks;~~

~~(iv) If available, a statement listing the member's monthly contributions and service credit earned, obtained, or purchased in the transferring system.~~

~~(b) The certification under division (B)(3)(a) of this section may be reviewed by both the transferring system and paying system.~~

~~(4) In determining the total credit to be used in calculating a retirement or disability benefit, credit shall not be reduced below that certified by the transferring system or systems transferring credit, except that such total combined service credit shall not exceed as follows:~~

~~(a) Not more than one year of credit may be certified by the transferring system for any one "year" as defined in the statute law governing the~~

~~transferring system making the calculation.~~

(b) The paying system may reduce any credit certified by the transferring system that is concurrent with any period of service credit the member earned from the paying system.

(c) The paying system may reduce any credit certified by the transferring system if the amount certified, when added to the paying system's service credit for any one "year" as defined in the law of the paying system, exceeds one year.

~~(6)(5)(a) The retirement paying system calculating and paying the benefit shall receive from the other transferring system or systems all of the following for each year of service:~~

~~(i) The amount contributed by the member, or, in the case of service credit purchased by the member, paid by the member, that is attributable to the year of service;~~

~~(ii) An amount equal to the lesser of the employer's contributions made on behalf of the member to the retirement transferring system for that year of service less the retention percentage or the amount that would have been contributed by the employer for the service had the member been a member of the state teachers retirement system at the time the credit was earned less the retention percentage;~~

~~(iii) If applicable, an amount equal to the amount paid on behalf of the member by an employer under section 145.483 of the Revised Code;~~

~~(iv) Interest compounded annually on the amounts specified in divisions (B)(6)(5)(a)(i), (ii), and (iii) of this section at the lesser of the actuarial assumption rate for that year of the state teachers retirement paying system or the other retirement transferring system or systems transferring amounts under this section.~~

~~(b)(6) The annuity rates and mortality tables of the retirement paying system making the calculation and paying the benefit shall be applicable.~~

~~(e)(7) Deposits made for the purchase of additional income, with guaranteed interest, upon the member's request, shall be transferred to the retirement paying system paying the regular benefit. The return upon such deposits shall be that offered by the retirement paying system making the calculation and paying the regular benefit.~~

(C) A person receiving a benefit under this section, who accepts employment amenable to coverage in any retirement system that participated in the person's combined benefit, shall be subject to the applicable provisions of law governing such re-employment.

If a retirant should be paid any amount to which the retirant is not entitled under the applicable provisions of law governing such

re-employment, such amount shall be recouped by the ~~retirement~~ paying system ~~paying such benefit~~ by utilizing any recovery procedure available under the ~~law of the retirement system covering such~~ paying system's re-employment provisions.

(D) The retention percentage used in the calculation under division (B)(5)(a)(ii) of this section shall be reviewed by the state retirement systems not less than once every five years beginning after the effective date of this amendment or on request of any of the systems. If the retirement systems agree, the retention percentage may be changed if any of the system's employer contribution rate increases or decreases or the systems agree that a change is in the interest of one or more of the systems.

Sec. 3307.58. (A) As used in this section, "qualifying service credit" means credit earned under section 3307.53 or for which contributions were made under section 145.47 or 3309.47 of the Revised Code; credit restored under section 145.31, 3307.71, or 3309.26 of the Revised Code; credit purchased under section 145.302, 3307.752, or 3309.022, or division (D) of section 5505.16 of the Revised Code, or obtained under section 742.521 of the Revised Code; and credit obtained under section 3307.761, 3307.763, or 3307.765 of the Revised Code.

(B) Any member participating in the STRS defined benefit plan who has attained the applicable combination of age and service credit shall be granted service retirement after filing with the state teachers retirement board a completed application on a form approved by the board.

(1) Except as provided in division (B)(3) of this section, a member is eligible to retire under this division if ~~either~~ any of the following is the case:

(a) The member has five or more years of qualifying service credit and has attained age sixty-five;

(b) The member is applying for service retirement following termination of a disability benefit received under section 3307.63 or 3307.631 of the Revised Code and has five or more years of total service credit;

(c) The member meets one of the following requirements:

(i) Before August 1, 2015, has thirty or more years of service credit at any age;

(ii) On or after August 1, 2015, but before August 1, 2017, has thirty-one or more years of service credit at any age;

(iii) On or after August 1, 2017, but before August 1, 2019, has thirty-two or more years of service credit at any age;

(iv) On or after August 1, 2019, but before August 1, 2021, has thirty-three or more years of service credit at any age;

(v) On or after August 1, 2021, but before August 1, 2023, has

thirty-four or more years of service credit at any age;

(vi) On or after August 1, 2023, but before August 1, 2026, has thirty-five or more years of service credit at any age;

(vii) On or after August 1, 2026, has thirty-five or more years of service credit and has attained age sixty.

(2) Except as provided in division (B)(3) of this section, a member is eligible to retire under this division if ~~either~~ any of the following is the case:

(a) The member has five or more years of qualifying service credit and has attained age sixty;

(b) The member is applying for service retirement following termination of a disability benefit received under section 3307.63 or 3307.631 of the Revised Code and has five or more years of total service credit;

(c) The member meets one of the following requirements:

(i) Before August 1, 2015, has twenty-five or more years of service credit and has attained age fifty-five;

(ii) On or after August 1, 2015, but before August 1, 2017, has twenty-six or more years of service credit and has attained age fifty-five or has thirty or more years of service credit at any age;

(iii) On or after August 1, 2017, but before August 1, 2019, has twenty-seven or more years of service credit and has attained age fifty-five or has thirty or more years of service credit at any age;

(iv) On or after after August 1, 2019, but before August 1, 2021, has twenty-eight or more years of service credit and has attained age fifty-five or has thirty or more years of service credit at any age;

(v) On or after August 1, 2021, but before August 1, 2023, has twenty-nine or more years of service credit and has attained age fifty-five or has thirty or more years of service credit at any age;

(vi) On or after August 1, 2023, has thirty or more years of service credit at any age.

(3) The board may adjust the retirement eligibility requirements of this section if the board's actuary, in its annual actuarial valuation required by section 3307.51 of the Revised Code or in other evaluations conducted under that section, determines that an adjustment does not materially impair the fiscal integrity of the retirement system or is necessary to preserve the fiscal integrity of the system.

(C) Service retirement shall be effective ~~on~~ not earlier than the first day of the month next following the later of:

(1) The last day for which compensation was paid; or

(2) The attainment of minimum age ~~or~~ and service credit eligibility for benefits provided under this section.

(D)(1) Except as provided in division (E) of this section, the annual single lifetime benefit of a member whose retirement effective date is before August 1, 2013, shall be the greater of the amounts determined by the member's Ohio service credit multiplied by one of the following:

(a) Eighty-six dollars;

(b) The sum of the following amounts:

(i) For each of the first thirty years of Ohio service credit, two and two-tenths per cent of the member's final average salary or, subject to the limitation described in division (D)(1)(c) of this section, two and five-tenths per cent of the member's final average salary if the member has thirty-five or more years of service credit under section 3307.48, 3307.53, 3307.57, 3307.75, 3307.751, 3307.752, 3307.761, 3307.763, 3307.765, 3307.77, or 3307.771 of the Revised Code, division (A)(2) or (B) of former section 3307.513 of the Revised Code, former section 3307.514 of the Revised Code, section 3307.72 of the Revised Code earned after July 1, 1978, or any combination of service credit under those sections;

(ii) For each year or fraction of a year of Ohio service credit in excess of thirty years, two and two-tenths per cent of the member's final average salary or, subject to the limitation described in division (D)(1)(c) of this section, if the member has more than thirty years service credit under section 3307.48, 3307.53, 3307.57, 3307.75, 3307.751, 3307.752, 3307.761, 3307.763, 3307.765, 3307.77, or 3307.771 of the Revised Code, division (A)(2) or (B) of former section 3307.513 of the Revised Code, former section 3307.514 of the Revised Code, section 3307.72 of the Revised Code earned after July 1, 1978, or any combination of service credit under those sections, the per cent of final average salary shown in the following schedule for each corresponding year or fraction of a year of service credit under those sections that is in excess of thirty years:

Year of Service Credit	Per Cent for that Year	Year of Service Credit	Per Cent for that Year
30.01 - 31.00	2.5%	35.01 - 36.00	3.0%
31.01 - 32.00	2.6	36.01 - 37.00	3.1
32.01 - 33.00	2.7	37.01 - 38.00	3.2
33.01 - 34.00	2.8	38.01 - 39.00	3.3
34.01 - 35.00	2.9		

For purposes of this schedule, years of service credit shall be rounded to the nearest one-hundredth of a year.

(c) For purposes of division (D)(1) of this section, a percentage of final

average salary in excess of two and two-tenths per cent shall be applied to service credit under section 3307.57 of the Revised Code only if the service credit was established under section 145.30, 145.301, 145.302, 145.47, 145.483, 3309.02, 3309.021, 3309.022, or 3309.47 of the Revised Code or restored under section 145.31 or 3309.26 of the Revised Code.

(2)(a) Except as provided in division (E) of this section, the annual single lifetime benefit of a member whose retirement effective date is on or after August 1, 2013, but before August 1, 2015, shall be the amount determined by the member's Ohio service credit multiplied by the sum of the following amounts:

(i) For each of the first thirty years of Ohio service credit, two and two-tenths per cent of the member's final average salary or, subject to the limitation described in division (D)(2)(b) of this section, two and five-tenths per cent of the member's final average salary if the member has thirty-five or more years of service credit under section 3307.48, 3307.53, 3307.57, 3307.75, 3307.751, 3307.752, 3307.761, 3307.763, 3307.765, 3307.77, or 3307.771 of the Revised Code, division (A)(2) or (B) of former section 3307.513 of the Revised Code, former section 3307.514 of the Revised Code, section 3307.72 of the Revised Code earned after July 1, 1978, or any combination of service credit under those sections;

(ii) For each year or fraction of a year of Ohio service credit in excess of thirty years, two and two-tenths per cent of the member's final average salary or, subject to the limitation described in division (D)(2)(b) of this section, if the member has more than thirty years service credit under section 3307.48, 3307.53, 3307.57, 3307.75, 3307.751, 3307.752, 3307.761, 3307.763, 3307.765, 3307.77, or 3307.771 of the Revised Code, division (A)(2) or (B) of former section 3307.513 of the Revised Code, former section 3307.514 of the Revised Code, section 3307.72 of the Revised Code earned after July 1, 1978, or any combination of service credit under those sections, the per cent of final average salary shown in the following schedule for each corresponding year or fraction of a year of service credit under those sections that is in excess of thirty years:

Year of Service Credit	Per Cent for that Year	Year of Service Credit	Per Cent for that Year
30.01 - 31.00	2.5%	35.01 - 36.00	3.0%
31.01 - 32.00	2.6	36.01 - 37.00	3.1
32.01 - 33.00	2.7	37.01 - 38.00	3.2
33.01 - 34.00	2.8	38.01 - 39.00	3.3

34.01 - 35.00 2.9

For purposes of this schedule, years of service credit shall be rounded to the nearest one-hundredth of a year.

(b) For purposes of division (D)(2)(a)(ii) of this section, a percentage of final average salary in excess of two and two-tenths per cent shall be applied to service credit under section 3307.57 of the Revised Code only if the service credit was established under section 145.30, 145.301, 145.302, 145.47, 145.483, 3309.02, 3309.021, 3309.022, or 3309.47 of the Revised Code or restored under section 145.31 or 3309.26 of the Revised Code.

(3) Except as provided in division (E) of this section, the annual single lifetime benefit of a member whose retirement effective date is on or after August 1, 2015, shall be the amount determined by the member's service credit multiplied by two and two-tenths per cent of the member's final average salary.

(E)(1) The annual single lifetime benefit of a member described in division (B)(2) of this section whose service retirement is effective before August 1, 2015, shall be adjusted by the greater per cent shown in the following schedule opposite the member's attained age or Ohio service credit.

Attained Age	or	Years of Ohio Service Credit	Per Cent of Base Amount
58		25	75%
59		26	80
60		27	85
61		28	88
62		29	90
63		30	91
64		31	94
65		32	95
		33	97
		34 or more	100

(2) The annual single lifetime benefit of a member described in division (B)(2) of this section whose service retirement is effective on or after August 1, 2015, shall be reduced by a percentage determined by the board's actuary for each year the member retires before attaining the applicable age and service credit specified in division (B)(1) of this section. The board's actuary may use an actuarially based average percentage reduction for this purpose.

(F) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, on application,

a member who, as of July 1, 2015, has five or more years of Ohio service credit and has attained age sixty, has twenty-five or more years of Ohio service credit and has attained age fifty-five, or has thirty or more years of Ohio service credit shall be granted service retirement according to former section 3307.58 of the Revised Code as in effect immediately prior to ~~the effective date of this amendment~~ January 7, 2013. The member's benefit shall be the greater of the amount the member would have been eligible for had the member retired effective July 1, 2015, or the amount determined under division (D)(3) of this section.

(G) The annual single lifetime benefit determined under division (D) or (E) of this section shall not exceed the lesser of one hundred per cent of the final average salary or the limit established by section 415 of the "Internal Revenue Code of 1986," 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C.A. 415, as amended.

(H) The annual single lifetime benefit of a member whose retirement effective date is before August 1, 2013, shall be the greater of the amounts determined under division (D)(1) or (E)(1) of this section as appropriate or under this division. The benefit shall not exceed the lesser of the sum of the following amounts or the limit established by section 415 of the "Internal Revenue Code of 1986," 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C.A. 415, as amended:

(1) An annuity with a reserve equal to the member's accumulated contributions;

(2) A pension equal to the amount in division (H)(1) of this section;

(3) An additional pension of forty dollars annually multiplied by the number of years of prior and military service credit, except years of credit purchased under section 3307.751 or 3307.752 of the Revised Code.

(I) If a member's disability benefit was terminated under section 3307.48 of the Revised Code and the member's retirement under this section is effective on the first day of the month following the last day for which the disability benefit was paid, the member's annual single lifetime benefit determined under division (D) or (E) of this section shall be increased by a percentage equal to the total of any percentage increases the member received under section 3307.67 of the Revised Code, plus any additional amount the member received under this chapter while receiving the disability benefit. The increase shall be based on the plan of payment selected by the member under section 3307.60 of the Revised Code. However, the benefit used to calculate any future increases under section 3307.67 of the Revised Code shall be based on the plan of payment selected by the member, plus any additional amount added to the benefit determined under this division that established a new base benefit to the member.

(J) Benefits determined under this section shall be paid as provided in

section 3307.60 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 3307.62. As used in this section, "qualifying service credit" has the same meaning as in section 3307.58 of the Revised Code.

(A) The state teachers retirement system shall provide disability coverage to each member participating in the STRS defined benefit plan who meets either of the following:

(1) If the member ~~earned~~ had service credit ~~before July 1 on account on June 30, 2013~~, has at least five years of qualifying service credit;

(2) If the member did not ~~earn~~ have any service credit ~~before July 1 on account on June 30, 2013~~, has at least ten years of qualifying service credit.

Not later than October 16, 1992, the state teachers retirement board shall give each person who is a member on July 29, 1992, the opportunity to elect disability coverage either under former section 3307.43 of the Revised Code or under former section 3307.431 of the Revised Code. The board shall mail notice of the election, accompanied by an explanation of the coverage under each of the Revised Code sections and a form on which the election is to be made, to each member at the member's last known address. The board shall also provide the explanation and form to any member on the member's request.

Regardless of whether the member actually receives notice of the right to make an election, a member who fails to file a valid election under this section shall be considered to have elected disability coverage under section 3307.63 of the Revised Code. To be valid, an election must be made on the form provided by the board, signed by the member, and filed with the board not later than one hundred eighty days after the date the notice was mailed, or, in the case of a form provided at the request of a member, a date specified by rule of the board. Once made, an election is irrevocable, but if the member ceases to be a member of the system, the election is void. If a person who makes an election under this section also makes an election under section 145.35 or 3309.39 of the Revised Code, the election made for the system that pays a disability benefit to that person shall govern the benefit.

Disability coverage shall be provided under section 3307.631 of the Revised Code for persons who become members after July 29, 1992, and for members who elect under this division to be covered under section 3307.631 of the Revised Code.

The board may adopt rules governing elections made under this division.

(B) Application for a disability benefit may be made by a member, by a person acting in the member's behalf, or by the member's employer and if

the member has disability coverage under division (A) of this section.

The application for a disability benefit shall be made on a form approved by the board. The benefit payable to any member whose application is approved shall become effective on the first day of the month next following the later of the following:

(1) The last day for which compensation was paid;

(2) The attainment of eligibility date on which the member's most recent application for a disability benefit was received by the board.

(C) Medical examination of the member shall be conducted by a competent, disinterested physician or physicians selected by the board to determine whether the member is mentally or physically incapacitated for the performance of duty by a disabling condition, either permanent or presumed to be permanent for twelve continuous months following the filing of an application. The disability must have occurred since last becoming a member, or it must have increased since last becoming a member to such an extent as to make the disability permanent or presumably permanent for twelve continuous months following the filing of an application.

(D) Application for a disability benefit must be made within a two-year period from the date the member's contributing service terminated, unless the board determines that the member's medical records demonstrate conclusively that at the time the period expired the member was physically or mentally incapacitated and unable to make application, except that if the member did not ~~earn~~ have any service credit ~~before July 1~~ on account on June 30, 2013, application must be made within a one-year period from the date contributing service terminated. Application may not be made by any person receiving service retirement benefits under section 3307.58 or 3307.59 of the Revised Code or any person whose accumulated contributions standing to the credit of the person's individual account in the teachers' savings fund have been paid under section 3307.56 of the Revised Code.

