

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 49th Legislature (2004)

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR ENGROSSED
SENATE BILL 1134

By: Corn and Rabon of the
Senate

and

Ferguson, Askins, Braddock,
Covey, Deutschendorf,
Gilbert, Miller (Ray) and
Staggs of the House

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to retirement; amending 11 O.S. 2001, Section 49-100.3, which relates to the Oklahoma Firefighters Pension and Retirement System; requiring adoption of certain assumption; providing benefit increase for certain persons; providing certain offset; amending 11 O.S. 2001, Sections 50-105.4, as last amended by Section 4, Chapter 51, O.S.L. 2003, and 50-111.4, as amended by Section 4, Chapter 137, O.S.L. 2003 (11 O.S. Supp. 2003, Sections 50-105.4 and 50-111.4), which relate to the Oklahoma Police Pension and Retirement System; requiring adoption of certain assumption; clarifying type and amount of certain lump-sum payment; providing benefit increase for certain persons; providing certain offset; amending 20 O.S. 2001, Sections 1102A, 1103, 1103.1, as amended by Section 2, Chapter 438, O.S.L. 2002, 1103A, 1104, as amended by Section 3, Chapter 438, O.S.L. 2002, 1108, as last amended by Section 15, Chapter 406, O.S.L. 2003, and 1111 (20 O.S. Supp. 2003, Sections 1103.1, 1104 and 1108), which relate to the Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges; providing gender-neutral language; providing increased disability benefit for certain members; amending reference; modifying provisions related to survivor benefit amounts; amending references to estate and beneficiary; providing for remittance of certain contributions; authorizing fee for late payment; authorizing additional survivor benefit amounts; prescribing procedures related to benefit payments; requiring certain study; setting date for study and reports; providing for delivery of report; amending average monthly salary calculation for members retiring after certain date; stating validity of certain reported compensation; providing exception; increasing benefit cap for members retiring after certain date; providing benefit increase for certain persons; clarifying powers and duties of the Board of Trustees of the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System; making certain acts criminal and providing punishment; providing for correction of errors; requiring adoption of certain assumption; providing an offset exception for payment

of a judgment or settlement for certain crimes, fraud or breach or to make certain corrections involving the System; stating scope of offset; amending 47 O.S. 2001, Section 2-303.1, as last amended by Section 31, Chapter 3, O.S.L. 2003 (47 O.S. Supp. 2003, Section 2-303.1), which relates to the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System; requiring adoption of certain assumption; providing benefit increase for certain persons; providing certain offset; amending 70 O.S. 2001, Sections 17-101, 17-105, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 326, O.S.L. 2003, 17-106.1, as amended by Section 7, Chapter 391, O.S.L. 2002, and 17-116.2, as last amended by Section 3, Chapter 486, O.S.L. 2003 (70 O.S. Supp. 2003, Sections 17-105, 17-106.1 and 17-116.2), which relate to the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma; clarifying definition of regular annual compensation; expanding eligibility for certain death benefit; requiring adoption of certain assumption; modifying terminology related to regular annual compensation; modifying provisions related to payments excluded from regular annual compensation; expanding eligibility for certain sick leave credit; providing benefit increase for certain persons; amending 74 O.S. 2001, Sections 905, 907, 909.1, as last amended by Section 16, Chapter 406, O.S.L. 2003, 915, as last amended by Section 7, Chapter 486, O.S.L. 2003, 913.4, as amended by Section 5, Chapter 486, O.S.L. 2003, 915, as last amended by Section 7, Chapter 486, O.S.L. 2003, 917, as last amended by Section 19, Chapter 406, O.S.L. 2003, 920, as amended by Section 9, Chapter 486, O.S.L. 2003, 920A, as amended by Section 10, Chapter 486, O.S.L. 2003, and 923 (74 O.S. Supp. 2003, Sections 909.1, 913.4, 915, 917, 920 and 920A), which relate to the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System; modifying provisions related to Board of Trustees; modifying provisions related to office space; requiring adoption of certain assumption; providing benefit cap for certain elected officials; deleting reference to normal retirement date; amending references to estate and beneficiary; amending employer contribution schedule and amounts for state employers; amending employer contribution schedule and amounts for certain other participating employers; providing for remittance of certain contributions; authorizing fee for late payment; providing an offset exception for payment of a judgment or settlement for certain crimes, fraud or breach or to make certain corrections involving the System; stating scope of offset; requiring the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System to conduct certain study; setting date for study; stating scope of study; requiring report; setting date for distribution of report; providing benefit increase for certain persons; providing for codification; providing for noncodification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 11 O.S. 2001, Section 49-100.3, is amended to read as follows:

Section 49-100.3 A. There shall be an Oklahoma Firefighters Pension and Retirement Board which shall be composed of thirteen (13) members as follows:

1. Five members shall be the Board of Trustees of the Oklahoma Firefighters Association;

2. One member shall be the President of the Professional Fire Fighters of Oklahoma or his designee. The designee shall be a member of the Professional Fire Fighters of Oklahoma;

3. One member shall be the President of the Oklahoma State Retired Fire Fighters Association or his designee. The designee shall be a member of the Oklahoma State Retired Fire Fighters Association;

4. One member shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

5. One member shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

6. Two members shall be appointed by the President of the Oklahoma Municipal League;

7. One member shall be the State Insurance Commissioner or his designee; and

8. One member shall be the Director of State Finance or his designee.

B. 1. The terms of office of the members appointed to the State Board by the President of the Oklahoma Municipal League who are members of the State Board on the operative date of this act shall expire on July 1, 1989. The members appointed to fill the positions that expire on July 1, 1989, shall serve initial terms of office as follows:

- a. the term of office of one of the members appointed by the President of the Oklahoma Municipal League shall expire on July 1, 1990; and
- b. the term of office of one of the members appointed by the President of the Oklahoma Municipal League shall expire on July 1, 1992.

Thereafter, the terms of office of the members of the State Board appointed by the President of the Oklahoma Municipal League shall be four (4) years.

2. The term of office of the member appointed to the State Board by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the term of office of the member appointed to the State Board by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate who are members of the State Board on the operative date of this act shall expire on January 3, 1989. The members thereafter appointed shall serve terms of office of four (4) years.

3. Vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term of office in the same manner as the original appointment was made.

C. Those members appointed to the State Board by the President of the Oklahoma Municipal League, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate or who are designees of an ex officio member of the State Board shall:

1. Have demonstrated professional experience in investment or funds management, public funds management, public or private pension fund management or retirement system management; or

2. Have demonstrated experience in the banking profession and have demonstrated professional experience in investment or funds management; or

3. Be licensed to practice law in this state and have demonstrated professional experience in commercial matters; or

4. Be licensed by the Oklahoma State Board of Public Accountancy to practice in this state as a public accountant or a certified public accountant.

The appointing authorities, in making appointments that conform to the requirements of this subsection, shall give due consideration to balancing the appointments among the criteria specified in paragraphs 1 through 4 of this subsection.

D. No member of the State Board shall be a lobbyist registered in this state as provided by law.

E. Notwithstanding any of the provisions of this section to the contrary, any person serving as an appointed member of the State Board on the operative date of this act shall be eligible for reappointment when the term of office of the member expires.

F. The State Board shall elect one of its members as Chairman at its annual meeting. The Chairman shall preside over meetings of the State Board and perform such other duties as may be required by the State Board. The State Board shall also elect another member to serve as Vice Chairman, and the Vice Chairman shall perform duties of Chairman in the absence of the latter or upon the Chairman's inability or refusal to act.

G. Prior to February 6, 1995, the State Board shall be prevented from making any payment or granting any benefit, with the exception of disability benefits for which provisions are otherwise made in Section 49-100.1 et seq. of this title, the actuarial liability for which has not been included in such Board's annual actuarial report prior to May 1, 1994.

H. The State Board shall adopt a cost of living adjustment actuarial assumption in its annual actuarial valuation report.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 49-143.4 of Title 11, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Except as provided in subsection B of this section and except for persons receiving benefits pursuant to Section 49-101 of Title 11 of the Oklahoma Statutes, effective July 1, 2004, any person receiving benefits from the Oklahoma Firefighters Pension and Retirement System as of June 30, 2003, who continues to receive benefits on or after July 1, 2004, shall receive a four-percent increase in said benefits beginning in July 2004.

B. Any increase in benefits a person is eligible to receive pursuant to repealed Section 49-136 of Title 11 of the Oklahoma Statutes after June 30, 2002, shall be used to offset the increase in benefits provided in subsection A of this section.

C. Effective July 1, 2004, any persons receiving benefits pursuant to Section 49-101 of Title 11 of the Oklahoma Statutes shall each receive a monthly benefit equal to Six Dollars and ninety-six cents (\$6.96) for each year of credited service not to exceed thirty (30) years of service.

SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 11 O.S. 2001, Section 50-105.4, as last amended by Section 4, Chapter 51, O.S.L. 2003 (11 O.S. Supp. 2003, Section 50-105.4), is amended to read as follows:

Section 50-105.4 A. The Oklahoma Police Pension and Retirement Board shall discharge their duties with respect to the System solely in the interest of the participants and beneficiaries and:

1. For the exclusive purpose of:
 - a. providing benefits to participants and their beneficiaries, and
 - b. defraying reasonable expenses of administering the System;

2. With the care, skill, prudence, and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing that a prudent person acting in a like capacity and familiar with such matters would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims;

3. By diversifying the investments of the System so as to minimize the risk of large losses, unless under the circumstances it is clearly prudent not to do so; and

4. In accordance with the laws, documents and instruments governing the System.

B. The State Board may procure insurance indemnifying the members of the State Board from personal loss or accountability from liability resulting from a member's action or inaction as a member of the State Board.

C. The State Board may establish an investment committee. The investment committee shall be composed of not more than five (5) members of the State Board appointed by the chairman of the State Board. The committee shall make recommendations to the full State Board on all matters related to the choice of custodians and managers of the assets of the System, on the establishment of investment and fund management guidelines, and in planning future investment policy. The committee shall have no authority to act on behalf of the State Board in any circumstances whatsoever. No recommendation of the committee shall have effect as an action of the State Board nor take effect without the approval of the State Board as provided by law.

D. The State Board shall retain qualified investment managers to provide for the investment of the monies of the System. The investment managers shall be chosen by a solicitation of proposals on a competitive bid basis pursuant to standards set by the State Board unless the State Board deems it necessary and prudent to do otherwise to fulfill its fiduciary responsibility. Subject to the overall investment guidelines set by the State Board, the investment managers shall have full discretion in the management of those monies of the System allocated to the investment managers. The State Board shall manage those monies not specifically allocated to the investment managers. The monies of the System allocated to the

investment managers shall be actively managed by the investment managers, which may include selling investments and realizing losses if such action is considered advantageous to longer term return maximization. Because of the total return objective, no distinction shall be made for management and performance evaluation purposes between realized and unrealized capital gains and losses.

E. Funds and revenues for investment by the investment managers or the State Board shall be placed with a custodian selected by the State Board. The custodian shall be a bank or trust company offering pension fund master trustee and master custodial services. The custodian shall be chosen by a solicitation of proposals on a competitive basis pursuant to standards set by the State Board. In compliance with the investment policy guidelines of the State Board, the custodian bank or trust company shall be contractually responsible for ensuring that all monies of the System are invested in income-producing investment vehicles at all times. If a custodian bank or trust company has not received direction from the investment managers of the System as to the investment of the monies of the System in specific investment vehicles, the custodian bank or trust company shall be contractually responsible to the State Board for investing the monies in appropriately collateralized short-term interest-bearing investment vehicles.

F. By November 1, 1988, and prior to August 1 of each year thereafter, the State Board shall develop a written investment plan for the System.

G. After July 1 and before November 1 of each year, the State Board shall publish widely an annual report presented in simple and easily understood language pursuant to uniform reporting standards prescribed by the Oklahoma State Pension Commission for all state retirement systems. The report shall be submitted to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Oklahoma State Pension Commission and the

members of the System. The annual report shall cover the operation of the System during the past fiscal year, including income, disbursements, and the financial condition of the System at the end of the fiscal year. The annual report shall also contain a summary of the results of the most recent actuarial valuation to include total assets, total liabilities, unfunded liability or over funded status, contributions and any other information deemed relevant by the State Board. The annual report shall be written in such a manner as to permit a readily understandable means for analyzing the financial condition and performances of the System for the fiscal year. In order to standardize the information and analysis of the financial condition of the System, the Board shall provide information regarding the financial and actuarial condition of the System using assumptions or requirements as hereinafter required for the report stating the condition of the System as of July 1, 2002, and for each subsequent reporting date, which information shall be contained in an appendix or addendum to the annual report. For purposes other than the reporting requirements contained in the appendix or addendum, all actuarial and economic assumptions shall be those assumptions adopted by the System in its annual actuarial valuation. The appendix or addendum shall contain a statement of the financial condition of the System:

1. Using an assumed rate of return of seven and one-half percent (7.5%), net of investment expenses, per annum, compounded annually;

2. Using an actuarial assumption regarding cost-of-living adjustments for the System of two percent (2%) annually;

3. That relies upon the use of appropriate preretirement, postretirement and disability retirement information using generational projections taken from the RP-2000 Mortality Tables, published by the Society of Actuaries;

4. Which accurately and completely summarizes all sources of system assets, other than employee contributions, which shall include, but not be limited to, the total of all employer contributions, any dedicated tax or fee revenue of whatever kind or however denominated, and the total amount of any other source of revenue which accrues to the System, other than return on investments, such as federal monies used for the purpose of making employer contributions; and

5. Using an assumption that the unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities of the System are amortized over a period of thirty (30) years, in a manner consistent with the Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement Number 25.

H. The State Board shall adopt a cost of living adjustment actuarial assumption in its annual actuarial valuation report.

SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 11 O.S. 2001, Section 50-111.4, as amended by Section 4, Chapter 137, O.S.L. 2003 (11 O.S. Supp. 2003, Section 50-111.4), is amended to read as follows:

Section 50-111.4 A. The State Board shall adopt rules for computation of the purchase price for transferred credited service. These rules shall base the purchase price for each year purchased on the actuarial cost of the incremental projected benefits to be purchased. The purchase price shall represent the present value of the incremental projected benefits discounted according to the member's age at the time of purchase. Incremental projected benefits shall be the difference between the projected benefit said member would receive without purchasing the transferred credited service and the projected benefit after purchase of the transferred credited service computed as of the earliest age at which the member would be able to retire. Said computation shall assume an unreduced benefit and be computed using interest and mortality assumptions consistent with the actuarial assumptions adopted by the Board of Trustees for purposes of preparing the annual actuarial evaluation.

B. In the event that the member is unable to pay the purchase price provided for in this section by the due date, the State Board shall permit the members to amortize the purchase price over a period not to exceed sixty (60) months. Said payments shall be made by payroll deductions unless the State Board permits an alternate payment source. The amortization shall include interest in an amount not to exceed the actuarially assumed interest rate adopted by the State Board for investment earnings each year. Any member who ceases to make payment, terminates, retires or dies before completing the payments provided for in this section shall receive prorated service credit for only those payments made, unless the unpaid balance is paid by said member, his or her estate or successor in interest within six (6) months after said member's death, termination of employment or retirement, provided no retirement benefits shall be payable until the unpaid balance is paid, unless said member or beneficiary affirmatively waives the additional six-month period in which to pay the unpaid balance. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, effective July 1, 2003, lump-sum payments for a transferred credited service purchase may be made by trustee-to-trustee transfers from a Section 403(b) annuity, an eligible Section 457(b) plan, and/or a Section 401(a) qualified plan. A member making installment payments on or after July 1, 2003, shall have the option of making a cash lump-sum payments for all or part of the balance of the remaining payments payment of the actuarial purchase price with interest due through the date of payment by trustee-to-trustee transfers from a Section 403(b) annuity, an eligible Section 457(b) plan and/or a Section 401(a) qualified plan. The State Board shall promulgate such rules as are necessary to implement the provisions of this subsection.

SECTION 5. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 50-136.6 of Title 11, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Except as provided in subsection B of this section, any person receiving benefits from the Oklahoma Police Pension and Retirement System as of June 30, 2003, who continues to receive benefits on or after July 1, 2004, shall receive a four-percent increase in said benefits beginning in July 2004.

B. Any increase in benefits a person is eligible to receive pursuant to repealed Section 50-120 of Title 11 of the Oklahoma Statutes, after June 30, 2002, shall be offset by the increase in benefits, if any, provided by this section.

SECTION 6. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 2001, Section 1102A, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1102A. A. Any Justice or judge of the Supreme Court, Court of Criminal Appeals, Court of Appeals, Workers' Compensation Court or district court who has reached the age of fifty-five (55) years and has served as Justice or judge of any of the named courts in the State of Oklahoma for a period of fifteen (15) continuous years or longer, next preceding application for disability retirement, may receive as retirement disability compensation a maximum monthly benefit in an amount equal to four percent (4%) of the average monthly salary received by ~~him~~ the member when ~~he~~ the member served as a Justice or judge based on the last three (3) years of active service multiplied by the total number of years of service on the named courts. But in no event may such retirement disability of a Justice or judge who incurs a disability before July 1, 2004, exceed seventy percent (70%) or one hundred percent (100%), for a Justice or judge who incurs a disability after June 30, 2004, of the average monthly salary based on the ~~last~~ highest three (3) years of active service and found applicable to such Justice or judge at the time of retirement, when such Justice or judge is ordered to retire from office with compensation by the Court on the Judiciary for the reason of physical disability preventing the proper performance of official duty. The decree of the Court on the

Judiciary shall set forth the amount of compensation the Justice or judge so retired shall receive, which compensation shall be payable out of the State Judicial Retirement Fund.

