

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 46th Legislature (1998)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR  
SENATE BILL NO. 1043

By: Monson

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to benefits; amending Section 15, Chapter 384, O.S.L. 1997 (74 O.S. Supp. 1997, Section 1707), which relates to deferred compensation; providing benefits for certain state employees; deleting probationary period exclusion; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 15, Chapter 384, O.S.L. 1997 (74 O.S. Supp. 1997, Section 1707), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1707. A. Effective January 1, 1998, for each qualified participant as defined in this section who is a state employee as defined in this section, the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System shall pay each month from funds appropriated to the Oklahoma State Employees Deferred Savings Incentive Plan Fund created pursuant to this section the sum of Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) to a plan established pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code, Section 401(a), for the benefit of the employee; provided, if monies in the fund are insufficient to fully fund the contributions in any month,

payments shall be suspended until such time as sufficient monies are available. Employees receiving payroll other than monthly shall have an amount contributed which is equivalent to Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) per month.

B. For the purposes of this section, "qualified participant" means a state employee as defined in this section who is an active participant in the Oklahoma State Employees Deferred Compensation Plan making deferrals of at least Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) per month. The Administrator of the Office of Personnel Management and the Director of State Finance shall be responsible for the provision of such information and assistance as may be necessary to determine which employees are qualified participants. The Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System shall be responsible for establishing rules and plan documents for administration of such contributions. Funds so credited shall be held and invested in the same manner as the Oklahoma State Employees Deferred Compensation Plan, as provided in Section 1701 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

C. For the purposes of this section, "state employee" means any officer or employee of the executive, legislative, or judicial branches of the government of this state who is an active member of a public retirement system of this state, but does not include:

1. Employees of the public elementary, secondary, or area vocational school districts;

2. Employees of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education except employees of the Oklahoma State Regents of Higher Education and employees of the governing boards;

3. Persons on temporary, student, internship, or other limited-term appointments except for Executive Fellows in the Carl Albert Public Internship Program created in Section 840-3.4 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes; or

4. Persons employed pursuant to Section 1.6a of Title 53 of the Oklahoma Statutes or Section 1806.1 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes; ~~or~~

~~5. Persons who, on January 1, 1998, are serving in a probationary period in the classified service and unclassified employees who have not been continuously employed for six (6) months in the state service; provided, such persons, unless otherwise excluded by this section, shall be considered state employees for the purposes of this section upon completion of the probationary period or the six (6) months of regular unclassified service.~~

D. No public official shall be able to make contributions to the Section 401(a) plan described by this section during a term of office which commenced prior to the effective date of this act. A public official may make contributions to the Section 401(a) plan described by this section during a term of office which commences after the effective date of this act. No legislator shall be eligible to make contributions to the Section 401(a) plan described by this section until such contributions have been approved by the Board on Legislative Compensation.

E. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund to be designated the "Oklahoma State Employees Deferred Savings Incentive Plan Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of any monies the Legislature may appropriate or transfer to the fund and any monies contributed for the fund from any other sources, public or private. All monies accruing to the credit of said fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System for the matching of deferred compensation contributions pursuant to this section and in accordance with rules promulgated by the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System. Expenditures from the fund shall be made by warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as

prescribed by law with the Director of State Finance for approval and payment.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 1998.

SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

46-2-2719

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