(E) If the physician or physicians determine that the member qualifies for a disability benefit, the board concurs with the determination, and the member agrees to medical treatment as specified in division (G) of this section, the member shall receive a disability benefit under section 3307.63 or 3307.631 of the Revised Code. If such physician or physicians determine that the member does not qualify for a disability benefit, the report of the examiner or examiners shall be evaluated by a board of medical review composed of at least three physicians appointed by the retirement board.

(F) The state teachers retirement board shall render an order

determining whether or not the applicant shall be granted a disability benefit. Notification to the applicant shall be issued, and upon the request of an applicant who is denied a disability benefit, a hearing or appeal relative to such order shall be conducted in accordance with procedures established by the retirement board.

(G) The state teachers retirement board shall adopt rules requiring each disability benefit recipient, as a condition of continuing to receive a disability benefit, to agree in writing to obtain any medical treatment recommended by the board's physician and submit medical reports regarding the treatment. If the board determines that a disability benefit recipient is not obtaining the medical treatment or the board does not receive a required medical report, the disability benefit shall be suspended until the treatment is obtained, the report is received by the board, or the board's physician certifies that the treatment is no longer helpful or advisable. Should the recipient's failure to obtain treatment or submit a medical report continue for one year, the recipient's right to the disability benefit shall be terminated as of the effective date of the original suspension.

(H) If an employer files an application for a disability benefit as a result of a member having been separated from service because the member is considered to be incapacitated for the performance of duty, and the board denies the disability benefit, the board shall so certify to the employer and the employer shall restore the member to the member's previous position and salary or to a similar position and salary.

(I) The recipient of a disability allowance under section 3307.631 of the Revised Code whose allowance terminates under division (C)(3) of that section due to age is not eligible to do either of the following:

- (1) Retire on disability under section 3307.63 of the Revised Code;
- (2) Receive a disability allowance under section 3307.631 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 3307.66. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Physically or mentally incompetent" means incapable of earning a living because of a physically or mentally disabling condition. Physical or mental incompetency may be determined by a court or by a doctor of medicine or osteopathic medicine appointed by the state teachers retirement board.

(2) "Qualifying service credit" has the same meaning as in section 3307.58 of the Revised Code.

(B) For the purposes of this section:

(1) A qualified spouse is the surviving spouse of a deceased member of the state teachers retirement system participating in the STRS defined

benefit plan who is one of the following:

(a) Sixty-two years of age or older or any age if the deceased member had ten or more years of Ohio service credit;

(b) Caring for a qualified child;

(c) Adjudged physically or mentally incompetent at the time of the member's death and has remained continuously incompetent;

(d) Any age if the deceased member was eligible for a service retirement allowance as provided in section 3307.58 of the Revised Code and the surviving spouse elects to receive a benefit under division (C)(1) of this section.

(2) A qualified child is a person who is the child of a deceased member participating in the STRS defined benefit plan to whom both of the following apply:

(a) Never married;

(b) Meets one of the following age-related requirements:

(i) Is under age eighteen;

(ii) Is under age twenty-two if attending an institution of learning or training pursuant to a program designed to complete in each school year the equivalent of at least two-thirds of the full-time curriculum requirements of such institution and as further determined by board policy;

(iii) Is any age if adjudged physically or mentally incompetent, if the person became incompetent prior to attainment of age eighteen or prior to age twenty-two if attending an institution of learning or training described in division (B)(2)(b)(ii) of this section, and has remained continuously incompetent.

(3) A qualified parent is a dependent parent of a deceased member participating in the STRS defined benefit plan who is age sixty-five or older.

(4) A person is a "qualified survivor" if the person qualifies as a surviving spouse, child, or dependent parent.

(C) Except as provided in division (G)(1) of this section, in lieu of accepting the payment of the accumulated account of a member participating in the STRS defined benefit plan who dies before service retirement, a beneficiary, as determined in section 3307.562 of the Revised Code, may elect to forfeit the accumulated account and to substitute benefits under this division.

(1) If a deceased member was eligible for a service retirement allowance as provided in section 3307.58 or 3307.59 of the Revised Code, a surviving spouse or an individual designated as the member's sole beneficiary pursuant to division (B) of section 3307.562 of the Revised Code who was a qualified child or dependent parent of the member or received one-half or

more of support from the member during the twelve-month period preceding the member's death may elect to receive a monthly benefit computed as the joint-survivor allowance designated as option 1 in section 3307.60 of the Revised Code, which the member would have received had the member retired on the last day of the month of death and had the member at that time selected such joint-survivor plan.

(2)(a) A surviving spouse or other qualified survivor may elect to receive monthly benefits under division (C)(2) of this section if any of the following apply:

(i) The deceased member ~~earned had~~ service credit ~~before July 1 on account on June 30, 2013,~~ and had completed at least one and one-half years of qualifying service credit, with at least one-quarter year of qualifying service credit within the two and one-half years prior to the date of death, or, if the member ~~had did not earned have~~ service credit ~~before July 1 on account on June 30, 2013,~~ had completed at least five years of qualifying service credit and died not later than one year after the date contributing service terminated.

(ii) The member was receiving at the time of death a disability benefit as provided in section 3307.63 or 3307.631 of the Revised Code.

(iii) The member was receiving, within twelve months prior to the date of death, a disability benefit as provided in section 3307.63 or 3307.631 of the Revised Code and was contributing under this chapter or Chapter 145. or 3309. of the Revised Code at the time of death.

(b) The surviving spouse or other qualified survivor shall elect one of the following methods of calculating benefits elected under division (C)(2) of this section, which shall, except as provided in division (G)(1) of this section, remain in effect without regard to any change in the number of qualified survivors:

		Or
(i) Number of qualified survivors	Annual benefit as a per cent of member's final average salary	Monthly benefit shall not be less than
1	25%	\$ 96
2	40	186
3	50	236
4	55	236
5 or more	60	236
		Annual benefit as a per cent of member's final average salary
(ii) Years of service		

20	29%
21	33
22	37
23	41
24	45
25	48
26	51
27	54
28	57
29 or more	60

(3)(a) If at the time of death the deceased member was receiving a disability benefit under section 3307.63 or 3307.631 of the Revised Code, the benefit elected under division (C)(1) or (2) of this section shall be increased by a percentage equal to the total of any percentage increases the member received under section 3307.67 of the Revised Code, plus any additional amount the member received under this chapter while receiving the disability benefit. The increase shall be based on the benefit determined under division (C)(1) or (2) of this section. However, the benefit used to calculate any future increases under section 3307.67 of the Revised Code shall be the benefit determined under division (C)(1) or (2) of this section.

(b) If eligibility for a benefit under division (C)(1) or (2) of this section is not established until more than one year after the member's death, the annual benefit shall be increased by a percentage equal to the total of the percentage increases that would have been made under section 3307.67 of the Revised Code, plus any additional amount that would have been paid under this chapter had the benefit begun in the year in which the member died. However, the benefit used to calculate any future increases under section 3307.67 of the Revised Code shall be the benefit determined under division (C)(1) or (2) of this section, plus any additional amounts added to the benefit determined under this division that established a new base benefit to the deceased member.

(D) If a benefit is calculated pursuant to division (C)(2)(b)(i) of this section, benefits to a surviving spouse shall be paid in the amount determined for the first qualifying survivor in division (C)(2)(b)(i) of this section, but shall not be less than one hundred six dollars per month if the deceased member had ten or more years of qualifying service credit. All other qualifying survivors shall share equally in the benefit or remaining portion thereof.

If a benefit is calculated pursuant to division (C)(2)(b)(ii) of this section and is payable to more than one qualified survivor, the benefit shall be

apportioned equally among the qualified survivors, except that if there is a surviving spouse, the portion of the benefit allocated to the surviving spouse shall be as follows:

Number of survivors	Spouse's share of total benefit
2	62.5%
3	50.0%
4	45.45%
5 or more	41.67%

(E) A qualified survivor shall file with the board an application for benefits payable under this section. Payments shall begin on whichever of the following applies:

(1) If application is received not later than one year after the date of the member's death, benefits shall begin on the first day of the month following the date of death.

(2) If application is received later than one year from the date of death, benefits shall begin on the first day of the month immediately following receipt of application by the board.

Benefits to a qualified survivor shall terminate upon a first marriage, abandonment, or adoption. The termination of benefits is effective on the first day of the month following the day the person ceases to be a qualified survivor. Benefits to a deceased member's surviving spouse that were terminated under a former version of this section that required termination due to remarriage and were not resumed prior to the effective date of this amendment shall resume on the first day of the month immediately following receipt by the board of an application on a form provided by the board.

Upon the death of any subsequent spouse who was a member of the public employees retirement system, state teachers retirement system, or school employees retirement system, the surviving spouse of such member may elect to continue receiving benefits under this division, or to receive survivor's benefits, based upon the subsequent spouse's membership in one or more of the systems, for which such surviving spouse is eligible under this section or section 145.45 or 3309.45 of the Revised Code. If the surviving spouse elects to continue receiving benefits under this division, such election shall not preclude the payment of benefits under this division to any other qualified survivor.

(F) The beneficiary of a member who is also a member of the public employees retirement system, or the school employees retirement system, must forfeit the member's accumulated contributions in those systems, if the

beneficiary elects to receive a benefit under division (C) of this section. Such benefit shall be exclusively governed by section 3307.57 of the Revised Code.

(G)(1) Regardless of whether the member is survived by a spouse or designated beneficiary, if the state teachers retirement system receives notice that a deceased member described in division (C)(1) or (2) of this section has one or more qualified children, all persons who are qualified survivors under division (C)(2) of this section shall receive monthly benefits as provided in division (C)(2) of this section.

If, after determining the monthly benefits to be paid under division (C)(2) of this section, the system receives notice that there is a qualified survivor who was not considered when the determination was made, the system shall, notwithstanding section 3307.42 of the Revised Code, recalculate the monthly benefits with that qualified survivor included, even if the benefits to qualified survivors already receiving benefits are reduced as a result. The benefits shall be calculated as if the qualified survivor who is the subject of the notice became eligible on the date the notice was received and shall be paid to qualified survivors effective on the first day of the first month following the system's receipt of the notice.

If the system did not receive notice that a deceased member has one or more qualified children prior to making payment under section 3307.562 of the Revised Code to a beneficiary as determined by the system, the payment is a full discharge and release of the system from any future claims under this section or section 3307.562 of the Revised Code.

(2) If benefits under division (C)(2) of this section to all persons, or to all persons other than a surviving spouse or sole beneficiary, terminate, there are no children under the age of twenty-two years, and the surviving spouse or beneficiary qualifies for benefits under division (C)(1) of this section, the surviving spouse or beneficiary may elect to receive benefits under division (C)(1) of this section. The benefit shall be calculated based on the age of the spouse or beneficiary at the time of the member's death and is effective on the first day of the month following receipt by the board of an application for benefits under division (C)(1) of this section.

(H) If the benefits due and paid under division (C) of this section are in a total amount less than the member's accumulated account that was transferred from the teachers' savings fund, school employees retirement fund, and public employees retirement fund, to the survivors' benefit fund, then the difference between the total amount of the benefits paid shall be paid to the beneficiary under section 3307.562 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 3307.70. (A) A member of the state teachers retirement system

who elects to purchase service credit described in section 3307.73, 3307.74, 3307.751, 3307.76, 3307.771, or 3307.78 of the Revised Code shall do both of the following:

(1) Submit an application to the state teachers retirement board in a manner or form approved by the board;

(2)(a) If the purchase will be completed not later than December 31, 2013, for each year, or portion of a year, of credit purchased, pay to the ~~employees'~~ teachers' savings fund the amount specified by former section 3307.73, 3307.74, 3307.751, 3307.76, 3307.771, or 3307.78 of the Revised Code as the appropriate section existed immediately before ~~the effective date of this section~~ January 7, 2013.

(b) If the purchase will not be completed until on or after January 1, 2014, for each year, or portion of a year, of credit purchased, pay to the ~~employees'~~ teachers' savings fund an amount specified by the board that is equal to one hundred per cent of the actuarial liability resulting from the purchase of that year or portion of a year of credit as determined by an actuary employed by the board.

(c) If, on ~~the effective date of this amendment~~ January 7, 2013, the purchase is being made through a payroll deduction plan under section 3307.701 of the Revised Code and at least one deduction has been made, pay to the ~~employees'~~ teachers' savings fund the amount specified by former section 3307.73, 3307.74, 3307.751, 3307.76, 3307.771, or 3307.78 of the Revised Code as the appropriate section existed immediately before ~~the effective date of this section~~ January 7, 2013.

(B)(1) A purchase shall be considered completed for purposes of division (A)(2)(a) of this section only if the member's application is received by the retirement system as completed not later than December 31, 2013, and all payments are received by the retirement system not later than June 30, 2014.

(2) A member purchasing credit through a payroll deduction plan under division (A)~~(1)~~(2)(c) of this section may pay in a single payment the balance of the cost of the credit.

(C) Subject to board rules, a member may choose to purchase only part of any eligible service credit in any one payment.

(D) The board shall adopt rules establishing criteria for determining eligibility for purchases of service credit and procedures for purchases of credit under this section.

Any determination of the board under this section shall be final.

(E) Service credit purchased under this section shall be included in the member's total service credit.

If a member dies or withdraws from service, any payment made by the member under this section shall be considered as accumulated contributions of the member.

Sec. 3307.71. ~~(A)(1)~~ Except as provided in this section, section 3305.05, or section 3305.051 of the Revised Code, a member or former member of the state teachers retirement system participating in the STRS defined benefit plan who has at least one and one-half years of contributing service credit in this system, the public employees retirement system, the school employees retirement system, the Ohio police and fire pension fund, or the state highway patrol retirement system after the withdrawal and cancellation of service credit in this system may restore all or part of such service credit by repayment of the amount withdrawn. To this amount shall be added interest at a rate per annum, compounded annually, to be determined by the state teachers retirement board. Interest shall be payable from the first of the month of withdrawal through the month of repayment. ~~A~~

(2) If the accumulated contributions were withdrawn under section 3307.561 of the Revised Code, service credit may be restored only if the member or former member accrued one and one-half years of service credit after the withdrawal and cancellation of service credit in this system.

~~(B)~~ A member may choose to purchase only part of such credit in any one payment. The cost for restoring partial service shall be calculated as the proportion that it bears to the total cost at the time of purchase and is subject to the rules established by the board. If a former member is eligible to buy the service credit as a member of the Ohio police and fire pension fund, the state highway patrol retirement system, or the city of Cincinnati Retirement System, the former member is ineligible to restore that service credit under this section.

~~(C)~~ The total payment to restore canceled service credit shall be credited as follows:

~~(A)(1)~~ The amount that equals contributions made pursuant to section 3307.26 of the Revised Code, plus any interest on the contributions paid by the member pursuant to this section, to the member's account in the teachers' savings fund;

~~(B)(2)~~ The amount that equals the amount paid under section 3307.563 of the Revised Code, to the employers trust fund;

~~(C)(3)~~ The remainder of the payment to restore canceled service credit, to the guarantee fund.

Sec. 3307.711. (A) A member of the state teachers retirement system who has at least eighteen months of contributing service credit in the system, the police and firemen's disability and pension fund, public

employees retirement system, school employees retirement system, or state highway patrol retirement system, and is a former member of or no longer contributing to the public employees retirement system or school employees retirement system may restore service credit under section 145.31 or 3309.26 of the Revised Code by making payments pursuant to this section through a payroll deduction plan established under section 3307.701 of the Revised Code. A member seeking to restore this service credit shall notify the state teachers retirement system on a form approved by the state teachers retirement board. After receiving the notice, the state teachers retirement system shall request that the former retirement system calculate under section 145.312 or 3309.262 of the Revised Code the cost to the member to restore service credit for each year or portion of a year of service for which the member seeks to restore the service credit. The amount the former retirement system certifies as the cost of restoring the service credit, plus interest described in division (B) of this section, is the cost to the member of restoring the service credit. On receiving the certification from the former retirement system, the state teachers retirement system shall notify the member of the cost.

(B) For each year or portion of a year of service credit restored under section 145.31 or 3309.26 of the Revised Code, a member shall pay to the state teachers retirement system the amount certified by the former retirement system plus interest at a rate specified by the former retirement system under section 145.312 or 3309.262 of the Revised Code for the period during which deductions are made under section 3307.701 of the Revised Code.

(C) The state teachers retirement board shall at least annually notify transmit to the former retirement system that a payment notice and any payments made to restore service credit under section 145.31 or 3309.26 of the Revised Code ~~has been made. At the time the payment is transferred under division (D) of this section, the~~ The former retirement system shall restore the service credit for the year or portion of a year for which the payment was made.

(D) ~~On application for a payment of accumulated contributions or an age and service retirement, disability, or survivor benefit under Chapter 145., 3307., or 3309. of the Revised Code by a member who made payments under this section to restore service credit in a former retirement system, the state teachers retirement system shall pay to the former retirement system an amount equal to the total amount paid by the member under this section.~~

(E) The board shall adopt rules to implement this section.

Sec. 3307.73. (A)(+) As used in this section, "paying system" and

"transferring system" have the same meanings as in section 3307.57 of the Revised Code.