B. 1. The surviving spouse of a deceased Justice or judge having at least eight (8) years of service shall be entitled to receive survivor benefits in the amount herein prescribed, if married to the decedent ninety (90) days prior to the termination of ~~his~~ the member's employment as a Justice or judge and has been so married to ~~him~~ the member continuously for a period of at least three (3) years immediately preceding his death, provided that the required additional contributions are made.

2. Survivor benefits shall be payable in accordance with Section ~~1104A~~ 1001 et seq. of this title if the surviving spouse has then attained the age of sixty (60) years or, if then under such age, immediately upon his attainment of that age or if the surviving spouse is disabled or when the deceased member served for a minimum of ten (10) years and the Workers' Compensation Court determines that the death arose out of and in the course of employment or when the deceased member would have met the requirements for retirement, whichever occurs first.

3. The amount of the benefits the surviving spouse may receive shall be as follows:

- a. fifty percent (50%) of the amount of benefits the deceased Justice or judge was receiving immediately prior to ~~his~~ the member's death, or
- b. fifty percent (50%) of the amount the deceased Justice or judge would have been entitled to receive on the date of ~~his~~ the member's death, the annual rate of such benefits to be determined without regard to whether the deceased Justice or judge had attained minimum retirement age at the time of ~~his~~ the member's death, and

c. such additional amounts as the surviving spouse is eligible for in accordance with Section 1103A of this title.

4. Remarriage of a surviving spouse, prior to the spouse reaching the age of sixty (60) years, shall disqualify the spouse for the receipt of survivor benefits. The disqualification of survivor benefits, pursuant to this paragraph, shall not apply to remarriages on or after July 1, 1998.

C. Any Justice, judge or surviving spouse meeting the requirements for disability retirement benefits as provided in this section may make application to the Court on the Judiciary for a determination of disability retirement benefits. The Justice, judge or surviving spouse making application shall be required by the Court on the Judiciary to be examined by two recognized physicians selected by the Court to determine the extent of disability of such applicant. The examining physicians shall furnish the Court a detailed written report of the disability of the examined applicant. The Court shall then determine whether the applicant, if ~~he~~ the member is a Justice or judge, has a disability preventing the proper performance of ~~his~~ the member's official duties. If the applicant is a surviving spouse the court shall determine whether such surviving spouse is disabled. If the Court determines that the applicant is disabled, the Court shall order disability retirement benefits as provided by this section. The Court shall require all persons receiving disability benefits to submit to a physical examination once each year for the three (3) years following the start of disability benefits. The Court shall select two physicians to examine such persons and if they are found no longer disabled by the examining physicians the Court shall terminate such disability benefits. The Justice, judge or surviving spouse shall then be entitled to receive such other benefits as they may be entitled to by law.

SECTION 7. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 2001, Section 1103.1, as amended by Section 2, Chapter 438, O.S.L. 2002 (20 O.S. Supp. 2003, Section 1103.1), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1103.1 A. On and after January 1, 2001, the Administrative Director of the Courts, in addition to the members' contributions, shall transfer monthly amounts for deposit in the State Judicial Retirement Fund as set out in Section 1309 of ~~Title 20 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title equal to two percent (2.0%) of the monthly total actual paid gross salaries of the members of the Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges. Effective July 1, 2005, such amounts transferred by the Administrative Director of the Courts shall be as follows:

<u>Fiscal Year Ending</u>	<u>Percentage of Contribution</u>
June 30, 2006	3.0%
June 30, 2007	4.0%
June 30, 2008	5.5%
June 30, 2009	7.0%
June 30, 2010	8.5%
June 30, 2011	10.0%
June 30, 2012	11.5%
June 30, 2013	13.0%
June 30, 2014	14.5%
June 30, 2015	16.0%
June 30, 2016	17.5%
June 30, 2017	19.0%
June 30, 2018	20.5%
June 30, 2019 and thereafter	22.0%

B. Regardless of the contribution rate as set out in subsection A of this section, the State Judicial Retirement Fund shall not be allowed to have a funded ratio below one hundred percent (100%). The Board of Trustees of the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System is authorized to adjust such contribution rate annually, upon

the consideration of an actuarial recommendation, to prevent a funded ratio below one hundred percent (100%). The Board of Trustees shall make an annual report concerning its decision to increase the contribution rate. The report shall be distributed to the Governor, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Legislative Service Bureau, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

C. The Administrative Director of the Courts shall remit to the System all required retirement contributions due on a monthly basis. All required court and employee contributions and supporting documentation are due and must be received by the System on or before the fifteenth day of the month following the month for which the contributions are due. Court and employee contributions remitted to the System after thirty (30) days from the above due date shall be subject to a monthly late charge of one and one-half percent (1.5%) of the unpaid balance to be paid by the Administrative Director of the Courts to the System.

SECTION 8. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 2001, Section 1103A, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1103A. A. Within thirty (30) days of becoming a member of the System each married member of the Judicial Retirement System shall file with the System a written statement to bring his or her spouse under survivor benefit provisions of this act. Members who are unmarried at the effective date of this act or at the time of their initial employment shall have thirty (30) days from the date of their marriage to file with the System a written statement to bring the spouse under the survivor benefit provisions of this act.

B. Effective July 1, 1999, each married member of the System shall bring his or her spouse under the survivor benefit provisions of this act if said election has not previously been made.

C. Contributions to provide the survivor benefits as set forth in Section 1103 of this title shall be paid by the Justice or judge

beginning no later than July 1, 1999, or the first day of the month following the date of the marriage thereafter.

D. The provisions for survivor benefits required by this section may be waived by consent of the spouse, if waiver is made in writing within thirty (30) days from July 1, 1999, if said election has not previously been made, or within thirty (30) days following the date of the marriage thereafter. The waiver of the surviving spouse provision is irrevocable.

E. 1. Effective October 1, 2004, any surviving spouse of a deceased Justice or judge shall be eligible to receive an additional monthly survivor benefit provided:

- a. the Justice or judge retired or died on or after July 1, 1999, and
- b. the Justice or judge paid the required contributions to provide the survivor benefits as set forth in Section 1103 of this title prior to July 1, 1999, and
- c. those required additional contributions have not been refunded to the Justice or judge or to a beneficiary, and
- d. the Justice or judge and the surviving spouse remained continuously married, and
- e. the Justice or judge continued to make such required contributions to provide the survivor benefits up to the time of retirement or death.

2. Any such eligible surviving spouse of a deceased Justice or judge shall receive an additional monthly survivor benefit, based upon the length of payments of the required contributions to provide the survivor benefits as set forth in Section 1103 of this title which were made prior to July 1, 1999, as follows:

<u>Length of Payments</u>	<u>Survivor Benefit % Increase</u>
<u>1 month - 9 years, 11 months</u>	<u>5%</u>
<u>10 years - 19 years, 11 months</u>	<u>10%</u>

20 years or more

15%

3. The survivor benefit increase shall be in addition to the fifty percent (50%) survivor benefit otherwise payable pursuant to Section 1102A of this title. An eligible surviving spouse of a deceased Justice or judge who, on September 30, 2004, is receiving benefits from the Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges shall be entitled to receive the survivor benefit increase set forth above beginning with the October 1, 2004, monthly benefit payment. An eligible surviving spouse of a deceased Justice or judge who begins receiving benefits from the Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges after September 30, 2004, shall be entitled to receive the survivor benefit increase set forth above beginning with the first month of survivor benefit payments.

SECTION 9. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1103H of Title 20, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

On or before November 1, 2004, the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System shall conduct a study pursuant to this section. The study shall focus on restructuring the Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges to create a uniform contribution rate for all members of the System for the purpose of providing survivor benefits. The Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System shall issue a report based on the findings of the study and shall include any recommendations for the implementation of a uniform contribution rate. The report shall be delivered to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Chair of the Retirement and Group Health Committee of the Senate, the Chair of the Retirement Laws Committee of the House of Representatives and the Speaker of the House of Representatives no later than December 1, 2004.