(B)(1) Except as provided in division ~~(A)~~(B)(2) of this section, a member of the state teachers retirement system participating in the STRS defined benefit plan who has at least eighteen months of contributing service in the system, the public employees retirement system, or school employees retirement system who chose to be exempted from membership in one or more of the systems pursuant to section 145.03, or 3309.23 of the Revised Code, or former section 3307.25 or 3309.25 of the Revised Code, or was exempt under section 3307.24 of the Revised Code, may purchase credit under section 3307.70 of the Revised Code for each year or portion of a year of service for which the member was exempted.

(2) A member may not purchase credit for service that was exempted from contribution under section 3307.24 of the Revised Code and subject to the tax on wages imposed by the "Federal Insurance Contributions Act," 68A Stat. 415 (1954), 26 U.S.C.A. 3101, as amended.

~~(B)~~(C) Credit described in this section shall not exceed one year of service for any twelve-month period. If the period of service for which credit is purchasable is concurrent with a period of service that will be used to calculate a retirement benefit from this system, the public employees retirement system, or school employees retirement system, the amount of the credit shall be adjusted in accordance with rules adopted by the board.

~~(C)~~(D) A member who is also a member of the public employees retirement system or school employees retirement system shall purchase credit for any service for which the member exempted the member's self under section 145.03 or 3309.23 of the Revised Code, or former section 3307.25 or 3309.25 of the Revised Code, or was exempt under section 3307.24 of the Revised Code, from the retirement system in which the member has the greatest number of years of service credit. If the member receives benefits under section 3307.57 of the Revised Code, the ~~state retirement system that determines and pays the retirement benefit~~ is the paying system under that section shall receive from the ~~other~~ system or systems that are the transferring systems the amounts paid by the member for purchase of credit for exempt service plus interest at the actuarial assumption rate of the transferring system ~~paying that amount~~. The interest shall be for the period beginning on the date of the member's last payment for purchase of the credit and ending on the date of the member's retirement.

Sec. 3309.01. As used in this chapter:

(A) "Employer" or "public employer" means boards of education, school districts, joint vocational districts, governing authorities of

community schools established under Chapter 3314. of the Revised Code, a science, technology, engineering, and mathematics school established under Chapter 3326. of the Revised Code, educational institutions, technical colleges, state, municipal, and community colleges, community college branches, universities, university branches, other educational institutions, or other agencies within the state by which an employee is employed and paid, including any organization using federal funds, provided the federal funds are disbursed by an employer as determined by the above. In all cases of doubt, the school employees retirement board shall determine whether any employer is an employer as defined in this chapter, and its decision shall be final.

(B) "Employee" means all of the following:

(1) Any person employed by a public employer in a position for which the person is not required to have a certificate or license issued pursuant to sections 3319.22 to 3319.31 of the Revised Code;

(2) Any person who performs a service common to the normal daily operation of an educational unit even though the person is employed and paid by one who has contracted with an employer to perform the service, and the contracting board or educational unit shall be the employer for the purposes of administering the provisions of this chapter;

(3) Any person, not a faculty member, employed in any school or college or other institution wholly controlled and managed, and wholly or partly supported by the state or any political subdivision thereof, the board of trustees, or other managing body of which shall accept the requirements and obligations of this chapter.

In all cases of doubt, the school employees retirement board shall determine whether any person is an employee, as defined in this division, and its decision is final.

(C) "Prior service" means all service rendered prior to September 1, 1937:

(1) As an employee as defined in division (B) of this section;

(2) As an employee in a capacity covered by the public employees retirement system or the state teachers retirement system;

(3) As an employee of an institution in another state, service credit for which was procured by a member under the provisions of section 3309.31 of the Revised Code.

Prior service, for service as an employee in a capacity covered by the public employees retirement system or the state teachers retirement system, shall be granted a member under qualifications identical to the laws and rules applicable to service credit in those systems.

Prior service shall not be granted any member for service rendered in a capacity covered by the public employees retirement system, the state teachers retirement system, and this system in the event the service credit has, in the respective systems, been received, waived by exemption, or forfeited by withdrawal of contributions, except as provided in this chapter.

If a member who has been granted prior service should, subsequent to September 16, 1957, and before retirement, establish three years of contributing service in the public employees retirement system, or one year in the state teachers retirement system, then the prior service granted shall become, at retirement, the liability of the other system, if the prior service or employment was in a capacity that is covered by that system.

The provisions of this division shall not cancel any prior service granted a member by the school employees retirement board prior to August 1, 1959.

(D) "Total service," "total service credit," or "Ohio service credit" means all contributing service of a member of the school employees retirement system, and all prior service, computed as provided in this chapter, and all service established pursuant to sections 3309.31, 3309.311, and 3309.33 of the Revised Code. In addition, "total service" includes any period, not in excess of three years, during which a member was out of service and receiving benefits from the state insurance fund, provided the injury or incapacitation was the direct result of school employment.

(E) "Member" means any employee, except an SERS retirant or other system retirant as defined in section 3309.341 of the Revised Code, who has established membership in the school employees retirement system. "Member" includes a disability benefit recipient.

(F) "Contributor" means any person who has an account in the employees' savings fund. When used in the sections listed in division (B) of section 3309.82 of the Revised Code, "contributor" includes any person participating in a plan established under section 3309.81 of the Revised Code.

(G) "Retirant" means any former member who retired and is receiving a service retirement allowance or commuted service retirement allowance as provided in this chapter.

(H) "Beneficiary" or "beneficiaries" means the estate or a person or persons who, as the result of the death of a contributor or retirant, qualifies for or is receiving some right or benefit under this chapter.

(I) "Interest," as specified in division (E) of section 3309.60 of the Revised Code, means interest at the rates for the respective funds and accounts as the school employees retirement board may determine from

time to time, except as follows:

(1) The rate of interest credited on employee contributions at retirement shall be four per cent per annum, compounded annually, to and including June 30, 1955; three per cent per annum, compounded annually, from July 1, 1955, to and including June 30, 1963; three and one-quarter per cent per annum, compounded annually, from July 1, 1963, through June 30, 1966; and thereafter, four per cent per annum compounded annually until a change in the amount is recommended by the system's actuary and approved by the retirement board. Subsequent to June 30, 1959, the retirement board shall discontinue the annual crediting of current interest on a contributor's accumulated contributions. Noncrediting of current interest shall not affect the rate of interest at retirement guaranteed under this division.

(2) In determining the reserve value for purposes of computing the amount of the contributor's annuity, the rate of interest used in the annuity values shall be four per cent per annum through September 30, 1956; three per cent per annum compounded annually from October 1, 1956, through June 30, 1963; three and one-quarter per cent per annum compounded annually from July 1, 1963, through June 30, 1966; and, thereafter, four per cent per annum compounded annually until a change in the amount is recommended by the system's actuary and approved by the retirement board. In the purchase of out-of-state service credit as provided in section 3309.31 of the Revised Code, and in the purchase of an additional annuity, as provided in section 3309.47 of the Revised Code, interest shall be computed and credited to reserves therefor at the rate the school employees retirement board shall fix as regular interest thereon.

(J) "Accumulated contributions" means the sum of all amounts credited to a contributor's account in the employees' savings fund together with any regular interest credited thereon at the rates approved by the retirement board prior to retirement.

(K) "Final average salary" means the sum of the annual compensation for the three highest years of compensation for which contributions were made by the member, divided by three. If the member has a partial year of contributing service in the year in which the member terminates employment and the partial year is at a rate of compensation that is higher than the rate of compensation for any one of the highest three years of annual earnings, the board shall substitute the compensation earned for the partial year for the compensation earned for a similar fractional portion in the lowest of the three high years of annual compensation before dividing by three. If a member has less than three years of contributing membership, the final average salary shall be the total compensation divided by the total

number of years, including any fraction of a year, of contributing service.

(L) "Annuity" means payments for life derived from contributions made by a contributor and paid from the annuity and pension reserve fund as provided in this chapter. All annuities shall be paid in twelve equal monthly installments.

(M)(1) "Pension" means annual payments for life derived from appropriations made by an employer and paid from the employers' trust fund or the annuity and pension reserve fund. All pensions shall be paid in twelve equal monthly installments.

(2) "Disability retirement" means retirement as provided in section 3309.40 of the Revised Code.

(N) "Retirement allowance" means the pension plus the annuity.

(O)(1) "Benefit" means a payment, other than a retirement allowance or the annuity paid under section ~~3309.341~~ 3309.344 of the Revised Code, payable from the accumulated contributions of the member or the employer, or both, under this chapter and includes a disability allowance or disability benefit.

(2) "Disability allowance" means an allowance paid on account of disability under section 3309.401 of the Revised Code.

(3) "Disability benefit" means a benefit paid as disability retirement under section 3309.40 of the Revised Code, as a disability allowance under section 3309.401 of the Revised Code, or as a disability benefit under section 3309.35 of the Revised Code.

(P) "Annuity reserve" means the present value, computed upon the basis of mortality tables adopted by the school employees retirement board, of all payments to be made on account of any annuity, or benefit in lieu of any annuity, granted to a retirant.

(Q) "Pension reserve" means the present value, computed upon the basis of mortality tables adopted by the school employees retirement board, of all payments to be made on account of any pension, or benefit in lieu of any pension, granted to a retirant or a beneficiary.

(R) "Year" means the year beginning the first day of July and ending with the thirtieth day of June next following.

(S) "Local district pension system" means any school employees' pension fund created in any school district of the state prior to September 1, 1937.

(T) "Employer contribution" means the amount paid by an employer as determined under section 3309.49 of the Revised Code.

(U) "Fiduciary" means a person who does any of the following:

(1) Exercises any discretionary authority or control with respect to the

management of the system, or with respect to the management or disposition of its assets;

(2) Renders investment advice for a fee, direct or indirect, with respect to money or property of the system;

(3) Has any discretionary authority or responsibility in the administration of the system.

(V)(1) Except as otherwise provided in this division, "compensation" means all salary, wages, and other earnings paid to a contributor by reason of employment. The salary, wages, and other earnings shall be determined prior to determination of the amount required to be contributed to the employees' savings fund under section 3309.47 of the Revised Code and without regard to whether any of the salary, wages, or other earnings are treated as deferred income for federal income tax purposes.

(2) Compensation does not include any of the following:

(a) Payments for accrued but unused sick leave or personal leave, including payments made under a plan established pursuant to section 124.39 of the Revised Code or any other plan established by the employer;

(b) Payments made for accrued but unused vacation leave, including payments made pursuant to section 124.13 of the Revised Code or a plan established by the employer;

(c) Payments made for vacation pay covering concurrent periods for which other salary or compensation is also paid or during which benefits are paid under this chapter;

(d) Amounts paid by the employer to provide life insurance, sickness, accident, endowment, health, medical, hospital, dental, or surgical coverage, or other insurance for the contributor or the contributor's family, or amounts paid by the employer to the contributor in lieu of providing the insurance;

(e) Incidental benefits, including lodging, food, laundry, parking, or services furnished by the employer, use of the employer's property or equipment, and reimbursement for job-related expenses authorized by the employer, including moving and travel expenses and expenses related to professional development;

(f) Payments made to or on behalf of a contributor that are in excess of the annual compensation that may be taken into account by the retirement system under division (a)(17) of section 401 of the "Internal Revenue Code of 1986," 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C.A. 401(a)(17), as amended. For a contributor who first establishes membership before July 1, 1996, the annual compensation that may be taken into account by the retirement system shall be determined under division (d)(3) of section 13212 of the "Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993," Pub. L. No. 103-66, 107 Stat. 472;

(g) Payments made under division (B), (C), or (E) of section 5923.05 of the Revised Code, Section 4 of Substitute Senate Bill No. 3 of the 119th general assembly, Section 3 of Amended Substitute Senate Bill No. 164 of the 124th general assembly, or Amended Substitute House Bill No. 405 of the 124th general assembly;

(h) Anything of value received by the contributor that is based on or attributable to retirement or an agreement to retire, except that payments made on or before January 1, 1989, that are based on or attributable to an agreement to retire shall be included in compensation if both of the following apply:

(i) The payments are made in accordance with contract provisions that were in effect prior to January 1, 1986.

(ii) The employer pays the retirement system an amount specified by the retirement board equal to the additional liability from the payments.

(3) The retirement board shall determine by rule whether any form of earnings not enumerated in this division is to be included in compensation, and its decision shall be final.

(W) "Disability benefit recipient" means a member who is receiving a disability benefit.

(X) "Actuary" means an individual who satisfies all of the following requirements:

(1) Is a member of the American academy of actuaries;

(2) Is an associate or fellow of the society of actuaries;

(3) Has a minimum of five years' experience in providing actuarial services to public retirement plans.

Sec. 3309.11. The school employees retirement board shall elect, from its membership, a ~~chairman~~ chairperson, and shall employ an executive director who shall serve as secretary ~~and who may be a member of the board.~~

Sec. 3309.26. (A) The membership of any person in the school employees retirement system shall terminate if the person withdraws the person's accumulated contributions, retires on a retirement allowance as provided in sections 3309.36 and 3309.381 of the Revised Code, or dies, unless otherwise provided in Chapter 3309. of the Revised Code.

(B) A former member with an account in the employees' savings fund who formerly lost membership shall be reinstated as a member with all the rights, privileges, and obligations as provided in Chapter 3309. of the Revised Code.

(C)(1) Except as provided in this section, a member or former member of the school employees retirement system with at least one and one-half

years of contributing service credit in this system, the public employees retirement system, the state teachers retirement system, the Ohio police and fire pension fund, or the state highway patrol retirement system, subsequent to the withdrawal of contributions and cancellation of service credit in this system may restore such service credit by redepositing in the employees' savings fund the amount withdrawn with interest at a rate to be determined by the board, compounded annually, from the first of the month of withdrawal to and including the month of redeposit. ~~A~~

(2) If the accumulated contributions were withdrawn under section 3309.43 of the Revised Code, service credit may be restored only if the member or former member accrued one and one-half years of service credit after the withdrawal of the accumulated contributions.

(D) A member may choose to purchase only part of such credit in any one payment, subject to board rules. The total payment to restore cancelled service credit, plus any interest credited thereto, shall be considered as accumulated contributions of the member. If a former member is eligible to buy the service credit as a member of the Ohio police and fire pension fund, the state highway patrol retirement system, or the city of Cincinnati retirement system, the former member is ineligible to restore that service credit under this section.

Sec. 3309.261. (A) A member of the school employees retirement system who has at least eighteen months of contributing service credit in the system, the Ohio police and fire pension fund, public employees retirement system, state teachers retirement system, or state highway patrol retirement system, and is a former member of or no longer contributing to the public employees retirement system or state teachers retirement system may restore service credit under section 145.31 or 3307.71 of the Revised Code by making payments pursuant to this section through a payroll deduction plan established under section 3309.27 of the Revised Code. A member seeking to restore service credit shall notify the school employees retirement system on a form approved by the school employees retirement board. After receiving the notice, the school employees retirement system shall request that the former retirement system calculate under section 145.312 or 3307.712 of the Revised Code the cost to the member to restore service credit for each year or portion of a year of service for which the member seeks to restore the service credit. The amount the former retirement system certifies as the cost of restoring the service credit, plus interest described in division (B) of this section, is the cost to the member of restoring the service credit. On receiving the certification from the former retirement system, the school employees retirement system shall notify the member of the cost.

(B) For each year or portion of a year of service credit restored under section 145.31 or 3307.71 of the Revised Code, a member shall pay to the school employees retirement system the amount certified by the former retirement system plus interest at a rate specified by the former retirement system under section 145.312 or 3307.712 of the Revised Code for the period during which deductions are made under section 3309.27 of the Revised Code.

(C) The school employees retirement board shall at least annually notify transmit to the former retirement system ~~that a payment notice and any payments made~~ to restore service credit under section 145.31 or 3307.71 of the Revised Code ~~has been made. At the time the payment is transferred under division (D) of this section,~~ The former retirement system shall restore the service credit for the year or portion of a year for which the payment was made.

~~(D) On application for a payment of accumulated contributions or an age and service retirement, disability, or survivor benefit under Chapter 145., 3307., or 3309. of the Revised Code by a member who made payments under this section to restore service credit in a former retirement system, the school employees retirement system shall pay to the former retirement system an amount equal to the total amount paid by the member under this section.~~

~~(E)~~ The board shall adopt rules to implement this section.

Sec. 3309.28. Not later than thirty days after an employee begins employment, the employer shall file with the school employees retirement system a detailed statement of the employee's personal information and ~~all of the employee's previous service as an employee or such other service as comes under this chapter or Chapter 145., 742., 3307., or 5505. of the Revised Code,~~ and such other information as the school employees retirement board requires for the proper operation of the school employees retirement system.

Sec. 3309.301. (A)(+) As used in this section, "paying system" and "transferring system" have the same meanings as in section 3309.35 of the Revised Code.

~~(B)(1)~~ Except as provided in division ~~(A)~~~~(B)~~(2) of this section, a member of the school employees retirement system with at least eighteen months of contributing service in the system, the public employees retirement system, or the state teachers retirement system who exempted self from membership in one or more of the systems pursuant to section 145.03 or 3309.23 of the Revised Code, or former section 3307.25 or 3309.25 of the Revised Code, or was exempt under section 3307.24 of the Revised Code,

may purchase credit for each year or portion of a year of service for which the member was exempted.

(2) A member may not purchase credit under this section for service that was exempted from contribution under section 3309.23 of the Revised Code and subject to the tax on wages imposed by the "Federal Insurance Contributions Act," 68A Stat. 415 (1954), 26 U.S.C.A. 3101, as amended.

~~(B)~~(C) Upon receipt of a request from a member eligible to purchase credit under this section and certification of the member's service and compensation from the employer for which the exempt service was performed, the school employees retirement system shall determine the amount of credit the member is eligible to purchase in accordance with divisions ~~(B)~~(C)(1) and (2) of this section.

(1) If the credit to be purchased is for service exempted under section 3309.23 or former section 3309.25 of the Revised Code, determine the amount of credit that would have been earned had the service not been exempt.

(2) If the credit to be purchased is for service exempted under section 145.03 or 3307.24, or former section 3307.25 of the Revised Code, request certification from the applicable retirement system that the service was exempt and the amount of service credit that would have been earned had the service not been exempt.

~~(C)~~(D) For each year or portion of a year of credit purchased under this section, a member shall pay to the retirement system an amount determined by multiplying the member's compensation for the twelve months of contributing service preceding the month in which the member applies to purchase the credit by a percentage rate established by rule of the school employees retirement board adopted under division ~~(C)~~(H) of this section.

~~(D)~~(E) Subject to board rules, a member may purchase all or part of the credit the member is eligible to purchase under this section in one or more payments. If the member purchases the credit in more than one payment, compound interest at a rate specified by rule of the board shall be charged on the balance remaining after the first payment is made.

~~(E)~~(F) Credit purchasable under this section shall not exceed one year of service for any twelve-month period. If the period of service for which credit is purchasable under this section is concurrent with a period of service that will be used to calculate a retirement benefit from this system, the public employees retirement system, or the state teachers retirement system, the amount of the credit shall be adjusted in accordance with rules adopted by the school employees retirement board.

A member who is also a member of the public employees retirement

system or the state teachers retirement system shall purchase credit for any service for which the member exempted self under section 145.03 or 3309.23 of the Revised Code, or former section 3307.25 or 3309.25 of the Revised Code, or was exempt under section 3307.24 of the Revised Code, from the retirement system in which the member has the greatest number of years of service credit. If the member receives benefits under section 3309.35 of the Revised Code, the state retirement system that ~~determines and pays the retirement benefit~~ is the paying system under that section shall receive from the ~~other~~ system or systems that are the transferring systems the amounts paid by the member for purchase of credit for exempt service plus interest at the actuarial assumption rate of the transferring system ~~paying that amount~~. The interest shall be for the period beginning on the date of the member's last payment for purchase of the credit and ending on the date of the member's retirement.

~~(F)~~(G) If a member dies or withdraws from service, any payment made by the member under this section shall be considered as accumulated contributions of the member.

~~(G)~~(H) The retirement board shall adopt rules to implement this section. Sec. 3309.35. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "State retirement system" means the public employees retirement system, state teachers retirement system, or school employees retirement system.

(2) "Total service credit" means all service credit earned in all state retirement systems, except credit for service subject to section 3309.341 of the Revised Code. Total service credit shall not exceed one year of credit for any twelve-month period.

(3) In addition to the meaning given in division (O) of section 3309.01 of the Revised Code, "disability benefit" means "disability benefit" as defined in sections 145.01 and 3307.01 of the Revised Code.

(4) "Paying system" means the state retirement system in which the member has the greatest service credit, without adjustment or, if a member who has equal service credit in two or more retirement systems, the retirement system in which the member has the greatest total contributions.

(5) "Transferring system" means the state retirement system transferring a member's contributions and service credit in that system to the paying system.

(6) "Retention percentage" means five per cent, or a percentage determined under division (E) of this section, of a member's earnable salary in the case of a member of the public employees retirement system or five per cent, or a percentage determined under division (E) of this section, of a

member's compensation in the case of a member of the state teachers retirement system or school employees retirement system.

(B) To coordinate and integrate membership in the state retirement systems, at the option of a member, total contributions and service credit in all state retirement systems, including amounts paid to restore service credit under sections 145.311, 3307.711, and 3309.261 of the Revised Code, shall be used in determining the eligibility and total retirement or disability benefit payable. When total contributions and service credit are so combined, the following provisions apply:

(1) Service and commuted service retirement or a disability benefit is effective no sooner than the first day of the month next following the last day of employment for which compensation was paid. If the application is filed after that date, the board may retire the member on the first day of the month next following the last day of employment for which compensation was paid.

~~(2) Eligibility for a disability benefit shall be determined by the~~ The board of the state retirement paying system that will calculate shall do both of the following:

(a) Determine a member's eligibility for a retirement or disability benefit;

(b) Calculate and pay the member's retirement or disability benefit, as provided in division (B)(3) of this section. The state retirement

~~(3)(a) Each transferring system calculating and paying the disability benefit in which the member has service credit shall certify the determination to the board of each other state retirement paying system in which the member has service credit and shall be accepted by that board as sufficient for granting a disability benefit.~~

~~(3) The board of the state retirement system in which the member had the greatest service credit, without adjustment, shall calculate and pay the total retirement or disability benefit. Where the member's credit is equal in two or more state retirement systems, the system having the largest total contributions of the member shall calculate and pay the total benefit~~ all of the following:

(i) The service credit earned by the member in the transferring system;

(ii) The beginning and ending dates of the service credit period covered by the transferring system;

(iii) Any breaks in service by the member, excluding school breaks;

(iv) If available, a statement listing the member's monthly contributions and service credit earned, obtained, or purchased in the transferring system.

(b) The certification under division (B)(3)(a) of this section may be

reviewed by both the transferring system and paying system.

(4) In determining the total credit to be used in calculating a retirement allowance or disability benefit, credit shall not be reduced below that certified by the system or systems transferring credit, except ~~that such total combined service credit shall not exceed~~ as follows:

(a) Not more than one year of credit may be certified by the transferring system for any one "year" as defined in the law of the transferring system making the calculation.

(b) The paying system may reduce any credit certified by the transferring system that is concurrent with any period of service credit the member earned from the paying system.

(c) The paying system may reduce any credit certified by the transferring system if the amount certified, when added to the paying system's service credit for any one "year" as defined in the law of the paying system, exceeds one year.

~~(5)(a) The state retirement paying system calculating and paying a retirement or disability benefit shall receive from the other transferring system or systems all of the following for each year of service:~~

~~(i) The amount contributed by the member, or, in the case of service credit purchased by the member, paid by the member, that is attributable to the year of service;~~

~~(ii) An amount equal to the lesser of the employer's contributions made on behalf of the member to the retirement transferring system for that year of service less the retention percentage or the amount that would have been contributed by the employer for the service had the member been a member of the school employees retirement system at the time the credit was earned less the retention percentage;~~

~~(iii) If applicable, an amount equal to the amount paid on behalf of the member by an employer under section 145.483 of the Revised Code;~~

~~(iv) Interest compounded annually on the amounts specified in divisions (B)(5)(a)(i), (ii), and (iii) of this section at the lesser of the actuarial assumption rate for that year of the school employees retirement paying system or the other retirement transferring system or systems transferring amounts under this section.~~

~~(b) The annuity rates and mortality tables of the state retirement paying system making the calculation and paying the benefit shall be exclusively applicable.~~

~~(c) Deposits made for the purchase of an additional annuity, and including guaranteed interest, upon the request of the member, shall be transferred to the state retirement paying system paying the retirement or~~

~~disability benefit. The return upon such deposits shall be that offered by the state retirement paying system making the calculation and paying the retirement or disability benefit.~~

(C) A former member receiving a retirement or disability benefit under this section, who accepts employment amenable to coverage in any state retirement system that participated in the member's combined benefit, shall be subject to the applicable provisions of law governing such re-employment. If a former member should be paid any amount in a retirement allowance, to which the former member is not entitled under the applicable provisions of law governing such re-employment, such amount shall be recovered by the ~~state retirement paying system~~ paying system ~~paying such allowance~~ by utilizing any recovery procedure available under the ~~code provisions of the state retirement system covering such~~ paying system's re-employment provisions.

(D) An SERS retirant or other system retirant, as defined in section 3309.341 of the Revised Code, is not eligible to receive any benefit under this section for service subject to section 3309.341 of the Revised Code.

(E) The retention percentage used in the calculation under division (B)(5)(a)(ii) of this section shall be reviewed by the state retirement systems not less than once every five years beginning after the effective date of this amendment or on request of any of the systems. If the retirement systems agree, the retention percentage may be changed if any of the system's employer contribution rate increases or decreases or the systems agree that a change is in the interest of one or more of the systems.

Sec. 3309.381. (A) A recipient of a disability allowance under section 3309.401 of the Revised Code who is subject to division (C)(3) of that section may make application for retirement under this section. Retirement shall be effective on the first day of the first month following the last day for which the disability allowance is paid.

(B) The annual allowance payable under this section shall consist of the sum of the amounts determined under divisions (B)(1) and (2) of this section:

(1) The greater of the following:

(a) An allowance calculated as ~~provided in section 3309.36 of the Revised Code follows~~, excluding any period during which the applicant received a disability benefit under section 3309.401 of the Revised Code;

(i) For an applicant who would be eligible to retire under division (A)(1) of section 3309.34 of the Revised Code, the allowance shall be calculated under divisions (B)(1)(a) and (B)(2) of section 3309.36 of the Revised Code;

(ii) For an applicant who would be eligible to retire under division (A)(2) of section 3309.34 of the Revised Code, the allowance shall be calculated under divisions (B)(1)(b) and (B)(3) of section 3309.36 of the Revised Code.

(b) An allowance calculated by multiplying the applicant's total service credit, including service credit for the last continuous period during which the applicant received a disability benefit under section 3309.401 of the Revised Code, by two and two-tenths per cent of the applicant's final average salary, except that the allowance shall not exceed forty-five per cent of the applicant's final average salary.

(2) An amount equal to the additional allowance the recipient would receive under section 3309.374 of the Revised Code, plus any other additional amount the recipient would receive under this chapter, had the recipient retired under section 3309.36 of the Revised Code effective on the effective date of the recipient's most recent continuous period of receipt of a disability benefit under section 3309.401 of the Revised Code.

(C) The allowance calculated under division (B) of this section, exclusive of any amount added under division (B)(2) of this section based on section 3309.374 of the Revised Code, shall be the base for all future additional allowances under section 3309.374 of the Revised Code.

The anniversary date for future additional allowances under section 3309.374 of the Revised Code shall be the effective date of the recipient's most recent continuous period of receipt of a disability benefit under section 3309.401 of the Revised Code.

(D) The retirement allowance determined under this section shall be paid as provided in section 3309.46 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 3309.42. (A)(1) Subject to ~~sections 3309.43 and~~ section 3309.67 of the Revised Code and except as provided in division (B) of this section, a member who elects to become exempt from contribution to the school employees retirement system pursuant to section 3309.23 of the Revised Code, or ceases to be an employee for any cause other than death, retirement, receipt of a disability benefit, or current employment in a position in which the member has elected to participate in an alternative retirement plan pursuant to section 3305.05 or 3305.051 of the Revised Code, shall be paid the accumulated contributions standing to the credit of the member's individual account in the employees' savings fund upon application and subject to such rules as are established by the school employees retirement board and provided three months have elapsed since employment, other than employment exempt from contribution under division (C) of section 3309.23 of the Revised Code, ceased.

(2) A member described in division (A)(1) of this section who is married at the time of application for payment and would be eligible for age and service retirement under section 3309.34, 3309.36, or 3309.40 of the Revised Code but for a forfeiture ordered under division (A) or (B) of section 2929.192 of the Revised Code shall submit with the application a written statement by the member's spouse attesting that the spouse consents to the payment of the member's accumulated contributions. Consent shall be valid only if it is signed and witnessed by a notary public. The board may waive the requirement of consent if the spouse is incapacitated or cannot be located, or for any other reason specified by the board. Consent or waiver is effective only with regard to the spouse who is the subject of the consent or waiver.

(B) This division applies to any member who is employed in a position in which the member has elected under section 3305.05 or 3305.051 of the Revised Code to participate in an alternative retirement plan and due to the election ceases to be an employee for purposes of that position.

Subject to ~~sections 3309.43 and~~ section 3309.67 of the Revised Code, the school employees retirement system shall do the following:

(1) On receipt of an election under section 3305.05 or 3305.051 of the Revised Code, pay, in accordance with section 3305.052 of the Revised Code, the amount described in that section to the appropriate provider;

(2) If a member has accumulated contributions, in addition to those subject to division (B)(1) of this section, standing to the credit of the member's individual account and is not otherwise in a position in which the member is considered an employee for the purposes of that position, pay, to the provider the member selected pursuant to section 3305.05 or 3305.051 of the Revised Code, the accumulated contributions standing to the credit of the member's individual account in the employees' saving fund. The payment shall be made on the member's application.

(C) Payment of a member's accumulated contributions under this section cancels the member's total service credit in the school employees retirement system. A member whose accumulated contributions are paid to a provider pursuant to division (B) of this section is forever barred from claiming or purchasing service credit under the school employees retirement system for the period of employment attributable to those contributions.

Sec. 3309.43. (A) As used in this section, "other retirement system" means the public employees retirement system or the state teachers retirement system.

(B) Except as provided in division (C) of this section, on application, a member of the school employees retirement system who is also a member of

one or both of the other retirement systems and has ceased to be an employee under this chapter may be paid, in accordance with section 3309.42 of the Revised Code, the member's accumulated contributions to the school employees retirement system. This payment does not affect the member's membership in the other retirement systems or any right the member may have to a benefit or return of contributions under those systems.

(C) This section does not apply to a member of one of the other retirement systems whose employment under that system is with the public employer that was the employer under the school employees retirement system at the time the member's service subject to this chapter terminated.

Sec. 3309.45. Except as provided in division (C)(1) of this section, in lieu of accepting the payment of the accumulated account of a member who dies before service retirement, the beneficiary, as determined in section 3309.44 of the Revised Code, may elect to forfeit the accumulated account and to substitute certain other benefits either under division (A) or (B) of this section.

(A)(1) If a deceased member was eligible for a service retirement allowance as provided in section 3309.36 or 3309.381 of the Revised Code, a surviving spouse or other sole dependent beneficiary may elect to receive a monthly benefit computed as the joint-survivor allowance designated as "plan D" in section 3309.46 of the Revised Code, which the member would have received had the member retired on the last day of the month of death and had the member at that time selected such joint-survivor plan. Payment shall begin with the month subsequent to the member's death.

(2) Beginning on a date selected by the school employees retirement board, which shall be not later than July 1, 2004, a surviving spouse or other sole dependent beneficiary may elect, in lieu of a monthly payment under division (A)(1) of this section, a plan of payment consisting of both of the following:

(a) A lump sum in an amount the surviving spouse or other sole dependent beneficiary designates that constitutes a portion of the allowance that would be payable under division (A)(1) of this section;

(b) The remainder of that allowance in monthly payments.

The total amount paid as a lump sum and a monthly benefit shall be the actuarial equivalent of the amount that would have been paid had the lump sum not been selected.

The lump sum amount designated by the surviving spouse or other sole dependent beneficiary under division (A)(2)(a) of this section shall be not less than six times and not more than thirty-six times the monthly amount

that would be payable to the surviving spouse or other sole dependent beneficiary under division (A)(1) of this section and shall not result in a monthly benefit that is less than fifty per cent of that monthly amount.

(B) If the deceased member had completed at least one and one-half years of credit for Ohio service, with at least one-quarter year of Ohio contributing service credit within the two and one-half years prior to the date of death, or was receiving at the time of death a disability benefit as provided in section 3309.40 or 3309.401 of the Revised Code, qualified survivors who elect to receive monthly benefits shall receive the greater of the benefits provided in division (B)(1)(a) or (b) as allocated in accordance with division (B)(5) of this section.

(1)(a) Number of Qualified survivors affecting the benefit	Annual Benefit as a Per Cent of Decedent's Final Average Salary	Or Monthly Benefit shall not be less than
1	25%	\$96
2	40	186
3	50	236
4	55	236
5 or more	60	236
(b) Years of Service	Annual Benefit as a Per Cent of Member's Final Average Salary	
20	29%	
21	33	
22	37	
23	41	
24	45	
25	48	
26	51	
27	54	
28	57	
29 or more	60	

(2) Benefits shall begin as qualified survivors meet eligibility requirements as follows:

(a) A qualified spouse is the surviving spouse of the deceased member who is age sixty-two, or regardless of age if the deceased member had ten or more years of Ohio service credit, or regardless of age if caring for a surviving child, or regardless of age if adjudged physically or mentally incompetent.

(b) A qualified child whose benefit began before ~~the effective date of this amendment~~ January 7, 2013, is any child of the deceased member who has never been married and to whom one of the following applies:

(i) Is under age eighteen, or under age twenty-two if the child is attending an institution of learning or training pursuant to a program designed to complete in each school year the equivalent of at least two-thirds of the full-time curriculum requirements of such institution and as further determined by board policy;

(ii) Regardless of age, is adjudged physically or mentally incompetent if the incompetence existed prior to the member's death and prior to the child attaining age eighteen, or age twenty-two if attending an institution described in division (B)(2)(b)(i) of this section.

(c) A qualified child whose benefit begins on or after ~~the effective date of this amendment~~ January 7, 2013, is any child of the deceased member who has never been married and to whom one of the following applies:

(i) Is under age nineteen;

(ii) Regardless of age, is adjudged physically or mentally incompetent if the incompetence existed prior to the member's death and prior to the child attaining age nineteen.