SECTION 10. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 2001, Section 1104, as amended by Section 3, Chapter 438, O.S.L. 2002 (20 O.S. Supp. 2003, Section 1104), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1104. A. Each justice or judge who is a member of The Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges upon retirement after June 30, 2004, shall be entitled to receive as retirement compensation, until changed by the Legislature, an annual amount, each monthly payment of which shall be in an amount equal to four percent (4%) of the average monthly salary received by him or her as a justice or judge based on the ~~last~~ highest three (3) years of active service multiplied by the number of total years of service. The amounts of compensation reported to the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System for the Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges, by the Office of Personnel Management prior to June 30, 2004, may be conclusively presumed as valid regarding the source of the compensation reported as salary for purposes of the accuracy of the employees' contributions and the computation of salary for the calculation of benefits. This presumption shall not include any computation error made by the Office of Personnel Management or the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System on behalf of the Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges. Provided, however, that no justice or judge retiring after June 30, 2004, may receive a monthly retirement benefit in excess of ~~seventy-two and one-half percent (72 1/2%)~~ one hundred percent (100%) of the average monthly salary based on the ~~last~~ highest three (3) years of active service and found applicable to such justice or judge at the time of retirement. Retirement compensation shall be payable monthly out of the State Judicial Retirement Fund by warrants prepared by the Executive Director of the Public Employees Retirement System and issued by the State Treasurer.

B. Effective July 1, 1997, each justice or judge who was a member of The Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges at the time of retirement who initially began receiving benefits before July 1, 1995, or their eligible surviving spouse, may elect on or before July 1, 1998, to receive as retirement compensation,

prospectively only from the date of election, an annual amount, each monthly payment of which shall be in an amount equal to four percent (4%) of the average monthly salary received by the justice or judge based on the last three (3) years of active service multiplied by the number of total years of service of the justice or judge. Provided, however, that no justice or judge may receive a monthly retirement benefit in excess of seventy percent (70%) of the average monthly salary based on the last three (3) years of active service and found applicable to the justice or judge at the time of retirement. No surviving spouse shall receive a retirement benefit pursuant to this subsection in excess of what is allowed under this act. Retirement compensation shall be payable monthly out of the State Judicial Retirement Fund by warrants prepared by the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System and issued by the State Treasurer.

SECTION 11. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1104H of Title 20, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

Any person receiving benefits from the Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges as of June 30, 2003, who continues to receive benefits on or after July 1, 2004, shall receive a four-percent increase in said benefits beginning in July 2004.

SECTION 12. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 2001, Section 1108, as last amended by Section 15, Chapter 406, O.S.L. 2003 (20 O.S. Supp. 2003, Section 1108), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1108. A. The Board of Trustees of the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System shall have the responsibility for management of the Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges and the State Judicial Retirement Fund. All benefits payable under The Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges, refunds of contributions and overpayments, purchases or investments under the law, and all expenses in connection with the System shall be paid

from the Oklahoma Judicial Retirement Fund. The State Judicial Retirement Fund shall be invested and managed in the same manner as now or hereinafter provided by law for the investment and management of funds belonging to the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System. The Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges shall be an instrumentality of the State of Oklahoma. The System shall be vested with the powers and duties specified in this act and such other powers as may be necessary to enable it, its officers, employees, and agents to carry out fully and effectively the purposes and intent of this act.

1. The Board shall distribute the corpus and income of the System to the members and their beneficiaries in accordance with the System's law. At no time prior to the satisfaction of all liabilities with respect to members and their beneficiaries shall any part of the corpus and income be used for, or diverted to, purposes other than the exclusive benefit of the members and their beneficiaries.

2. The Board may not engage in a transaction prohibited by Section 503(b) of the federal Internal Revenue Code.

3. The Board shall be responsible for the policies and rules for the general administration of the System, subject to the provisions of this act. Except as specifically provided in this act, the Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges shall generally be managed in the same manner as now or hereinafter provided by law or by rule for the management of the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System.

4. The Board shall establish rules for the administration of the System and for the transaction of its business consistent with law, which rules shall be promulgated in compliance with the Administrative Procedures Act.

5. The Board may adopt all necessary actuarial tables to be used in the operation of the System as recommended by the actuary

and may compile such additional data as may be necessary for required actuarial valuation calculations.

6. All decisions of the Board as to questions of fact shall be final and conclusive on all persons except for the right of review as provided by law and except for fraud or such gross mistake of fact as to have effect equivalent to fraud.

7. Any person who shall knowingly make any false statement, or who shall falsify or permit to be falsified any record necessary for carrying out the intent of this act for the purpose of committing fraud, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine not exceeding Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) or by imprisonment for not exceeding one (1) year. Should any error in any records of the Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges result in any member or beneficiary receiving more or less than he or she would have been entitled to receive had the records been correct, the Board shall correct such error, and, as far as practicable, make future payments in such manner that the actuarial equivalent of the benefit to which such member or beneficiary was entitled shall be paid, and to this end, may recover any overpayments.

B. The Board of Trustees of the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System shall compile a quarterly financial report of all the funds of the State Judicial Retirement Fund on a fiscal year basis. The report shall be compiled pursuant to uniform reporting standards prescribed by the Oklahoma State Pension Commission for all state retirement systems. The report shall include several relevant measures of investment value, including acquisition cost and current fair market value with appropriate summaries of total holdings and returns. The report shall contain combined and individual rate of returns of the investment managers by category of investment, over periods of time. The Board of Trustees shall include in the quarterly reports all commissions, fees or payments

for investment services performed on behalf of the Board of Trustees with respect to the State Judicial Retirement Fund. The report shall be distributed to the Governor, the Oklahoma State Pension Commission, the Legislative Service Bureau, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

C. There is hereby created the Retirement Medical Benefit Fund. The fund shall be maintained as a subaccount of the State Judicial Retirement Fund. The Retirement Medical Benefit Fund is composed of all assets which may be contributed to this subaccount to pay the retirement system's portion of the monthly retiree health insurance premium benefit described by Section 1316.2 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. All such allocated assets and any earnings thereon in the Retirement Medical Benefit Fund shall be held for the exclusive purpose of providing retiree medical benefits. The Retirement Medical Benefit Fund is to be administered in accordance with the requirements of Section 401(h) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended from time to time. The Board of Trustees may promulgate such rules as are necessary to implement the funding and administration of the fund pursuant to the provisions of this subsection.

D. After July 1 and before December 1 of each year, the Board of Trustees of the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System shall publish widely an annual report presented in simple and easily understood language pursuant to uniform reporting standards prescribed by the Oklahoma State Pension Commission for all state retirement systems. The report shall be submitted to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Oklahoma State Pension Commission and the members of the System. The annual report shall cover the operation of the System during the past fiscal year, including income, disbursements, and the financial condition of the System at the end of the fiscal year. The annual report shall also contain the

information issued in the quarterly reports required pursuant to subsection B of this section as well as a summary of the results of the most recent actuarial valuation to include total assets, total liabilities, unfunded liability or overfunded status, contributions and any other information deemed relevant by the Board of Trustees. The annual report shall be written in such a manner as to permit a readily understandable means for analyzing the financial condition and performance of the System for the fiscal year. In order to standardize the information and analysis of the financial condition of the System, the Board shall provide information regarding the financial and actuarial condition of the System using assumptions or requirements as hereinafter required for the report stating the condition of the System as of July 1, 2002, and for each subsequent reporting date, which information shall be contained in an appendix or addendum to the annual report. For purposes other than the reporting requirements contained in the appendix or addendum, all actuarial and economic assumptions shall be those assumptions adopted by the System in its annual actuarial valuation. The appendix or addendum shall contain a statement of the financial condition of the System:

1. Using an assumed rate of return of seven and one-half percent (7.5%), net of investment expenses, per annum, compounded annually;

2. Using an actuarial assumption regarding cost-of-living adjustments for the System of two percent (2%) annually;

3. That relies upon the use of appropriate preretirement, postretirement and disability retirement information using generational projections taken from the RP-2000 Mortality Tables, published by the Society of Actuaries;

4. Which accurately and completely summarizes all sources of system assets, other than employee contributions, which shall include, but not be limited to, the total of all employer

contributions, any dedicated tax or fee revenue of whatever kind or however denominated, and the total amount of any other source of revenue which accrues to the System, other than return on investments, such as federal monies used for the purpose of making employer contributions; and

5. Using an assumption that the unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities of the System are amortized over a period of thirty (30) years, in a manner consistent with the Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement Number 25.