(d) A qualified parent is a dependent parent aged sixty-five or older.

(3) "Physically or mentally incompetent" as used in this section may be determined by a court of jurisdiction, or by a physician appointed by the retirement board. Incapability of earning a living because of a physically or mentally disabling condition shall meet the qualifications of this division.

(4) Benefits to a qualified survivor shall terminate upon a first marriage, abandonment, adoption, or during active military service. Benefits to a deceased member's surviving spouse that were terminated under a former version of this section that required termination due to remarriage and were not resumed prior to September 16, 1998, shall resume on the first day of the month immediately following receipt by the board of an application on a form provided by the board.

Upon the death of any subsequent spouse who was a member of the public employees retirement system, state teachers retirement system, or school employees retirement system, the surviving spouse of such member may elect to continue receiving benefits under this division, or to receive survivor's benefits, based upon the subsequent spouse's membership in one or more of the systems, for which such surviving spouse is eligible under this section or section 145.45 or 3307.66 of the Revised Code. If the surviving spouse elects to continue receiving benefits under this division, such election shall not preclude the payment of benefits under this division

to any other qualified survivor.

Benefits shall begin or resume on the first day of the month following the attainment of eligibility and shall terminate on the first day of the month following loss of eligibility.

(5)(a) If a benefit is payable under division (B)(1)(a) of this section, benefits to a qualified spouse shall be paid in the amount determined for the first qualifying survivor in division (B)(1)(a) of this section, but shall not be less than one hundred six dollars per month if the deceased member had ten or more years of Ohio service credit. All other qualifying survivors shall share equally in the benefit or remaining portion thereof.

(b) All qualifying survivors shall share equally in a benefit payable under division (B)(1)(b) of this section, except that if there is a surviving spouse, the surviving spouse shall receive no less than the greater of the amount determined for the first qualifying survivor in division (B)(1)(a) of this section or one hundred six dollars per month.

(6) The beneficiary of a member who is also a member of the public employees retirement system, or of the state teachers retirement system, must forfeit the member's accumulated contributions in those systems, if the beneficiary takes a survivor benefit. Such benefit shall be exclusively governed by section 3309.35 of the Revised Code.

(C)(1) Regardless of whether the member is survived by a spouse or designated beneficiary, if the school employees retirement system receives notice that a deceased member described in division (A) or (B) of this section has one or more qualified children, all persons who are qualified survivors under division (B) of this section shall receive monthly benefits as provided in division (B) of this section.

If, after determining the monthly benefits to be paid under division (B) of this section, the system receives notice that there is a qualified survivor who was not considered when the determination was made, the system shall, notwithstanding section 3309.661 of the Revised Code, recalculate the monthly benefits with that qualified survivor included, even if the benefits to qualified survivors already receiving benefits are reduced as a result. The benefits shall be calculated as if the qualified survivor who is the subject of the notice became eligible on the date the notice was received and shall be paid to qualified survivors effective on the first day of the first month following the system's receipt of the notice.

If the retirement system did not receive notice that a deceased member has one or more qualified children prior to making payment under section 3309.44 of the Revised Code to a beneficiary as determined by the retirement system, the payment is a full discharge and release of the system

from any future claims under this section or section 3309.44 of the Revised Code.

(2) If benefits under division (C)(1) of this section to all persons, or to all persons other than a surviving spouse or other sole beneficiary, terminate, there are no qualified children ~~under the age of twenty-two years~~, and the surviving spouse or beneficiary qualifies for benefits under division (A) of this section, the surviving spouse or beneficiary may elect to receive benefits under division (A) of this section. Benefits shall be effective on the first day of the month following receipt by the board of an application for benefits under division (A) of this section.

(D) The final average salary used in the calculation of a benefit payable pursuant to division (A) or (B) of this section to a survivor or beneficiary of a disability benefit recipient shall be adjusted for each year between the disability benefit's effective date and the recipient's date of death by the lesser of three per cent or the actual average percentage increase in the consumer price index prepared by the United States bureau of labor statistics (U.S. City Average for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers: "All Items 1982-84=100").

(E) If the survivor benefits due and paid under this section are in a total amount less than the member's accumulated account that was transferred from the employees' savings fund, the state teachers retirement fund, and the public employees retirement fund to the survivors' benefit fund, then the difference between the total amount of the benefits paid shall be paid to the beneficiary under section 3309.44 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 3309.49. Each employer shall pay ~~annually~~ to the school employees retirement system at such times as required by the school employees retirement board under section 3309.51 of the Revised Code an amount ~~certified by the secretary~~ that shall be a certain per cent of the earnable compensation of all employees, and shall be known as the "employer contribution." The rate per cent of such contribution shall be fixed by the actuary on the basis of the actuary's evaluation of the liabilities of the school employees retirement system, but shall not exceed fourteen per cent, and shall be approved by the school employees retirement board. The school employees retirement board may raise the rate per cent of the contribution to fourteen per cent of the earnable compensation of all employees. In making such evaluation, the actuary shall use, as the actuarial assumptions, regular interest and such mortality and other tables as are adopted by the school employees retirement board. The actuary shall compute the percentage of such earnable compensation, to be known as the "employer rate," required annually to fund the liability for all allowances,

annuities, pensions and other benefits, and any deficiencies in the various funds, provided for in this chapter, after deducting therefrom the annuity and other benefits provided by the contributor's accumulated contributions and deposits or other applicable moneys.

Sec. 3309.51. (A) Each employer shall pay into the employers' trust fund, ~~in monthly or less frequent installments~~ at such times as the school employees retirement board requires, an amount certified by the school employees retirement board, which shall be as required by Chapter 3309. of the Revised Code.

Payments by school district boards of education to the employers' trust fund of the school employees retirement system may be made from the amounts allocated under Chapter 3317. of the Revised Code prior to their distribution to the individual school districts. The amount due from each school district may be certified by the secretary of the system to the superintendent of public instruction monthly, or at such times as is determined by the school employees retirement board.

Payments by governing authorities of community schools to the employers' trust fund of the school employees retirement system shall be made from the amounts allocated under section 3314.08 of the Revised Code prior to their distribution to the individual community schools. The amount due from each community school shall be certified by the secretary of the system to the superintendent of public instruction monthly, or at such times as determined by the school employees retirement board.

Payments by a science, technology, engineering, and mathematics school to the employers' trust fund of the school employees retirement system shall be made from the amounts allocated under section 3326.33 of the Revised Code prior to their distribution to the school. The amount due from a science, technology, engineering, and mathematics school shall be certified by the secretary of the school employees retirement system to the superintendent of public instruction monthly, or at such times as determined by the school employees retirement board.

(B) The superintendent shall deduct from the amount allocated to each community school under section 3314.08 of the Revised Code, to each school district under Chapter 3317. of the Revised Code, or to each science, technology, engineering, and mathematics school under section 3326.33 of the Revised Code the entire amounts due to the school employees retirement system from such school or school district upon the certification to the superintendent by the secretary thereof.

(C) Where an employer fails or has failed or refuses to make payments to the employers' trust fund, as provided for under Chapter 3309. of the

Revised Code, or fails to pay any penalty imposed under section 3309.571 of the Revised Code the secretary of the school employees retirement system may certify to the state superintendent of public instruction, monthly or at such times as is determined by the school employees retirement board, the amount due from such employer, and the superintendent shall deduct from the amount allocated to the employer under section 3314.08 or 3326.33 or Chapter 3317. of the Revised Code, as applicable, the entire amounts due to the system from the employer upon the certification to the superintendent by the secretary of the school employees retirement system.

(D) The superintendent shall certify to the director of budget and management the amounts thus due the system for payment.

Sec. 3309.55. Each employer shall on the first day of each calendar month, or at such ~~less frequent~~ intervals as the school employees retirement board approves, notify the board of ~~the employment of new employees; removals; and~~ withdrawals, and changes in compensation of employees that have occurred during the month preceding or the period since the period covered by the last notification. ~~At least once a year each employer shall submit to the board a complete listing of all employees not contributing to the school employees retirement system.~~ Each employer shall keep such records and shall furnish such information and assistance to the school employees retirement board as it requires in the discharge of its duties.

Sec. 3309.56. Each employer shall cause to be deducted, on each payroll of a contributor for each payroll period, the contribution payable by such contributor. ~~Each employer shall certify to the treasurer of said employer on each payroll a statement as voucher for the amount so deducted and for the amount of the contribution payable by the employer.~~ Each employer shall send a duplicate of such statement to the secretary of report that lists such contributions deducted by contributor to the school employees retirement system at such time and in such manner as required by the school employees retirement board.

Sec. 3309.57. ~~The treasurer of each~~ Each employer ~~on receipt from the employer of the voucher for deductions from the compensation of employees and for the contributions of the employer shall transmit monthly or at such times as the school employees retirement board designates the amounts specified in such voucher to the secretary of the board~~ contributions required under this chapter. ~~The secretary of the board~~ school employees retirement system after making a record of all such receipts shall pay them to the treasurer of state for use according to this chapter.

Sec. 3309.571. The school employees retirement system shall impose the following penalties, which may be collected in the same manner as

described in division (B) of section 3309.51 of the Revised Code:

(A) For a failure to transmit contributions withheld from employees not later than the date specified under rules adopted by the school employees retirement board, one hundred dollars per day for each day the employer fails to transmit the contributions;

(B) For a failure to transmit any amount due the employer's trust fund not later than the date specified under rules adopted by the board, one hundred dollars per day for each day the employer fails to transmit the amounts;

(C) Except for a statement required by section 3309.28 of the Revised Code, for a failure to submit, ~~complete, or correct any~~ a payroll information report or other report required under this chapter not later than the date specified under rules adopted by the board, one hundred dollars per day for each day the employer fails to submit, ~~complete, or correct the information~~ of report, except that the penalty shall not exceed one thousand five hundred dollars;

(D) For a failure to submit a record in the form of a statement required by section 3309.28 of the Revised Code, fifty dollars per record for each month the record is not filed, except that the penalty shall not exceed three hundred dollars.

Sec. 3309.691. The school employees retirement board ~~shall~~ may establish a program under which members of the retirement system, employers on behalf of members, and persons receiving service, disability, or survivor benefits are permitted to participate in contracts for long-term health care insurance. Participation may include dependents and family members. If a participant in a contract for long-term care insurance leaves employment, the participant and the participant's dependents and family members may, at their election, continue to participate in a program established under this section in the same manner as if the participant had not left employment, except that no part of the cost of the insurance shall be paid by the participant's former employer.

Such program may be established independently or jointly with one or more of the other retirement systems. For purposes of this section, "retirement systems" has the same meaning as in division (A) of section 145.581 of the Revised Code.

The board may enter into an agreement with insurance companies, health insuring corporations, or government agencies authorized to do business in the state for issuance of a long-term care insurance policy or contract. However, prior to entering into such an agreement with an insurance company or health insuring corporation, the board shall request

the superintendent of insurance to certify the financial condition of the company or corporation. The board shall not enter into the agreement if, according to that certification, the company or corporation is insolvent, is determined by the superintendent to be potentially unable to fulfill its contractual obligations, or is placed under an order of rehabilitation or conservation by a court of competent jurisdiction or under an order of supervision by the superintendent.

The board ~~shall~~ may adopt rules in accordance with section 111.15 of the Revised Code governing the program. ~~The~~ Any rules adopted by the board shall establish methods of payment for participation under this section, which may include establishment of a payroll deduction plan under section 3309.27 of the Revised Code, deduction of the full premium charged from a person's service, disability, or survivor benefit, or any other method of payment considered appropriate by the board. If the program is established jointly with one or more of the other retirement systems, the rules also shall establish the terms and conditions of such joint participation.

Sec. 3309.82. (A) Except as provided in division (B) of this section, sections 3309.02, 3309.021, and 3309.022 and sections 3309.18 to 3309.70 of the Revised Code do not apply to a plan established under section 3309.81 of the Revised Code, except that a plan may incorporate provisions of those sections as specified in the plan document.

(B) The following sections of Chapter 3309. of the Revised Code apply to a plan established under section 3309.81 of the Revised Code: sections 3309.19, 3309.21, 3309.22, 3309.23, 3309.24, 3309.25, 3309.251, 3309.252, 3309.253, 3309.28, 3309.29, 3309.341, 3309.3712, 3309.47, 3309.471, 3309.49, 3309.51, ~~3309.53, 3309.54,~~ 3309.55, 3309.56, 3309.57, 3309.571, 3309.58, 3309.59, 3309.60, 3309.61, 3309.62, 3309.66, 3309.661, 3309.67, 3309.672, 3309.673, 3309.68, and 3309.70 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 4113.75. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Employee" and "employer" have the same meanings as in section 4113.51 of the Revised Code except that "employer" does not include the state, any municipal corporation, county, township, school district, or other political subdivision, or any agency or instrumentality of any of those entities.

(2) "Employee retirement plan" means an employee retirement plan described in section 401(k) or 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code or a payroll deduction individual retirement account plan described in section 408 or 408A of the Internal Revenue Code.

(3) "Internal Revenue Code" means the "Internal Revenue Code of 1986," 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C. 1 et seq., as amended.

(B)(1) Notwithstanding section 4113.15 of the Revised Code, an employer may create and implement a program for automatically withholding a specified percentage of employees' wages to be contributed on behalf of the employees to an employee retirement plan. The program shall allow an employee to affirmatively elect not to participate in the program and not have wages withheld under the program.

(2) The employer shall provide each participating employee with all of the following:

(a) Notice of the percentage of the employee's wages that will be withheld and contributed on behalf of the employee to an employee retirement plan unless the employee affirmatively elects not to participate in the plan;

(b) At least one opportunity each calendar quarter to select investments for the employee's contributions between investment alternatives available under the plan;

(c) A description of every investment alternative available for employee investment direction under the plan;

(d) Notice of the default investment decisions that will be made in the absence of the employee's direction;

(e) A brief description of available procedures that allow an employee to change investments;

(f) A report, at least once a year, of the actual default investments made of contributions attributable to the employee.

(3) An employer that creates or implements a program described in division (B) of this section shall provide its participating employees with reasonable opportunities to affirmatively elect not to participate in the program and not have wages withheld under the program. An affirmative election not to participate in a program shall be effective as soon after the employer receives the election as is administratively feasible.

Sec. 5505.03. (A) The funds created by this section are the "employees' savings fund," "employer's accumulation fund," "pension reserve fund," "survivors' benefit fund," "income fund," and "expense fund." When reference is made to any of such funds, such reference is made to each as a separate legal entity; provided that the moneys in the funds may be intermingled for deposit and investment purposes.

(B) The employees' savings fund is the fund in which shall be accumulated the contributions deducted from the salaries of members, except as provided in division (B)(1)(b) of section 5505.54 of the Revised Code. Any refunds of accumulated contributions, as provided in the plan, shall be paid from such fund. Upon a member's retirement, the accumulated

contributions standing to the member's credit in the fund shall be transferred to the pension reserve fund ~~if the member's retirement occurs on or after January 1, 1966, or to the employer's accumulation fund if the member's retirement occurred prior to January 1, 1966.~~ If a pension is payable on account of the death of a member, the accumulated contributions standing to the member's credit in the employees' savings fund shall be transferred to the survivors' benefit fund ~~if the member's death occurs after January 1, 1966, or to the employer's accumulation fund if the member's death occurs prior to January 1, 1966.~~

(C)(~~H~~) The employer's accumulation fund is the fund in which shall be accumulated the state's contribution to the state highway patrol retirement system and the amounts contributed under division (B)(1)(b) of section 5505.54 of the Revised Code. Upon a member's retirement ~~after January 1, 1966,~~ the difference between the member's pension reserve and the member's accumulated contributions shall be transferred to the pension reserve fund. If a pension is payable on account of a member's death occurring ~~after January 1, 1966,~~ the difference between the pension reserve for that pension and the member's accumulated contributions shall be transferred to the survivors' benefit fund.

~~(2) All pensions allowed and payable prior to January 1, 1966, shall be continued according to the provisions of the plan in force the day preceding January 1, 1966, unless otherwise provided for in this chapter and shall be paid from the employer's accumulation fund.~~

(D) The pension reserve fund is the fund from which shall be paid all pensions on account of members ~~who retire on or after January 1, 1966.~~ If a disability retirant returns to the employ of the state highway patrol, the disability retirant's pension reserve at that time shall be transferred to the employees' savings fund and the employer's accumulation fund in the same proportion as the pension reserve was originally transferred to the pension reserve fund.

(E) The survivors' benefit fund is the fund from which shall be paid all pensions, payable under section 5505.17 of the Revised Code, ~~on account of members who die on or after January 1, 1966.~~

(F)(1) The income fund is the fund to which shall be credited all interest, dividends, distributions, and other income derived from deposits and investments of moneys of the retirement system, all gifts and bequests to the system, all transfers from the employees' savings fund because of lack of claimant, and any other moneys the disposition of which is not otherwise provided for in the plan.

(2) If the balance in the income fund exceeds the requirements of the

fund, the state highway patrol retirement board may transfer amounts from the income fund to meet special requirements of the various other funds of the retirement system.

(G) The expense fund is the fund from which the expense of the administration of this chapter shall be paid, exclusive of amounts payable as retirement allowances and as other benefits. The state highway patrol retirement board shall estimate annually the amount to be provided in the expense fund and such amount shall be transferred from the income fund. If such amount is insufficient during any year, the board is authorized to transfer the amount of such insufficiency from the income fund.