H. The Board shall adopt a cost of living adjustment actuarial assumption in its annual actuarial valuation report.

SECTION 13. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 2001, Section 1111, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1111. A. Except as otherwise provided by this section, any annuity, benefit, fund, property or right created by or accruing to any person under any provision of The Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges is hereby made and declared exempt from and not subject to execution, garnishment, or attachment or any other process or claim whatsoever, and shall be unassignable except as specifically provided by said act. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board of Trustees may offset any benefits of a member or beneficiary to pay a judgment or settlement against a member or beneficiary for a crime involving the System, for a fraud or breach of the member's fiduciary duty to the System, or for funds or monies incorrectly paid to a member or a beneficiary, provided such offset is in accordance with the requirements of Section 401(a)(13) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. The offset applies to any benefits which may otherwise be payable to a member or beneficiary from any plan or fund which is administered by the Board of Trustees of the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System.

B. 1. The provisions of subsection A of this section shall not apply to a qualified domestic order as provided pursuant to this subsection.

2. The term "qualified domestic order" means an order issued by a district court of this state pursuant to the domestic relation laws of the State of Oklahoma which relates to the provision of marital property rights to a spouse or former spouse of a member or provision of support for a minor child or children and which creates or recognizes the existence of the right of an alternate payee, or assigns to an alternate payee the right, to receive a portion of the benefits payable with respect to a member of the System.

3. For purposes of the payment of marital property, to qualify as an alternate payee, a spouse or former spouse must have been married to the related member for a period of not less than thirty (30) continuous months immediately preceding the commencement of the proceedings from which the qualified domestic order issues.

4. A qualified domestic order is valid and binding on The Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges and the related member only if it meets the requirements of this subsection.

5. A qualified domestic order shall clearly specify:

- a. the name and last-known mailing address (if any) of the member and the name and mailing address of the alternate payee covered by the order,
- b. the amount or percentage of the member's benefits to be paid by The Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges to the alternate payee,
- c. the number of payments or period to which such order applies,
- d. the characterization of the benefit as to marital property rights or child support, and
- e. each plan to which such order applies.

6. A qualified domestic order meets the requirements of this subsection only if such order:

- a. does not require the System to provide any type or form of benefit, or any option not otherwise provided under state law as relates to The Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges,
- b. does not require The Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges to provide increased benefits, and
- c. does not require the payment of benefits to an alternate payee which are required to be paid to another alternate payee pursuant to another order previously determined to be a qualified domestic order or an order recognized by The Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges as a valid order prior to the effective date of this act.

7. A qualified domestic order shall not require payment of benefits to an alternate payee prior to the actual retirement date or withdrawal of the related member and shall not attach to or require the payment of any amount of benefits related to a deferred compensation plan or program authorized by Section 1701 et seq. of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

8. The obligation of The Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges to pay an alternate payee pursuant to a qualified domestic order shall cease upon the death of the related member.

9. This subsection shall not be subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), 29 U.S.C.A. Section 1001, et seq., as amended from time to time, or rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, and court cases interpreting said act.

10. The Board of Trustees of the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System shall promulgate such rules as are necessary to implement the provisions of this subsection.

11. An alternate payee who has acquired beneficiary rights pursuant to a valid qualified domestic order must fully comply with all provisions of the rules promulgated by the Board of Trustees of the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System pursuant to this subsection in order to continue receiving his or her benefit.

SECTION 14. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2001, Section 2-303.1, as last amended by Section 31, Chapter 3, O.S.L. 2003 (47 O.S. Supp. 2003, Section 2-303.1), is amended to read as follows:

Section 2-303.1 A. The Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement Board shall discharge its duties with respect to the System solely in the interest of the participants and beneficiaries and:

1. For the exclusive purpose of:

- a. providing benefits to participants and their beneficiaries, and
- b. defraying reasonable expenses of administering the System;

2. With the care, skill, prudence, and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing that a prudent person acting in a like capacity and familiar with such matters would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims;

3. By diversifying the investments of the System so as to minimize the risk of large losses, unless under the circumstances it is clearly prudent not to do so; and

4. In accordance with the laws, documents and instruments governing the System.

B. The Board may procure insurance indemnifying the members of the Board from personal loss or accountability from liability resulting from a member's action or inaction as a member of the Board.

C. The Board may establish an investment committee. The investment committee shall be composed of not more than five (5) members of the Board appointed by the president of the Board. The

committee shall make recommendations to the full Board on all matters related to the choice of custodians and managers of the assets of the System, on the establishment of investment and fund management guidelines, and in planning future investment policy. The committee shall have no authority to act on behalf of the Board in any circumstances whatsoever. No recommendation of the committee shall have effect as an action of the Board nor take effect without the approval of the Board as provided by law.

D. The Board shall retain qualified investment managers to provide for the investment of the monies of the System. The investment managers shall be chosen by a solicitation of proposals on a competitive bid basis pursuant to standards set by the Board. Subject to the overall investment guidelines set by the Board, the investment managers shall have full discretion in the management of those monies of the System allocated to the investment managers. The Board shall manage those monies not specifically allocated to the investment managers. The monies of the System allocated to the investment managers shall be actively managed by the investment managers, which may include selling investments and realizing losses if such action is considered advantageous to longer term return maximization. Because of the total return objective, no distinction shall be made for management and performance evaluation purposes between realized and unrealized capital gains and losses.

E. All assets of the System shall be held in trust for the exclusive purpose of providing benefits for the members and beneficiaries of the System, including defraying reasonable expenses of administering the System, and shall not be encumbered for or diverted to any other purposes. Funds and revenues for investment by the investment managers or the Board shall be placed with a custodian selected by the Board. The custodian shall be a bank or trust company offering pension fund master trustee and master custodial services. The custodian shall be chosen by a solicitation

of proposals on a competitive bid basis pursuant to standards set by the Board. In compliance with the investment policy guidelines of the Board, the custodian bank or trust company shall be contractually responsible for ensuring that all monies of the System are invested in income-producing investment vehicles at all times. If a custodian bank or trust company has not received direction from the investment managers of the System as to the investment of the monies of the System in specific investment vehicles, the custodian bank or trust company shall be contractually responsible to the Board for investing the monies in appropriately collateralized short-term interest-bearing investment vehicles.

F. Prior to August 1 of each year, the Board shall develop a written investment plan for the System.

G. The Board shall compile a quarterly financial report of all the funds of the System on a fiscal year basis. The report shall be compiled pursuant to uniform reporting standards prescribed by the Oklahoma State Pension Commission for all state retirement systems. The report shall include several relevant measures of investment value, including acquisition cost and current fair market value with appropriate summaries of total holdings and returns. The report shall contain combined and individual rate of returns of the investment managers by category of investment, over periods of time. The Board shall include in the quarterly reports all commissions, fees or payments for investment services performed on behalf of the Board. The report shall be distributed to the Governor, the Oklahoma State Pension Commission, the Legislative Service Bureau, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

H. After July 1 and before October 31 of each year, the Board shall publish widely an annual report presented in simple and easily understood language pursuant to uniform reporting standards prescribed by the Oklahoma State Pension Commission for all state

retirement systems. The report shall be submitted to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Oklahoma State Pension Commission and the members of the System. The annual report shall cover the operation of the System during the past fiscal year, including income, disbursements, and the financial condition of the System at the end of the fiscal year. The annual report shall also contain the information issued in the quarterly reports required pursuant to subsection G of this section as well as a summary of the results of the most recent actuarial valuation to include total assets, total liabilities, unfunded liability or over funded status, contributions and any other information deemed relevant by the Board. The annual report shall be written in such a manner as to permit a readily understandable means for analyzing the financial condition and performance of the System for the fiscal year. The annual financial statements must be audited and filed in accordance with the requirements set forth for financial statement audits in Section 212A of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. In order to standardize the information and analysis of the financial condition of the System, the Board shall provide information regarding the financial and actuarial condition of the System using assumptions or requirements as hereinafter required for the report stating the condition of the System as of July 1, 2002, and for each subsequent reporting date, which information shall be contained in an appendix or addendum to the annual report. For purposes other than the reporting requirements contained in the appendix or addendum, all actuarial and economic assumptions shall be those assumptions adopted by the System in its annual actuarial valuation. The appendix or addendum shall contain a statement of the financial condition of the System:

1. Using an assumed rate of return of seven and one-half percent (7.5%), net of investment expenses, per annum, compounded annually;

2. Using an actuarial assumption regarding cost-of-living adjustments for the System of two percent (2%) annually;

3. That relies upon the use of appropriate preretirement, postretirement and disability retirement information using generational projections taken from the RP-2000 Mortality Tables, published by the Society of Actuaries;

4. Which accurately and completely summarizes all sources of system assets, other than employee contributions, which shall include, but not be limited to, the total of all employer contributions, any dedicated tax or fee revenue of whatever kind or however denominated, and the total amount of any other source of revenue which accrues to the System, other than return on investments, such as federal monies used for the purpose of making employer contributions; and

5. Using an assumption that the unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities of the System are amortized over a period of thirty (30) years, in a manner consistent with the Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement Number 25.

I. The Board may retain an attorney licensed to practice law in this state. The attorney shall serve at the pleasure of the Board for such compensation as set by the Board. The Attorney General shall furnish such legal services as may be requested by the Board.

J. All information, documents and copies thereof contained in a member's retirement file shall be given confidential treatment and shall not be made public by the System without the prior written consent of the member to which it pertains, but shall be subject only to court order. Provided, the System, its employees or attorneys, may use such records in defense of any action brought against the System.

K. Effective July 1, 1999, the Board is hereby authorized to do all acts and things necessary and proper to carry out the purpose of the System and to make the least costly amendments and changes, if any, as may be necessary to qualify the System under the applicable sections of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

L. The Board shall adopt a cost of living adjustment actuarial assumption in its annual actuarial valuation report.

SECTION 15. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2-305.9 of Title 47, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Except as provided in subsection B of this section, any person receiving benefits from the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System as of June 30, 2003, who continues to receive benefits on or after July 1, 2004, shall receive a four-percent increase in said benefits beginning in July 2004.

B. Any increase in benefits a person is eligible to receive pursuant to subsection B, C or D of Section 2-305 of Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes, after June 30, 2004, shall be offset by the increase in benefits, if any, provided by this section.

SECTION 16. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 17-101, is amended to read as follows:

Section 17-101. The following words and phrases as used in this act, unless a different meaning is clearly required by the context, shall have the following meanings:

(1) "Retirement system" shall mean the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma, as defined in Section 17-102 of this title.

(2) "Public school" shall mean a school district, a state college or university, the State Board of Education, the State Board of Career and Technology Education and any other state educational entity conducted within the state supported wholly or partly by public funds and operating under the authority and supervision of a

legally constituted board or agency having authority and responsibility for any function of public education.

(3) "Classified personnel" shall mean any teacher, principal, superintendent, supervisor, administrator, librarian, certified or registered nurse, college professor, or college president whose salary is paid wholly or in part from public funds. An employee of any state department, board, board of regents or board of trustees, who is in a supervisory or an administrative position, the function of which is primarily devoted to public education, shall be considered classified personnel under the meaning of this act, at the discretion of the Board of Trustees of the Teachers' Retirement System. The term "teacher" shall also include instructors and counselors employed by the Department of Corrections and holding valid teaching certificates issued by the State Department of Education. Provided, that a person employed by the Department of Corrections as an instructor or counselor shall have been actively engaged in the teaching profession for a period of not less than three (3) years prior to employment to be eligible to participate in the Oklahoma Teachers' Retirement System. The Department of Corrections shall contribute the employer's share to the Oklahoma Teachers' Retirement System.

(4) "Nonclassified optional personnel" shall include cooks, janitors, maintenance personnel not in a supervisory capacity, bus drivers, noncertified or nonregistered nurses, noncertified librarians, and clerical employees of the public schools, state colleges, universities or any state department, board, board of regents or board of trustees, the functions of which are primarily devoted to public education and whose salaries are paid wholly or in part from public funds.

(5) "Employer" shall mean the state and any of its designated agents or agencies with responsibility and authority for public education, such as boards of education of elementary and independent

school districts, boards of regents, boards of control or any other agency of and within the state by which a person may be employed for service in public education.

(6) "Member" shall mean any teacher or other employee included in the membership of the system as provided in Section 17-103 of this title.

(7) "Board of Trustees" shall mean the board provided for in Section 17-106 of this title to administer the retirement system.

(8) "Service" shall mean service as a classified or nonclassified optional employee in the public school system, or any other service devoted primarily to public education in the state.

(9) "Prior service" shall mean service rendered prior to July 1, 1943.

(10) "Membership service" shall mean service as a member of the classified or nonclassified personnel as defined in paragraphs (3) and (4) of this section.

(11) "Creditable service" shall mean membership service plus any prior service authorized under this title.

(12) "Annuitant" shall mean any person in receipt of a retirement allowance as provided in this title.

(13) "Accumulated contributions" shall mean the sum of all amounts deducted from the compensation of a member and credited to his individual account in the Teacher Savings Fund, together with interest as of June 30, 1968.

(14) "Earnable compensation" shall mean the full rate of the compensation that would be payable to a member if he worked the full normal working time.

(15) "Average salary":

- (a) for those members who joined the System prior to July 1, 1992, shall mean the average of the salaries for the three (3) years on which the highest contributions to the Teachers' Retirement System was paid not to

exceed the maximum contribution level specified in Section 17-116.2 of this title or the maximum compensation level specified in subsection (28) of this section. Provided, no member shall retire with an average salary in excess of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) unless the member has made the required election and paid the required contributions on such salary in excess of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00), and

(b) for those members who join the System after June 30, 1992, shall mean the average of the salaries for five (5) consecutive years on which the highest contribution to the Teachers' Retirement System was paid. Only salary on which required contributions have been made may be used in computing average salary.

(16) "Annuity" shall mean payments for life derived from the "accumulated contributions" of a member. All annuities shall be payable in equal monthly installments.

(17) "Pension" shall mean payments for life derived from money provided by the employer. All pensions shall be payable in equal monthly installments.

(18) "Monthly retirement allowance" is one-twelfth (1/12) of the annual retirement allowance which shall be payable monthly.

(19) "Retirement Benefit Fund" shall mean the fund from which all retirement benefits shall be paid based on such mortality tables as shall be adopted by the Board of Trustees.

(20) "Actuary" shall mean a person especially skilled through training and experience in financial calculation respecting the expectancy and duration of life.

(21) "Actuarial equivalent" shall mean a benefit of equal value when computed upon the basis of such mortality and other tables as shall be adopted by the Board of Trustees.

(22) The masculine pronoun, whenever used, shall include the feminine.

(23) "Actuarially determined cost" shall mean the single sum which is actuarially equivalent in value to a specified pension amount as determined on the basis of mortality and interest assumptions adopted by the Board of Trustees.

(24) "Normal retirement age" means age sixty-two (62) or the age at which the sum of a member's age and number of years of creditable service total eighty (80), whichever occurs first.

(25) "Regular annual compensation" means salary plus fringe benefits, excluding the flexible benefit allowance pursuant to ~~Section 7 of this act~~ Section 26-105 of this title and for purposes pursuant to Section 17-101 et seq. of this title. For purposes of this definition, regular annual compensation shall include all ~~normal periodic~~ payments as provided in subsection D of Section 17-116.2 of this title.

(26) "Teacher" means classified personnel and nonclassified optional personnel.

(27) "Active classroom teacher" means a person employed by a school district to teach students specifically identified classes for specifically identified subjects during the course of a semester, and who holds a valid certificate or license issued by and in accordance with the rules and regulations of the State Board of Education.

(28) "Maximum compensation level" shall mean:

- (a) Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) for credited service authorized and performed prior to July 1, 1995, for members not electing a higher maximum compensation level,

- (b) Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) for credited service authorized and performed prior to July 1, 1995, for members electing a maximum compensation level in excess of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00),
- (c) Twenty-seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$27,500.00) for members who, as of June 30, 1995, had elected to have a maximum compensation level not in excess of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00), and who were employed by an entity or institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education for credited service authorized and performed on or after July 1, 1995, but not later than June 30, 1996, if such member does not elect a higher maximum compensation level for this period as authorized by Section 17-116.2A of this title,
- (d) Thirty-two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$32,500.00) for members employed by a comprehensive university if the member meets the requirements imposed by Section 17-116.2A of this title and the member elects to impose a higher maximum compensation level for service performed on or after July 1, 1995, but not later than June 30, 1996,
- (e) Forty-four Thousand Dollars (\$44,000.00) for members who, as of June 30, 1995, had elected to have a maximum compensation level in excess of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00), and who were employed by an entity or institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education for credited service authorized and performed on or after July 1, 1995, but not later than June 30, 1996, if such member does not elect a higher maximum compensation level for this

period as authorized by Section 17-116.2A of this title,

(f) Forty-nine Thousand Dollars (\$49,000.00) for members employed by a comprehensive university if the member meets the requirements imposed by Section 17-116.2A of this title and the member elects to impose a higher maximum compensation level for service performed on or after July 1, 1995, but not later than June 30, 1996,

(g) the following amounts for credited service authorized and performed by members employed by a comprehensive university, based upon the election of the member in effect as of June 30, 1995:

1. for members who elected a maximum compensation level not in excess of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00):

(i) Thirty-two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$32,500.00) for service authorized and performed on or after July 1, 1996, but not later than June 30, 1997,

(ii) Thirty-seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$37,500.00) for service authorized and performed on or after July 1, 1997, but not later than June 30, 1998,