Sec. 5505.04. (A)(1) The general administration and management of the state highway patrol retirement system and the making effective of this chapter are hereby vested in the state highway patrol retirement board. The board may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, contract and be contracted with, and do all things necessary to carry out this chapter.

The board shall consist of the following members:

- (a) The superintendent of the state highway patrol;
- (b) Two retirant members who reside in this state;
- (c) Five employee-members;
- (d) One member, known as the treasurer of state's investment designee, who shall be appointed by the treasurer of state for a term of four years and who shall have the following qualifications:
 - (i) The member is a resident of this state.
 - (ii) Within the three years immediately preceding the appointment, the member has not been employed by the public employees retirement system, police and fire pension fund, state teachers retirement system, school employees retirement system, or state highway patrol retirement system or by any person, partnership, or corporation that has provided to one of those retirement systems services of a financial or investment nature, including the management, analysis, supervision, or investment of assets.
 - (iii) The member has direct experience in the management, analysis, supervision, or investment of assets.
 - (iv) The member is not currently employed by the state or a political subdivision of the state.
- (e) Two investment expert members, who shall be appointed to four-year terms. One investment expert member shall be appointed by the governor, and one investment expert member shall be jointly appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the senate. Each investment expert member shall have the following qualifications:
 - (i) Each investment expert member shall be a resident of this state.

(ii) Within the three years immediately preceding the appointment, each investment expert member shall not have been employed by the public employees retirement system, police and fire pension fund, state teachers retirement system, school employees retirement system, or state highway patrol retirement system or by any person, partnership, or corporation that has provided to one of those retirement systems services of a financial or investment nature, including the management, analysis, supervision, or investment of assets.

(iii) Each investment expert member shall have direct experience in the management, analysis, supervision, or investment of assets.

(2) The board shall annually elect a chairperson and vice-chairperson from among its members. The vice-chairperson shall act as chairperson in the absence of the chairperson. A majority of the members of the board shall constitute a quorum and any action taken shall be approved by a majority of the members of the board. The board shall meet not less than once each year, upon sufficient notice to the members. All meetings of the board shall be open to the public except executive sessions as set forth in division (G) of section 121.22 of the Revised Code, and any portions of any sessions discussing medical records or the degree of disability of a member excluded from public inspection by this section.

(3) Any ~~investment expert member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of the term for which the member's predecessor was appointed~~ holds under this section shall hold office until the end of such term. The member continues in office subsequent to the expiration date of the member's term until or, if later, the date the member's successor takes office, or until a period of sixty days has elapsed, whichever occurs first.

(B) The attorney general shall prescribe procedures for the adoption of rules authorized under this chapter, consistent with the provision of section 111.15 of the Revised Code under which all rules shall be filed in order to be effective. Such procedures shall establish methods by which notice of proposed rules are given to interested parties and rules adopted by the board published and otherwise made available. When it files a rule with the joint committee on agency rule review pursuant to section 111.15 of the Revised Code, the board shall submit to the Ohio retirement study council a copy of the full text of the rule, and if applicable, a copy of the rule summary and fiscal analysis required by division (B) of section 127.18 of the Revised Code.

(C)(1) As used in this division, "personal history record" means information maintained by the board on an individual who is a member, former member, retirant, or beneficiary that includes the address, electronic

mail address, telephone number, social security number, record of contributions, correspondence with the system, and other information the board determines to be confidential.

(2) The records of the board shall be open to public inspection and may be made available in printed or electronic format, except for the following which shall be excluded: the member's, former member's, retirant's, or beneficiary's personal history record and the amount of a monthly allowance or benefit paid to a retirant, beneficiary, or survivor, except with the written authorization of the individual concerned.

(D) All medical reports and recommendations are privileged except as follows:

(1) Copies of such medical reports or recommendations shall be made available to the individual's personal physician, attorney, or authorized agent upon written release received from such individual or such individual's agent, or when necessary for the proper administration of the fund to the board-assigned physician.

(2) Documentation required by section 2929.193 of the Revised Code shall be provided to a court holding a hearing under that section.

(E) Notwithstanding the exceptions to public inspection in division (C)(2) of this section, the board may furnish the following information:

(1) If a member, former member, or retirant is subject to an order issued under section 2907.15 of the Revised Code or an order issued under division (A) or (B) of section 2929.192 of the Revised Code or is convicted of or pleads guilty to a violation of section 2921.41 of the Revised Code, on written request of a prosecutor as defined in section 2935.01 of the Revised Code, the board shall furnish to the prosecutor the information requested from the individual's personal history record.

(2) Pursuant to a court order issued under Chapters 3119., 3121., and 3123. of the Revised Code, the board shall furnish to a court or child support enforcement agency the information required under those chapters.

(3) At the written request of any nonprofit organization or association providing services to retirement system members, retirants, or beneficiaries, the board shall provide to the organization or association a list of the names and addresses of members, former members, retirants, or beneficiaries if the organization or association agrees to use such information solely in accordance with its stated purpose of providing services to such individuals and not for the benefit of other persons, organizations, or associations. The costs of compiling, copying, and mailing the list shall be paid by such entity.

(4) Within fourteen days after receiving from the director of job and family services a list of the names and social security numbers of recipients

of public assistance pursuant to section 5101.181 of the Revised Code, the board shall inform the auditor of state of the name, current or most recent employer address, and social security number of each member whose name and social security number are the same as those of a person whose name or social security number was submitted by the director. The board and its employees, except for purposes of furnishing the auditor of state with information required by this section, shall preserve the confidentiality of recipients of public assistance in compliance with section 5101.181 of the Revised Code.

(5) The system shall comply with orders issued under section 3105.87 of the Revised Code.

On the written request of an alternate payee, as defined in section 3105.80 of the Revised Code, the system shall furnish to the alternate payee information on the amount and status of any amounts payable to the alternate payee under an order issued under section 3105.171 or 3105.65 of the Revised Code.

(6) At the request of any person, the board shall make available to the person copies of all documents, including resumes, in the board's possession regarding filling a vacancy of an employee member or retirant member of the board. The person who made the request shall pay the cost of compiling, copying, and mailing the documents. The information described in this division is a public record.

(7) The system shall provide the notice required by section 5505.263 of the Revised Code to the prosecutor assigned to the case.

(8) The system may provide information requested by the United States social security administration, United States centers for medicare and medicaid, public employees retirement system, Ohio public employees deferred compensation program, Ohio police and fire pension fund, school employees retirement system, state teachers retirement system, or Cincinnati retirement system.

(F) A statement that contains information obtained from the system's records that is certified and signed by an officer of the retirement system and to which the system's official seal is affixed, or copies of the system's records to which the signature and seal are attached, shall be received as true copies of the system's records in any court or before any officer of this state.

(G) The board may maintain records in printed or electronic format.

Sec. 5505.112. Any action brought against the state highway patrol retirement system or the state highway patrol retirement board or its officers, employees, or board members in their official capacities shall be brought in the appropriate court in Franklin county, Ohio.

Sec. 5505.12. (A) The state highway patrol retirement board shall have prepared annually by or under the supervision of an actuary an actuarial valuation of the pension assets, liabilities, and funding requirements of the state highway patrol retirement system as established pursuant to this chapter. The actuary shall complete the valuation in accordance with actuarial standards of practice promulgated by the actuarial standards board of the American academy of actuaries and prepare a report of the valuation. The report shall include all of the following:

- (1) A summary of the benefit provisions evaluated;
- (2) A summary of the census data and financial information used in the valuation;
- (3) A description of the actuarial assumptions, actuarial cost method, and asset valuation method used in the valuation, including a statement of the assumed rate of payroll growth and assumed rate of growth or decline in the number of members contributing to the retirement system;
- (4) A summary of findings that includes a statement of the actuarial accrued pension liabilities and unfunded actuarial accrued pension liabilities;
- (5) A schedule showing the effect of any changes in the benefit provisions, actuarial assumptions, or cost methods since the last annual actuarial valuation;
- (6) A statement of whether contributions to the retirement system are expected to be sufficient to satisfy the funding objectives established by the board.

The board shall submit the report to the Ohio retirement study council, the director of budget and management, and the standing committees of the house of representatives and the senate with primary responsibility for retirement legislation immediately upon its availability and not later than the first day of ~~July~~ September following the year for which the valuation was made.

(B) At such times as the state highway patrol retirement board determines, and at least once in each five-year period ~~after January 1, 1966~~, the board shall have prepared by or under the supervision of an actuary an actuarial investigation of the mortality, service, and other experience of the members, retirants, and beneficiaries to update the actuarial assumptions used in the actuarial valuation required by division (A) of this section. The actuary shall prepare a report of the actuarial investigation. The report shall be prepared and any recommended changes in actuarial assumptions shall be made in accordance with the actuarial standards of practice promulgated by the actuarial standards board of the American academy of actuaries. The

report shall include all of the following:

(1) A summary of relevant decrement and economic assumption experience observed over the period of the investigation;

(2) Recommended changes in actuarial assumptions to be used in subsequent actuarial valuations required by division (A) of this section;

(3) A measurement of the financial effect of the recommended changes in actuarial assumptions;

(4) If the investigation required by this division includes the investigation required by division (F) of this section, a report of the result of that investigation.

The board shall submit the report to the Ohio retirement study council and the standing committees of the house of representatives and the senate with primary responsibility for retirement legislation not later than the first day of November following the last fiscal year of the period the report covers.

(C) The board may at any time request the actuary to make any studies or actuarial valuations to determine the adequacy of the rates of contributions provided by section 5505.15 of the Revised Code.

(D) The board shall have prepared by or under the supervision of an actuary an actuarial analysis of any introduced legislation expected to have a measurable financial impact on the retirement system. The actuarial analysis shall be completed in accordance with the actuarial standards of practice promulgated by the actuarial standards board of the American academy of actuaries. The actuary shall prepare a report of the actuarial analysis, which shall include all of the following:

(1) A summary of the statutory changes that are being evaluated;

(2) A description of or reference to the actuarial assumptions and actuarial cost method used in the report;

(3) A description of the participant group or groups included in the report;

(4) A statement of the financial impact of the legislation, including the resulting increase, if any, in the employer normal cost percentage; the increase, if any, in actuarial accrued liabilities; and the per cent of payroll that would be required to amortize the increase in actuarial accrued liabilities as a level per cent of covered payroll for all active members over a period not to exceed thirty years;

(5) A statement of whether the scheduled contributions to the system after the proposed change is enacted are expected to be sufficient to satisfy the funding objectives established by the board.

Not later than sixty days from the date of introduction of the legislation,

the board shall submit a copy of the actuarial analysis to the legislative service commission, the standing committees of the house of representatives and the senate with primary responsibility for retirement legislation, and the Ohio retirement study council.

(E) The board shall have prepared annually a report giving a full accounting of the revenues and costs relating to the provision of benefits under section 5505.28 of the Revised Code. The report shall be made ~~as of December 31, 1997, and~~ not later than the thirty-first day of December of each year ~~thereafter~~. The report shall include the following:

- (1) A description of the statutory authority for the benefits provided;
- (2) A summary of the benefits;
- (3) A summary of the eligibility requirements for the benefits;
- (4) A statement of the number of participants eligible for the benefits;
- (5) A description of the accounting, asset valuation, and funding method used to provide the benefits;
- (6) A statement of the net assets available for the provision of the benefits as of the last day of the fiscal year;
- (7) A statement of any changes in the net assets available for the provision of benefits, including participant and employer contributions, net investment income, administrative expenses, and benefits provided to participants, as of the last day of the fiscal year;
- (8) For the last six consecutive fiscal years, a schedule of the net assets available for the benefits, the annual cost of benefits, administrative expenses incurred, and annual employer contributions allocated for the provision of benefits;
- (9) A description of any significant changes that affect the comparability of the report required under this division;
- (10) A statement of the amount paid under division (B) of section 5505.28 of the Revised Code.

The board shall submit the report to the Ohio retirement study council, the director of budget and management, and the standing committees of the house of representatives and the senate with primary responsibility for retirement legislation immediately upon its availability and not later than the thirtieth day of June following the year for which the report was made.

(F) At least once in each five-year period, the board shall have prepared by or under the supervision of an actuary an actuarial investigation of the deferred retirement option plan established under section 5505.50 of the Revised Code. The investigation shall include an examination of the financial impact, if any, on the retirement system of offering the plan to members.

The actuary shall prepare a report of the actuarial investigation. The report shall include a determination of whether the plan, as established or modified, has a negative financial impact on the retirement system and, if so, recommendations on how to modify the plan to eliminate the negative financial impact. If the actuarial report indicates that the plan has a negative financial impact on the retirement system, the board shall modify the plan. If the board modifies the plan, the rights and obligations of members who have already elected to participate shall not be altered.

The state's contributions to the employer accumulation fund shall not be increased to offset any negative financial impact of the deferred retirement option plan.

The board may include the actuarial investigation required under this division as part of the actuarial investigation required under division (B) of this section. If the report of the actuarial investigation required by this division is not included in the report required by division (B) of this section, the board shall submit the report required by this division to the Ohio retirement study council and the standing committees of the house of representatives and the senate with primary responsibility for retirement legislation not later than the first day of November following the last fiscal year of the period the report covers.

Sec. 5505.14. Subject to such rules and regulations as the state highway patrol retirement board adopts, the board shall issue, upon written request of the member, a certificate certifying to the aggregate length of all ~~his~~ the member's prior service as a state highway patrol employee. ~~In no event shall service be computed prior to November 15, 1933.~~

Sec. 5505.15. (A)~~(1)~~ A member of the state highway patrol retirement system shall contribute a certain percentage of the member's annual salary to the state highway patrol retirement fund. The percentage shall be not less than ten per cent of the member's annual salary but not more than fourteen per cent. The state highway patrol retirement board shall establish and may adjust the rate as it considers necessary to meet the amortization period requirement of section 5505.121 of the Revised Code. The board shall base its determination of the necessary rate on the annual actuarial valuation required by section 5505.12 of the Revised Code. The amount shall be deducted by the employer from the employee's salary for each payroll period.

~~(2) The total contributions arising from deductions made prior to January 1, 1966, from the salaries of members in the employ of the state highway patrol and standing to the credit of their individual accounts in the retirement fund shall be transferred and credited to their respective~~

~~individual accounts in the employees' savings fund.~~

(B) The state shall annually pay into the employer accumulation fund, in monthly or less frequent installments as the state highway patrol retirement board requires, the employer contribution. The employer contribution shall be an amount equal to twenty-six and one-half per cent of the total salaries paid contributing members. If a member severs connection with the patrol or is dismissed, the employer contribution shall remain in the retirement system.

The rate percentage of the employer contribution shall be certified by the board to the director of budget and management and shall not be lower than nine per cent of the total salaries paid contributing members and shall not exceed three times the rate percentage being deducted from the annual salaries of contributing members. The board shall prepare and submit to the director, on or before the first day of November of each even-numbered year, an estimate of the amounts necessary to pay the state's obligations accruing during the biennium beginning the first day of July of the following year. Such amounts shall be included in the budget and allocated as certified by the board.

Sec. 5505.16. (A) A member of the state highway patrol retirement system who has ~~been in the service of the state highway patrol for a period of~~ twenty-five years ~~as an employee~~ of service credit according to the rules adopted by the state highway patrol retirement board may make application for a pension which, if the member is under age forty-eight, shall be deferred until age forty-eight.

(B) A member ~~of the retirement system~~ who has ~~been in the service of the highway patrol for a period of~~ twenty years ~~as an employee~~ of service credit according to the rules adopted by the retirement board, may make application for a pension that, if the member is under age fifty-two, shall be deferred until age fifty-two, except that any such member who has attained twenty years of service may, on or after attaining age forty-eight but before attaining age fifty-two, elect to receive a reduced pension of the greater of nine hundred dollars or an amount computed as follows:

Attained Age	Reduced Pension
48	75% of normal service pension
49	80% of normal service pension
50	86% of normal service pension
51	93% of normal service pension

In the case of a member who elects to receive a reduced pension after attaining age forty-eight, the reduced pension is payable from the later of the date of the member's most recent birthday or the date the member becomes

eligible to receive the reduced pension.

A member who has elected to receive a reduced pension in accordance with the schedule provided in this division and has received a payment in connection therewith may not change the election.

(C) Any member who attains the age of sixty years and has ~~been in the service of the patrol for a period of~~ twenty years ~~as a uniformed patrol officer~~ of service credit according to the rules adopted by the board, shall file application for retirement with the board, and if the member refuses or neglects to do so, the board may deem the member's application to have been filed on the member's sixtieth birthday. The member may, upon written application approved by the superintendent of the state highway patrol, be continued in service after attaining the age of sixty years, but only until the member has accumulated twenty years of service credit in accordance with rules adopted by the board.

(D)(1) As used in this division:

(a) "Service in the uniformed services" means the performance of duty on a voluntary or involuntary basis in a uniformed service under competent authority and includes active duty, active duty for training, initial active duty for training, inactive duty training, full-time national guard duty, and a period for which a person is absent from a position of employment for the purpose of an examination to determine the fitness of the person to perform any such duty.

(b) "Uniformed services" of the United States includes both:

(i) Army, navy, air force, marine corps, coast guard, or any reserve components of these services; auxiliary corps as established by congress; army nurse corps; navy nurse corps; service as red cross nurse with the army, navy, air force, or hospital service of the United States, or serving full-time with the American red cross in a combat zone; and such other service as is designated by congress as included therein;

(ii) Personnel of the Ohio national guard, the Ohio military reserve, the Ohio naval militia, and the reserve components of the armed forces enumerated in division (D)(1) of this section who are called to active duty pursuant to an executive order issued by the president of the United States or an act of congress.

(2) A member's total service credit may include periods not to exceed a total of seven years, while the member's employment with the state highway patrol is or was interrupted due to service in the uniformed services of the United States. Such military service shall be credited to the member towards total service as provided by this chapter and to the extent approved by the board, provided that:

(a) The member is or was honorably discharged from service in the uniformed services;

(b) The member is or was re-employed by the state highway patrol within ninety days immediately following termination of service in the uniformed services;

(c) The member, subject to board rules, pays into the retirement system to the member's credit in the employees' savings fund an amount equal to the total contributions the member would have paid had state highway patrol employment not been so interrupted. Such payment may be made at any time prior to receipt of a pension.

(3) If the member meets the requirements of division (D)(2) of this section, on receipt of contributions from the member, the state highway patrol shall be billed for the employer contribution that would have been paid pursuant to section 5505.15 of the Revised Code if the member had not rendered service in the uniformed services, subject to board rules.

(4) If under division (D)(2)(c) of this section a member pays all or any portion of the contributions later than the lesser of five years or a period that is three times the member's period of service in the uniformed services beginning from the ~~later of the~~ member's date of re-employment ~~or October 29, 1996~~, an amount equal to compound interest at a rate established by the board from the ~~later of the~~ member's date of re-employment ~~or October 29, 1996~~, to the date of payment shall be added to the remaining amount to be paid by the member to purchase service credit under this section.

(5) Credit purchased by a member under division (D)(2) of this section shall be used to determine the member's eligibility for retirement under this section and section 5505.17 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 5505.17. (A)(1) Upon retirement as provided in section 5505.16 of the Revised Code, a member of the state highway patrol retirement system shall receive a life pension, without guaranty or refund, equal to the greater of one thousand fifty dollars or the sum of two and one-half per cent of the member's final average salary multiplied by the first twenty years of total service credit, plus two and one-quarter per cent of the member's final average salary multiplied by the number of years, and fraction of a year, of total service credit in excess of twenty years but not in excess of twenty-five years, plus two per cent of the member's final average salary multiplied by the number of years, and fraction of a year, in excess of twenty-five years; provided that in no case shall the pension exceed the lesser of seventy-nine and one-quarter per cent of the member's final average salary or the limit established by section 415 of the "Internal Revenue Code of 1986," 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C.A. 415, as amended.

(2) A member with fifteen or more years of total service credit, who voluntarily resigns or who is discharged from the state highway patrol for any reason except retirement under this chapter, death, dishonesty, cowardice, intemperate habits, or conviction of a felony, shall receive a pension equal to one and one-half per cent of the member's final average salary multiplied by the number of years, and fraction of a year, of total service credit, except that the pension shall not exceed the limit established by section 415 of the "Internal Revenue Code of 1986," 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C.A. 415, as amended. The pension shall commence at the end of the calendar month in which the application is filed with the retirement board on or after the attainment of age fifty-five years by the applicant. A member who withdraws any part or all of the accumulated contributions from the employees' savings fund shall thereupon forfeit all rights to a pension provided for in this division.

(3)(a) A surviving spouse of a deceased member shall receive a monthly pension, determined as follows, during the spouse's life:

(i) If at the time of death the member was not eligible to be granted a pension payable under this section or to elect to receive a reduced pension payable under section 5505.16 of the Revised Code, nine hundred dollars;

(ii) If at the time of death the member was eligible to be granted a pension payable under this section or to elect to receive a reduced pension payable under section 5505.16 of the Revised Code, the greater of nine hundred dollars or fifty per cent of the computed monthly pension the member would have received had the member been granted a pension under this section or elected to receive a reduced pension under section 5505.16 of the Revised Code.

(b) The surviving spouse of a retirant shall receive a monthly pension, determined as follows, during the spouse's life:

(i) If the retirant had applied for a pension payable under section 5505.16 of the Revised Code, but at the time of death had not attained the age of eligibility for the pension, nine hundred dollars;

(ii) If the retirant had applied for a pension payable under section 5505.16 of the Revised Code and had attained the age of eligibility for the pension, but at the time of death had not elected to begin receiving the pension, the greater of nine hundred dollars or fifty per cent of the computed monthly pension the retirant was eligible to receive under section 5505.16 of the Revised Code;

(iii) If the retirant was receiving a pension under this section or section 5505.16 or 5505.18 of the Revised Code, or, regardless of whether or not the retirant had actually received any payment, if the retirant was eligible to

receive a pension under this section or section 5505.16 or 5505.18 of the Revised Code and had elected to begin receiving it, the greater of nine hundred dollars or fifty per cent of the computed monthly pension awarded the retirant.

(c) If a monthly pension to a surviving spouse was terminated due to a remarriage, the surviving spouse is eligible to receive a monthly pension under division (A)(3) of this section effective the first day of the first month following June 5, 1996. The pension shall be computed under division (A)(3) of this section as of June 5, 1996. The pension payable to a person who is the surviving spouse of more than one state highway patrol retirement system member or retirant shall be computed on the basis of the service of the member or retirant to whom the surviving spouse was most recently married.

(4) A pension of one hundred fifty dollars per month shall be paid by the system to or for the benefit of each child of a deceased member or retirant until the child attains the age of eighteen years or marries, whichever event occurs first, or until the child attains twenty-three years of age if the child is a student in and attending an institution of learning or training pursuant to a program designed to complete in each school year the equivalent of at least two-thirds of the full-time curriculum requirements of the institution, as determined by the retirement board. If any surviving child, regardless of age at the time of the member's or retirant's death, because of physical or mental disability, was totally dependent upon the deceased member or retirant for support at the time of death, a pension of one hundred fifty dollars per month shall be paid by the system to or for the benefit of the child during the child's natural life or until the child recovers from the disability.

(5)(a) If a retirant died prior to June 6, 1988, and the surviving spouse was not married to the retirant while the retirant was in the active service of the patrol, the surviving spouse shall receive a pension of the greater of four hundred twenty-five dollars per month or fifty per cent of the computed monthly pension the retirant was receiving.

(b) If the pension payable to a person receiving a pension under division (A)(5)(a) of this section on ~~the effective date of this amendment~~ June 30, 2000, is less than nine hundred dollars per month, the pension shall be increased to nine hundred dollars per month.

~~(6)(a) If the pension payable to the surviving spouse of a deceased member or retirant under division (A)(3) of this section on the effective date of this amendment is less than nine hundred dollars per month, the pension shall be increased to nine hundred dollars per month.~~

~~(b) The pension payable to a child of a deceased member or retirant who is receiving a pension under division (A)(4) of this section on June 5, 1996, shall be increased to one hundred fifty dollars per month.~~

(7) If a deceased member or retirant leaves no spouse or surviving children, but leaves two parents depending solely upon the deceased member or retirant for support, each parent shall be paid a monthly pension of one hundred fifty-four dollars. If in such case there is only one parent dependent solely upon the deceased member or retirant for support, such parent shall be paid a monthly pension of one hundred fifty-four dollars. Such pension shall be paid during the life of the surviving parents, or until dependency ceases, or until remarriage, whichever event occurs first.

~~(8)(7)~~ Any amount remaining as accumulated contributions at the time of death of a ~~member or~~ retirant who leaves no surviving spouse or dependent children or parents shall be paid to the estate of the ~~member or~~ retirant.

~~(9)(8)~~ The ~~increases~~ increase provided for by ~~divisions~~ division (A)(5) and ~~(A)(6)(a)~~ of this section shall be included in the calculation of the additional benefit paid under section 5505.174 of the Revised Code.

(B) The board shall adopt, and may amend or rescind, the necessary rules for the administration of this section and all decisions of the board shall be final. Any payment of a pension or benefit under this section is subject to the provisions of section 5505.26 of the Revised Code.

(C) A member's total service credit may include periods during which the member's employment with the state highway patrol is interrupted by a leave of absence, when requested by the governor, to accept employment with another agency of the state, provided that:

(1) The member is reemployed by the state highway patrol within thirty days following termination of such other employment;

(2) The member pays into the retirement system, to the credit of the employees' savings fund, an amount equal to the total contributions the member would have paid had the state highway patrol employment not been so interrupted. Such repayment shall begin within ninety days after the member's return to duty with the state highway patrol and be completed within a period equal to that of the leave of absence.

(D) Service credits granted under division (C) of this section shall not include any duplications of credits for which a pension is payable by the public employees retirement system.

Sec. 5505.174. (A) Eligibility for an increase under this section shall be determined as follows:

(1) For a person whose pension effective date is prior to ~~the effective~~

~~date of this amendment~~ January 7, 2013, an "eligible person" is one of the following:

(a) A person fifty-three years old or older who has been receiving a pension pursuant to division (B) of section 5505.16, division (A)(1) of section 5505.17, or division (B) of section 5505.18 of the Revised Code for not less than twelve months;

(b) A person who has been receiving a pension pursuant to division (B) of section 5505.18 of the Revised Code for not less than sixty months regardless of age;

(c) A person who has been receiving a pension pursuant to section 5505.162 or division (A)(3), (4), (5), or (6), ~~or (7)~~ of section 5505.17 of the Revised Code for not less than twelve months regardless of age.

(2) For a person whose pension effective date is on or after ~~the effective date of this amendment~~ January 7, 2013, an "eligible person" is a person who is sixty years old or older who has been receiving a pension pursuant to division (B) of section 5505.16, section 5505.162, division (A)(1), (3), (4), (5), or (6), ~~or (7)~~ of section 5505.17, or division (B) of section 5505.18 of the Revised Code for not less than twelve months.

(B)(1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the state highway patrol retirement board shall annually increase pensions payable to eligible persons under this chapter in accordance with the following:

(a) For each person sixty-five years of age or older who is receiving a pension not greater than one hundred eighty-five per cent of the federal poverty level for a family of two persons, as revised annually by the United States department of health and human services in accordance with section 673(2) of the "Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1981," 95 Stat. 511, 42 U.S.C. 9902, as amended, the board shall increase the pension by three per cent.

(b) For persons other than those described in division (B)(1)(a) of this section, the board may increase the pension. Any increase shall be determined by the board based on compliance with the amortization period requirement of section 5505.121 of the Revised Code. The board's determination shall be based on the annual actuarial valuation required by section 5505.12 of the Revised Code. If the board determines that an increase may be made, the increase shall not exceed three per cent of the eligible person's pension.

(2) No increase under this section shall exceed the limit established by section 415 of the "Internal Revenue Code of 1986," 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C. 415, as amended.

(3) The date of the first increase paid under this section shall be the

anniversary date for future increases. The pension used in the first calculation of an increase under this section shall remain as the base for all future increases paid under this section, unless a new base is established.

(C) If payment of a portion of a benefit is made to an alternate payee under section 5505.261 of the Revised Code, increases under this section granted while the order is in effect shall be apportioned between the alternate payee and the eligible person in the same proportion that the amount being paid to the alternate payee bears to the amount paid to the eligible person.

If payment of a portion of a benefit is made to one or more beneficiaries under "option 4" under division (A)(4) of section 5505.162 of the Revised Code, each increase under this section granted while the plan of payment is in effect shall be divided among the designated beneficiaries in accordance with the portion each beneficiary has been allocated.

(D) The board shall adopt, and may amend or rescind, any rule necessary to carry out this section.

Sec. 5505.18. As used in this section, "member" does not include state highway patrol cadets attending training schools pursuant to section 5503.05 of the Revised Code.

(A) Upon the application of a member of the state highway patrol retirement system, a person acting on behalf of a member, or the superintendent of the state highway patrol on behalf of a member, a member who becomes totally and permanently incapacitated for duty in the employ of the state highway patrol may be retired on disability by the board.

The medical or psychological examination of a member who has applied for disability retirement shall be conducted by a competent health-care professional or professionals appointed by the board. The health-care professional or professionals shall file a written report with the board containing the following information:

- (1) Whether the member is totally incapacitated for duty in the employ of the patrol;
- (2) Whether the incapacity is expected to be permanent;
- (3) The cause of the member's incapacity.

The board shall determine whether the member qualifies for disability retirement and its decision shall be final. The board shall consider the written medical or psychological report, opinions, statements, and other competent evidence in making its determination. If the incapacity is a result of heart disease or any cardiovascular disease of a chronic nature, which disease or any evidence of which was not revealed by the physical examination passed by the member on entry into the patrol, the member is

presumed to have incurred the disease in the line of duty as a member of the patrol, unless the contrary is shown by competent evidence.

(B)(1) Except as provided under division (A) of section 5505.58 of the Revised Code, a member whose retirement on account of disability incurred in the line of duty shall receive the applicable pension provided for in section 5505.17 of the Revised Code, except that if the member has less than twenty-five years of contributing service, the member's service credit shall be deemed to be twenty-five years for the purpose of this provision. In no case shall the member's disability pension be less than sixty-one and one-quarter per cent or exceed the lesser of seventy-nine and one-quarter per cent of the member's final average salary or the limit established by section 415 of the "Internal Revenue Code of 1986," 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C.A. 415, as amended.

(2) Except as provided under division (B) of section 5505.58 of the Revised Code, a member whose retirement on account of disability incurred not in the line of duty shall receive the applicable pension provided for in section 5505.17 of the Revised Code, except that if the member has less than twenty years of contributing service, the member's service credit shall be deemed to be twenty years for the purpose of this provision. In no case shall the member's disability pension exceed the lesser of seventy-nine and one-quarter per cent of the member's final average salary or the limit established by section 415 of the "Internal Revenue Code of 1986," 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C.A. 415, as amended.

(C) The state highway patrol retirement board shall adopt rules requiring a disability ~~pension recipient~~ retirant, as a condition of continuing to receive a disability pension, to agree in writing to obtain any medical or psychological treatment recommended by the board's health-care professional and submit medical or psychological reports regarding the treatment. If the board determines that a disability ~~pension recipient~~ retirant is not obtaining the medical or psychological treatment or the board does not receive a required medical or psychological report, the disability pension shall be suspended until the treatment is obtained, the report is received by the board, or the board's health-care professional certifies that the treatment is no longer helpful or advisable. Should the ~~recipient's~~ retirant's failure to obtain treatment or submit a medical or psychological report continue for one year, the recipient's right to the disability ~~benefit~~ pension shall be terminated as of the effective date of the original suspension.

(D) A ~~member placed on a disability pension~~ disability retirant who has not attained the age of sixty years shall be subject to an annual medical or psychological re-examination by health-care professionals appointed by the

board, except that the board may waive the re-examination if the board's health-care professionals certify that the ~~member's~~ retirant's disability is ongoing. If any ~~member placed on a disability pension~~ retirant refuses to submit to a medical or psychological re-examination, the ~~member's~~ retirant's disability pension shall be suspended until the ~~member~~ retirant withdraws the refusal. If the refusal continues for one year, all the ~~member's~~ retirant's rights under and to the disability pension shall be terminated as of the effective date of the original suspension.

(E) Each ~~recipient of a disability pension~~ disability retirant who has not attained the age of sixty years shall file with the board an annual statement of earnings, current medical or psychological information on the recipient's condition, and any other information required in rules adopted by the board. The board may waive the requirement that a disability ~~benefit recipient~~ retirant file an annual statement of earnings or current medical or psychological information if the board's health-care professional certifies that the ~~recipient's~~ retirant's disability is ongoing.

The board shall annually examine the information submitted by the ~~recipient~~ retirant. If a ~~recipient~~ retirant refuses to file the statement or information, the disability pension shall be suspended until the statement and information are filed. If the refusal continues for one year, the right to the pension shall be terminated as of the effective date of the original suspension.

(F)(1) Except as provided in division (F)(2) of this section, a disability retirant ~~who has been on disability pension, and~~ who has been physically or psychologically examined and found no longer incapable of performing the retirant's duties, shall be restored to the rank the retirant held at the time the retirant was pensioned and all previous rights shall be restored, including the retirant's civil service status, and the disability pension shall terminate. Upon return to employment in the patrol, the retirant shall again become a contributing member of the retirement system, the total service at the time of the retirant's retirement shall be restored to the retirant's credit, and the retirant shall be given service credit for the period the retirant was in receipt of a disability pension. The provisions of division (F)(1) of this section shall be retroactive to September 5, 1941.

(2) The state highway patrol is not required to take action under division (F)(1) of this section if the retirant was dismissed or resigned in lieu of dismissal for dishonesty, misfeasance, malfeasance, or conviction of a felony.

(G) The board may adopt rules to carry out this section, including rules that specify the types of health-care professionals the board may appoint for

the purpose of this section.

Sec. 5505.33. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Long-term care insurance" has the same meaning as in section 3923.41 of the Revised Code.

(2) "Retirement systems" has the same meaning as in division (A) of section 145.581 of the Revised Code.

(B) The state highway patrol retirement board ~~shall~~ may establish a program under which members of the retirement system, employers on behalf of members, and persons receiving service or disability pensions or survivor benefits are permitted to participate in contracts for long-term care insurance. Participation may include dependents and family members. If a participant in a contract for long-term care insurance leaves employment, the person and the person's dependents and family members may, at their election, continue to participate in a program established under this section in the same manner as if the person had not left employment, except that no part of the cost of the insurance shall be paid by the person's former employer. Such program may be established independently or jointly with one or more of the retirement systems.