(iii) Forty-two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$42,500.00) for service authorized and performed on or after July 1, 1998, but not later than June 30, 2000,

(iv) Forty-seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$47,500.00) for service authorized and performed on or after July 1, 2000, but not later than June 30, 2001,

- (v) Fifty-two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$52,500.00) for service authorized and performed on or after July 1, 2001, but not later than June 30, 2002,
 - (vi) Fifty-seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$57,500.00) for service authorized and performed on or after July 1, 2002, but not later than June 30, 2003,
 - (vii) Sixty-two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$62,500.00) for service authorized and performed on or after July 1, 2003, but not later than June 30, 2004,
 - (viii) Sixty-seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$67,500.00) for service authorized and performed on or after July 1, 2004, but not later than June 30, 2005,
 - (ix) Seventy-two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$72,500.00) for service authorized and performed on or after July 1, 2005, but not later than June 30, 2006,
 - (x) Seventy-seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$77,500.00) for service authorized and performed on or after July 1, 2006, but not later than June 30, 2007,
 - (xi) the full amount of regular annual compensation for service authorized and performed on or after July 1, 2007, and
2. for members who elected a maximum compensation level in excess of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00):
- (i) Forty-nine Thousand Dollars (\$49,000.00) for service authorized and performed on or after

July 1, 1996, but not later than June 30,
1997,

- (ii) Fifty-four Thousand Dollars (\$54,000.00) for service authorized and performed on or after July 1, 1997, but not later than June 30, 1998,
- (iii) Fifty-nine Thousand Dollars (\$59,000.00) for service authorized and performed on or after July 1, 1998, but not later than June 30, 2000,
- (iv) Sixty-four Thousand Dollars (\$64,000.00) for service authorized and performed on or after July 1, 2000, but not later than June 30, 2001,
- (v) Sixty-nine Thousand Dollars (\$69,000.00) for service authorized and performed on or after July 1, 2001, but not later than June 30, 2002,
- (vi) Seventy-four Thousand Dollars (\$74,000.00) for service authorized and performed on or after July 1, 2002, but not later than June 30, 2003,
- (vii) Seventy-nine Thousand Dollars (\$79,000.00) for service authorized and performed on or after July 1, 2003, but not later than June 30, 2004,
- (viii) Eighty-four Thousand Dollars (\$84,000.00) for service authorized and performed on or after July 1, 2004, but not later than June 30, 2005,
- (ix) Eighty-nine Thousand Dollars (\$89,000.00) for service authorized and performed on or

after July 1, 2005, but not later than June 30, 2006,

(x) Ninety-four Thousand Dollars (\$94,000.00) for service authorized and performed on or after July 1, 2006, but not later than June 30, 2007,

(xi) the full amount of regular annual compensation for service authorized and performed on or after July 1, 2007,

(h) the full amount of regular annual compensation of:

1. a member of the retirement system not employed by an entity or institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education for all credited service authorized and performed on or after July 1, 1995,
2. a member of the retirement system first employed on or after July 1, 1995, by an entity or institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education for all credited service authorized and performed on or after July 1, 1995, but not later than June 30, 1996,
3. a member of the retirement system employed by an entity or institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, other than a comprehensive university, if the member elects to impose a higher maximum compensation level for service performed on or after July 1, 1995, but not later than June 30, 1996, pursuant to subsection B of Section 17-116.2A of this title,
4. a member of the retirement system who is first employed on or after July 1, 1996, by any entity or institution within The Oklahoma State System

of Higher Education, including a comprehensive university, for credited service authorized and performed on or after July 1, 1996,

5. a member of the retirement system who, as of July 1, 1996, is subject to a maximum compensation level pursuant to paragraph (g) of this subsection if the member terminates service with a comprehensive university and is subsequently reemployed by a comprehensive university, or
6. a member of the retirement system employed by a comprehensive university for all service performed on and after July 1, 2007.

(29) "Comprehensive university" shall mean:

- (a) the University of Oklahoma and all of its constituent agencies, including the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, the University of Oklahoma Law Center and the Geological Survey, and
- (b) Oklahoma State University and all of its constituent agencies, including the Oklahoma State University Agricultural Experiment Station, the Oklahoma State University Agricultural Extension Division, the Oklahoma State University College of Veterinary Medicine, the Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine, the Technical Branch at Oklahoma City and the Technical Branch at Okmulgee.

SECTION 17. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 17-105, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 326, O.S.L. 2003 (70 O.S. Supp. 2003, Section 17-105), is amended to read as follows:

Section 17-105. (1) (a) Any member who has attained age fifty-five (55) or who has completed thirty (30) years of creditable service, as defined in Section 17-101 of this title, or for any person who initially became a member prior to July 1, 1992,

regardless of whether there were breaks in service after July 1, 1992, whose age and number of years of creditable service total eighty (80) may be retired upon filing a written application for such retirement. Such a retirement date will also apply to any person who became a member of the sending system as defined in this act, prior to July 1, 1992, regardless of whether there were breaks in service after July 1, 1992. Any person who became a member after June 30, 1992, whose age and number of years of creditable service total ninety (90) may be retired upon filing a written application for such retirement. The application shall be filed on the form provided by the Board of Trustees for this purpose, not less than thirty (30) days nor more than ninety (90) days before the date of retirement.

(b) An individual who becomes a member of the Teachers' Retirement System after July 1, 1967, shall be employed by the public schools, state colleges or universities of Oklahoma for a minimum of five (5) years and be a contributing member of the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma for a minimum of five (5) years to qualify for monthly retirement benefits from the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma.

(c) Any member with five (5) or more years of Oklahoma teaching service and whose accumulated contributions during such period have not been withdrawn shall be given an indefinite extension of membership beginning with the sixth year following his or her last contributing membership and shall become eligible to apply for retirement and be retired upon attaining age fifty-five (55).

(d) Members currently teaching in the public schools of Oklahoma past the fiscal year during which age seventy (70) was attained and who have not retired shall be granted the privilege of making up the five percent (5%) contributions, plus interest, for the years taught after age seventy (70). Such member shall be given an indefinite extension of membership and be eligible to retire upon

the filing of proper application for retirement as hereinbefore provided.

(2) An unclassified optional member who has retired or who retires at sixty-two (62) years of age or older or whose retirement is because of disability shall have his or her minimum retirement benefits calculated on an average salary of Five Thousand Three Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$5,350.00) or, if a larger monthly allowance would result, an amount arrived at pursuant to application of the formula prescribed herein.

(3) No member shall receive a lesser retirement benefit than he or she would have received under the law in effect at the time he or she retired. Any individual under the Teachers' Retirement System, who through error in stating the title of the position which he or she held, may, at the discretion of the Board of Trustees, be changed from the nonclassified optional group to the classified group for the purpose of calculating retirement benefits.

Any individual regardless of residence, who has a minimum of ten (10) years of teaching in Oklahoma schools prior to July 1, 1943, or who taught in Oklahoma schools prior to 1934 and thereafter taught a minimum of ten (10) years and who does not qualify under the present retirement System, or who has a minimum of thirty (30) years of teaching in Oklahoma schools and has reached seventy (70) years of age prior to July 1, 1984, and is not otherwise eligible to receive any benefits from the retirement system shall receive a minimum of One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) per month in retirement benefits from the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma plus any general increase in benefits for annuitants as may be provided hereafter by the Legislature. Each individual must apply to the Teachers' Retirement System for such benefit and provide evidence to the Teachers' Retirement System that the service was actually rendered. The surviving spouse of any person who made application for the benefit provided for by this paragraph during his or her lifetime

but did not receive said benefit may submit an application to the System for payment of said benefit for those months during the lifetime of the deceased person that he or she was eligible for but did not receive the benefit. Upon approval of the application by the Board of Trustees, the benefit shall be paid to the surviving spouse in one lump sum.

(4) The value of each year of prior service is the total monthly retirement benefit divided by the number of years of creditable service.

(5) Upon application of a member who is actively engaged in teaching in Oklahoma or his or her employer, any member who has been a contributing member for ten (10) years may be retired by the Board of Trustees not less than thirty (30) days nor more than ninety (90) days subsequent to the execution and filing thereof, on a disability retirement allowance, provided that it is found by the Board of Trustees after medical examination of such member by a duly qualified physician that such member is mentally or physically incapacitated for further performance of duty, that such incapacity is likely to be permanent, and that such member should be retired. The Board of Trustees shall give due consideration to the conclusions and recommendations in the certified written report of the Medical Board of the Teachers' Retirement System regarding the disability application of such member. If a member is determined to be eligible for disability benefits pursuant to the Social Security System, then such determination shall entitle the member to the authorized disability retirement allowance provided by law. For members who are not eligible for disability benefits pursuant to the Social Security System, the Board of Trustees shall apply the same standard for which provision is made in the first two sentences of this subsection for determining the eligibility of a person for such disability benefits in making a determination of eligibility for disability benefits as authorized by this subsection.