(C) The board may enter into an agreement with insurance companies, health insuring corporations, or government agencies authorized to do business in the state for issuance of a long-term care insurance policy or contract. However, prior to entering into such an agreement with an insurance company or health insuring corporation, the board shall request the superintendent of insurance to certify the financial condition of the company or corporation. The board shall not enter into the agreement if, according to that certification, the company or corporation is insolvent, is determined by the superintendent to be potentially unable to fulfill its contractual obligations, or is placed under an order of rehabilitation or conservation by a court of competent jurisdiction or under an order of supervision by the superintendent.

(D) The board ~~shall~~ may adopt rules in accordance with section 111.15 of the Revised Code governing the program. ~~The~~ Any rules adopted by the board shall establish methods of payment for participation under this section, which may include establishment of a payroll deduction plan under section 5505.203 of the Revised Code, deduction of the full premium charged from a person's service or disability pension or survivor benefit, or any other method of payment considered appropriate by the board. If the program is established jointly with one or more of the other retirement systems, the rules also shall establish the terms and conditions of such joint participation.

Sec. 5505.34. If a person ~~who is a disability benefit recipient or an alternate payee, as defined in section 3105.80 of the Revised Code,~~ is paid any benefit or payment by the state highway patrol retirement system to which the person is not entitled, ~~the person shall repay~~ benefit or payment shall be repaid to the retirement system by the person. If the person fails to ~~repay~~ make the repayment, the retirement system shall withhold the amount due from any benefit or payment due the person or the person's beneficiary or may collect the amount in any other manner provided by law.

Sec. 5505.59. If a member dies while participating in the deferred retirement option plan, all of the following apply:

(A) The amounts accrued to the member's benefit shall be paid to the member's surviving spouse or, if there is no surviving spouse, the beneficiary designated by the member on a form provided by the state highway patrol retirement system. If there is no surviving spouse or designated beneficiary, the amounts accrued to the member's benefit shall be paid to the member's estate.

Any payment made under this division shall be made in the form of a single lump sum payment.

(B) The surviving spouse and, if eligible, each surviving child, shall receive a pension as described in division (A)(3)(b)(iii) or (4) of section 5505.17 of the Revised Code, utilizing the pension amount calculated under section 5505.53 of the Revised Code.

(C) If the member has no surviving spouse or surviving children, but has a parent or parents dependent on the member for support, the parent or parents shall receive a pension determined under division (A)~~(7)~~(6) of section 5505.17 of the Revised Code.

(D) The lump sum payment described in section 5505.30 of the Revised Code shall be paid to the member's surviving spouse or, if there is no surviving spouse, to the member's estate.

Sec. 5705.21. (A) At any time, the board of education of any city, local, exempted village, cooperative education, or joint vocational school district, by a vote of two-thirds of all its members, may declare by resolution that the amount of taxes ~~which~~ that may be raised within the ten-mill limitation by levies on the current tax duplicate will be insufficient to provide an adequate amount for the necessary requirements of the school district, that it is necessary to levy a tax in excess of such limitation for one of the purposes specified in division (A), (D), (F), (H), or (DD) of section 5705.19 of the Revised Code, for general permanent improvements, for the purpose of operating a cultural center, for the purpose of providing for school safety and security, or for the purpose of providing education technology, and that

the question of such additional tax levy shall be submitted to the electors of the school district at a special election on a day to be specified in the resolution. In the case of a qualifying library levy for the support of a library association or private corporation, the question shall be submitted to the electors of the association library district. If the resolution states that the levy is for the purpose of operating a cultural center, the ballot shall state that the levy is "for the purpose of operating the (name of cultural center)."

As used in this division, "cultural center" means a freestanding building, separate from a public school building, that is open to the public for educational, musical, artistic, and cultural purposes; "education technology" means, but is not limited to, computer hardware, equipment, materials, and accessories, equipment used for two-way audio or video, and software; and "general permanent improvements" means permanent improvements without regard to the limitation of division (F) of section 5705.19 of the Revised Code that the improvements be a specific improvement or a class of improvements that may be included in a single bond issue.

A resolution adopted under this division shall be confined to a single purpose and shall specify the amount of the increase in rate that it is necessary to levy, the purpose of the levy, and the number of years during which the increase in rate shall be in effect. The number of years may be any number not exceeding five or, if the levy is for current expenses of the district or for general permanent improvements, for a continuing period of time.

(B)(1) The board of education of a qualifying school district, by resolution, may declare that it is necessary to levy a tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation for the purpose of paying the current expenses of the district and of partnering community schools and that the question of the additional tax levy shall be submitted to the electors of the school district at a special election on a day to be specified in the resolution. The resolution shall state the purpose of the levy, the rate of the tax expressed in mills per dollar of taxable value, the number of such mills to be levied for the current expenses of the partnering community schools and the number of such mills to be levied for the current expenses of the school district, the number of years the tax will be levied, and the first year the tax will be levied. The number of years the tax may be levied may be any number not exceeding ten years, or for a continuing period of time.

The levy of a tax for the current expenses of a partnering community school under this section and the distribution of proceeds from the tax by a qualifying school district to partnering community schools is hereby

determined to be a proper public purpose.

(2) The form of the ballot at an election held pursuant to division (B) of this section shall be as follows:

"Shall a levy be imposed by the (insert the name of the qualifying school district) for the purpose of current expenses of the school district and of partnering community schools at a rate not exceeding (insert the number of mills) mills for each one dollar of valuation (of which (insert the number of mills to be allocated to partnering community schools) mills is to be allocated to partnering community schools), which amounts to (insert the rate expressed in dollars and cents) for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for (insert the number of years the levy is to be imposed, or that it will be levied for a continuing period of time), beginning (insert first year the tax is to be levied), which will first be payable in calendar year (insert the first calendar year in which the tax would be payable)?

	FOR THE TAX LEVY	"
	AGAINST THE TAX LEVY	

(3) Upon each receipt of a tax distribution by the qualifying school district, the board of education shall credit the portion allocated to partnering community schools to the partnering community schools fund. All income from the investment of money in the partnering community schools fund shall be credited to that fund.

(a) If the qualifying school district is a municipal school district, the board of education shall distribute the partnering community schools amount among the then qualifying community schools not more than forty-five days after the school district receives and deposits each tax distribution. From each tax distribution, each such partnering community school shall receive a portion of the partnering community schools amount in the proportion that the number of its resident students bears to the aggregate number of resident students of all such partnering community schools as of the date of receipt and deposit of the tax distribution.

(b) If the qualifying school district is not a municipal school district, the board of education may distribute all or a portion of the amount in the partnering community schools fund during a fiscal year to partnering community schools that were either sponsored by the district or entered into an agreement pursuant to division (B)(6)(b) of this section on or before the first day of June of the preceding fiscal year. Each such partnering community school shall receive a portion of the amount distributed by the board from the partnering community schools fund during the fiscal year in

the proportion that the number of its resident students bears to the aggregate number of resident students of all such partnering community schools as of the date the school district received and deposited the most recent tax distribution. On or before the fifteenth day of June of each fiscal year, the board of education shall announce an estimated allocation to partnering community schools for the ensuing fiscal year. The board is not required to allocate to partnering community schools the entire partnering community schools amount in the fiscal year in which a tax distribution is received and deposited in the partnering community schools fund. The estimated allocation shall be published on the web site of the school district and expressed as a dollar amount per resident student. The actual allocation to community schools in a fiscal year need not conform to the estimate published by the school district so long if the estimate was made in good faith.

Distributions by a school district under division (B)(3)(b) of this section shall be made in accordance with distribution agreements entered into by the board of education and each partnering community school eligible for distributions under this division. The distribution agreements shall be certified to the department of education each fiscal year before the thirtieth day of July. Each agreement shall provide for at least three distributions by the school district to the partnering community school during the fiscal year and shall require the initial distribution be made on or before the thirtieth day of July.

(c) For the purposes of division (B) of this section, the number of resident students shall be the number of such students reported under section 3317.03 of the Revised Code and established by the department of education as of the date of receipt and deposit of the tax distribution.

(4) To the extent an agreement whereby the qualifying school district and a community school endorse each other's programs is necessary for the community school to qualify as a partnering community school under division (B)(6)(b) of this section, the board of education of the school district shall certify to the department of education the agreement along with the determination that such agreement satisfies the requirements of that division. The board's determination is conclusive.

(5) For the purposes of Chapter 3317. of the Revised Code or other laws referring to the "taxes charged and payable" for a school district, the taxes charged and payable for a qualifying school district that levies a tax under division (B) of this section includes only the taxes charged and payable under that levy for the current expenses of the school district, and does not include the taxes charged and payable for the current expenses of partnering

community schools. The taxes charged and payable for the current expenses of partnering community schools shall not affect the calculation of "state education aid" as defined in section 5751.20 of the Revised Code.

(6) As used in division (B) of this section:

(a) "Qualifying school district" means a municipal school district, as defined in section 3311.71 of the Revised Code or a school district that has an average daily membership, as reported under division (A) of section 3317.03 of the Revised Code, greater than sixty thousand and the majority of the territory of which district is located in a city with a population greater than seven hundred thousand according to the most recent federal decennial census.

(b) "Partnering community school" means a community school established under Chapter 3314. of the Revised Code that is located within the territory of the qualifying school district and that either is sponsored by the district or is a party to an agreement with the district whereby the district and the community school endorse each other's programs.

(c) "Partnering community schools amount" means the product obtained, as of the receipt and deposit of the tax distribution, by multiplying the amount of a tax distribution by a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of mills per dollar of taxable value of the property tax to be allocated to partnering community schools, and the denominator of which is the total number of mills per dollar of taxable value authorized by the electors in the election held under division (B) of this section, each as set forth in the resolution levying the tax.

(d) "Partnering community schools fund" means a separate fund established by the board of education of a qualifying school district for the deposit of partnering community school amounts under this section.

(e) "Resident student" means a student enrolled in a partnering community school who is entitled to attend school in the qualifying school district under section 3313.64 or 3313.65 of the Revised Code.

(f) "Tax distribution" means a distribution of proceeds of the tax authorized by division (B) of this section under section 321.24 of the Revised Code and distributions that are attributable to that tax under sections 323.156 and 4503.068 of the Revised Code or other applicable law.

(C) A resolution adopted under this section shall specify the date of holding the election, which shall not be earlier than ninety days after the adoption and certification of the resolution and which shall be consistent with the requirements of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code.

A resolution adopted under this section may propose to renew one or more existing levies imposed under division (A) or (B) of this section or to

increase or decrease a single levy imposed under either such division.

If the board of education imposes one or more existing levies for the purpose specified in division (F) of section 5705.19 of the Revised Code, the resolution may propose to renew one or more of those existing levies, or to increase or decrease a single such existing levy, for the purpose of general permanent improvements.

If the resolution proposes to renew two or more existing levies, the levies shall be levied for the same purpose. The resolution shall identify those levies and the rates at which they are levied. The resolution also shall specify that the existing levies shall not be extended on the tax lists after the year preceding the year in which the renewal levy is first imposed, regardless of the years for which those levies originally were authorized to be levied.

If the resolution proposes to renew an existing levy imposed under division (B) of this section, the rates allocated to the qualifying school district and to partnering community schools each may be increased or decreased or remain the same, and the total rate may be increased, decreased, or remain the same. The resolution and notice of election shall specify the number of the mills to be levied for the current expenses of the partnering community schools and the number of the mills to be levied for the current expenses of the qualifying school district.

A resolution adopted under this section shall go into immediate effect upon its passage, and no publication of the resolution shall be necessary other than that provided for in the notice of election. A copy of the resolution shall immediately after its passing be certified to the board of elections of the proper county in the manner provided by section 5705.25 of the Revised Code. That section shall govern the arrangements for the submission of such question and other matters concerning the election to which that section refers, including publication of notice of the election, except that the election shall be held on the date specified in the resolution. In the case of a resolution adopted under division (B) of this section, the publication of notice of that election shall state the number of the mills to be levied for the current expenses of partnering community schools and the number of the mills to be levied for the current expenses of the qualifying school district. If a majority of the electors voting on the question so submitted in an election vote in favor of the levy, the board of education may make the necessary levy within the school district or, in the case of a qualifying library levy for the support of a library association or private corporation, within the association library district, at the additional rate, or at any lesser rate in excess of the ten-mill limitation on the tax list, for the

purpose stated in the resolution. A levy for a continuing period of time may be reduced pursuant to section 5705.261 of the Revised Code. The tax levy shall be included in the next tax budget that is certified to the county budget commission.

(D)(1) After the approval of a levy on the current tax list and duplicate for current expenses, for recreational purposes, for community centers provided for in section 755.16 of the Revised Code, or for a public library of the district under division (A) of this section, and prior to the time when the first tax collection from the levy can be made, the board of education may anticipate a fraction of the proceeds of the levy and issue anticipation notes in a principal amount not exceeding fifty per cent of the total estimated proceeds of the levy to be collected during the first year of the levy.

(2) After the approval of a levy for general permanent improvements for a specified number of years or for permanent improvements having the purpose specified in division (F) of section 5705.19 of the Revised Code, the board of education may anticipate a fraction of the proceeds of the levy and issue anticipation notes in a principal amount not exceeding fifty per cent of the total estimated proceeds of the levy remaining to be collected in each year over a period of five years after the issuance of the notes.

The notes shall be issued as provided in section 133.24 of the Revised Code, shall have principal payments during each year after the year of their issuance over a period not to exceed five years, and may have a principal payment in the year of their issuance.

(3) After approval of a levy for general permanent improvements for a continuing period of time, the board of education may anticipate a fraction of the proceeds of the levy and issue anticipation notes in a principal amount not exceeding fifty per cent of the total estimated proceeds of the levy to be collected in each year over a specified period of years, not exceeding ten, after the issuance of the notes.

The notes shall be issued as provided in section 133.24 of the Revised Code, shall have principal payments during each year after the year of their issuance over a period not to exceed ten years, and may have a principal payment in the year of their issuance.

(4) After the approval of a levy on the current tax list and duplicate under division (B) of this section, and prior to the time when the first tax collection from the levy can be made, the board of education may anticipate a fraction of the proceeds of the levy for the current expenses of the school district and issue anticipation notes in a principal amount not exceeding fifty per cent of the estimated proceeds of the levy to be collected during the first year of the levy and allocated to the school district. The portion of the levy

proceeds to be allocated to partnering community schools under that division shall not be included in the estimated proceeds anticipated under this division and shall not be used to pay debt charges on any anticipation notes.

The notes shall be issued as provided in section 133.24 of the Revised Code, shall have principal payments during each year after the year of their issuance over a period not to exceed five years, and may have a principal payment in the year of their issuance.

(E) The submission of questions to the electors under this section is subject to the limitation on the number of election dates established by section 5705.214 of the Revised Code.

(F) The board of education of any school district that levies a tax under this section for the purpose of providing for school safety and security may report to the department of education how the district is using revenue from that tax.

SECTION 2. That existing sections 145.012, 145.09, 145.191, 145.194, 145.28, 145.29, 145.295, 145.297, 145.2914, 145.2915, 145.31, 145.311, 145.33, 145.35, 145.362, 145.363, 145.37, 145.384, 145.391, 145.40, 145.43, 145.431, 145.45, 145.46, 145.563, 145.58, 145.581, 145.584, 145.63, 145.64, 145.82, 145.88, 145.92, 145.95, 171.04, 311.01, 742.53, 742.63, 3301.079, 3307.04, 3307.35, 3307.39, 3307.41, 3307.56, 3307.563, 3307.57, 3307.58, 3307.62, 3307.66, 3307.70, 3307.71, 3307.711, 3307.73, 3309.01, 3309.11, 3309.26, 3309.261, 3309.28, 3309.301, 3309.35, 3309.381, 3309.42, 3309.45, 3309.49, 3309.51, 3309.55, 3309.56, 3309.57, 3309.571, 3309.691, 3309.82, 5505.03, 5505.04, 5505.12, 5505.14, 5505.15, 5505.16, 5505.17, 5505.174, 5505.18, 5505.33, 5505.34, 5505.59, and 5705.21 and sections 145.402, 3307.561, and 3309.43 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. Notwithstanding sections 742.03 and 742.04 of the Revised Code, the individual who receives the second highest number of votes in the 2015 election for the two employee member firefighter positions on the Board of Trustees of the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund shall serve a term of three years.

SECTION 4. Section 742.63 of the Revised Code is presented in this act as a composite of the section as amended by both Sub. S.B. 340 and Sub.

S.B. 343 of the 129th General Assembly. The General Assembly, applying the principle stated in division (B) of section 1.52 of the Revised Code that amendments are to be harmonized if reasonably capable of simultaneous operation, finds that the composite is the resulting version of the section in effect prior to the effective date of the section as presented in this act.

Section 5705.21 of the Revised Code is presented in this act as a composite of the section as amended by both Am. Sub. H.B. 59 and Sub. H.B. 167 of the 130th General Assembly. The General Assembly, applying the principle stated in division (B) of section 1.52 of the Revised Code that amendments are to be harmonized if reasonably capable of simultaneous operation, finds that the composite is the resulting version of the section in effect prior to the effective date of the section as presented in this act.

Speaker _____ *of the House of Representatives.*

President _____ *of the Senate.*

Passed _____, 20____

Approved _____, 20____

Governor.

Am. Sub. S. B. No. 42

130th G.A.

The section numbering of law of a general and permanent nature is complete and in conformity with the Revised Code.

Director, Legislative Service Commission.

Filed in the office of the Secretary of State at Columbus, Ohio, on the ___ day of _____, A. D. 20____.

Secretary of State.

File No. _____ Effective Date _____