(6) (a) A member who at the time of retirement has been found to be permanently physically or mentally incapacitated to teach school shall receive a minimum monthly retirement payment for life or until such time as the member may be found to be recovered to the point where he or she may return to teaching. Any member retired before July 1, 1992 shall be eligible to receive the monthly retirement allowance herein provided, but such payment shall not begin until the first payment due him or her after July 1, 1992, and shall not be retroactive. The Board of Trustees is empowered to make such rules and regulations as it considers proper to preserve equity in retirements under this provision, which shall include a provision to protect the rights of the member's spouse.

(b) A member who has qualified for retirement benefits under disability retirement shall have the total monthly payment deducted from his or her accumulated contributions plus interest earned and any money remaining in the member's account after the above deductions at the death of the member shall be paid in a lump sum to the beneficiary or to the estate of the member. Provided, if the deceased disabled member had thirty (30) years or more of creditable service and the death occurred after June 30, 1981, and death occurred prior to the disabled member receiving twelve monthly retirement payments, a surviving spouse may elect to receive the retirement benefit to which the deceased member would have been entitled at the time of death under the Option 2 Plan of Retirement provided for in subsection (8) of this section in lieu of the death benefit provided for in this subsection and in subsection (12) of this section.

(c) Once each year the Board of Trustees may require any disabled annuitant who has not yet attained the age of sixty (60) years to undergo a medical examination, such examination to be made at the place of residence for said disabled annuitant or other place mutually agreed upon by a physician or physicians designated by the

Board of Trustees. Should any disabled annuitant who has not yet attained the age of sixty (60) years refuse to submit to at least one medical examination in any such year by a physician or physicians designated by the Board of Trustees his or her allowance may be discontinued until he or she submits to such examination.

(d) Should the Medical Board report and certify to the Board of Trustees that such disabled annuitant is engaged in or is able to engage in a gainful occupation paying more than the difference between his or her retirement allowance and the average final compensation, and should the Board of Trustees concur in such report then the amount of his or her pension shall be reduced to an amount which, together with his or her retirement allowance and that amount earnable by him or her, shall equal the amount of his or her average final compensation. Should his or her earning capacity be later increased, the amount of his or her pension may be further modified, provided the new pension shall not exceed that amount of the pension originally granted nor an amount, which when added to the amount earnable by the member, together with his or her annuity, equals the amount of his or her average final compensation.

(e) Should a disabled annuitant be restored to active service, his or her disability retirement allowance shall cease and he or she shall again become a member of the Teachers' Retirement System and shall make regular contributions as required under this article. The unused portion of his or her accumulated contributions shall be reestablished to his or her credit in the Teachers' Savings Fund. Any such prior service certificates on the basis of which his or her service was computed at the time of his or her retirement shall be restored to full force and effect.

(7) Should a member before retirement under Section 1-101 et seq. of this title make application for withdrawal duly filed with the Board of Trustees and approved by it, not earlier than four (4) months after the date of termination of such service as a teacher,

the contribution standing to the credit of his or her individual account in the Teachers' Savings Fund shall be paid to him or her or, in the event of his or her death before retirement, shall be paid to such person or persons as he or she shall have nominated by written designation, duly executed and filed with the Board of Trustees; provided, however, if there be no designated beneficiary surviving upon such death, such contributions shall be paid to his or her administrators, executors, or assigns, together with interest as hereinafter provided. In lieu of a lump-sum settlement at the death of the member, the amount of money the member has on deposit in the Teachers' Savings Fund and the money the member has on deposit in the Teachers' Deposit Fund may be paid in monthly payments to a designated beneficiary, who must be the spouse, under the Maximum or Option 1 Plan of Retirement providing the monthly payment shall be not less than Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) per month. The monthly payment shall be the actuarial equivalent of the amount becoming due at the member's death based on the sex of the spouse and the age the spouse has attained at the last birthday prior to the member's death. Provided further, if there be no designated beneficiary surviving upon such death, and the contributions standing to the credit of such member do not exceed Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00), no part of such contributions shall be subject to the payment of any expense of the last illness or funeral of the deceased member or any expense of administration of the estate of such deceased and the Board of Trustees, upon satisfactory proof of the death of such member and of the name or names of the person or persons who would be entitled to receive such contributions under the laws of descent and distribution of the state, may authorize the payment of accumulated contributions to such person or persons. A member terminating his or her membership by withdrawal after June 30, 2003, shall have the interest computed

at a rate of interest determined by the Board of Trustees and paid to him or her subject to the following schedule:

(a) If termination occurs within sixteen (16) years from the date membership began, fifty percent (50%) of such interest accumulations shall be paid.

(b) With at least sixteen (16) but less than twenty-one (21) years of membership, sixty percent (60%) of such interest accumulations shall be paid.

(c) With at least twenty-one (21) but less than twenty-six (26) years of membership, seventy-five percent (75%) of such interest accumulations shall be paid.

(d) With at least twenty-six (26) years of membership, ninety percent (90%) of such interest accumulations shall be paid.

In case of death of an active member, the interest shall be calculated and restored to the member's account and paid to his or her beneficiary.

(8) (a) In lieu of his or her retirement allowance payable throughout life for such an amount as determined under this section, the member may select a retirement allowance for a reduced amount payable under any of the following options the present value of which is the actuarial equivalent thereof.

(b) A member may select the option under which he or she desires to retire at the end of the school year in which he or she attains age seventy (70) and said option shall be binding and cannot be changed. Provided further that if a member retires before age seventy (70), no election of an option shall be effective in case an annuitant dies before the first payment due under such option has been received.

(c) The first payment of any benefit selected shall be made on the first day of the month following approval of the retirement by the Board of Trustees. If the named designated beneficiary under Option 2 or 3 dies at any time after the member's retirement date,

but before the death of the member, the member shall return to the retirement benefit, including any post retirement benefit increases the member would have received had the member not selected Option 2 or 3 of this subsection. The benefit shall be determined at the date of death of the designated beneficiary or July 1, 1994, whichever is later. This increase shall become effective the first day of the month following the date of death of the designated beneficiary or July 1, 1994, whichever is later, and shall be payable for the member's remaining lifetime. The member shall notify the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma of the death of the designated beneficiary in writing. In the absence of said written notice being filed by the member notifying the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma of the death of the designated beneficiary within six (6) months of the date of death, nothing in this subsection shall require the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma to pay more than six (6) months of retrospective benefits increase.

Option 1. If he or she dies before he or she has received in annuity payments the present value of his or her annuity as it was at the time of his or her retirement, the balance shall be paid to his or her legal representatives or to such person as he or she shall nominate by written designation duly acknowledged and filed with the Board of Trustees at the time of his or her retirement; or

Option 2. A member takes a reduced retirement allowance for life. Upon the death of the member the payments shall continue to the member's designated beneficiary for the life of the beneficiary. The written designation of the beneficiary must be duly acknowledged and filed with the Board of Trustees at the time of the member's retirement and cannot be changed after the effective date of the member's retirement; or

Option 3. A member receives a reduced retirement allowance for life. Upon the death of the member one-half (1/2) of the retirement

allowance paid the member shall be continued throughout the life of the designated beneficiary. A written designation of a beneficiary must be duly acknowledged and filed with the Board of Trustees at the time of the member's retirement and cannot be changed after the effective date of the member's retirement; or

Option 4. Some other benefit or benefits shall be paid either to the member or to such person or persons as he or she shall nominate, provided such other benefit or benefits, together with the reduced retirement allowance, shall be certified by the actuary to be of equivalent actuarial value to his or her retirement allowance and shall be approved by the Board of Trustees; or

Option 5. A member receives a reduced retirement allowance for life. If the member dies within twenty-five (25) years from the date of commencement of the retirement payments, such payments shall be continued to the beneficiary of the member during the balance of the twenty-five-year period. The written designation of the beneficiary, who must be a spouse, shall be duly acknowledged and filed with the Board of Trustees at the time of the member's retirement.

(d) Provided that Option 2 and Option 3 shall not be available if the member's expected benefit is less than fifty percent (50%) of the lump-sum actuarial equivalent and the designated beneficiary is not the spouse of the member.

(9) The governing board of any "public school", as that term is defined in Section 17-101 of this title, is hereby authorized and empowered to pay additional retirement allowances or compensation to any person who was in the employ of such public school for not less than seven (7) school years preceding the date of his or her retirement. Payments so made shall be a proper charge against the current appropriation or appropriations of any such public school for salaries for the fiscal year in which such payments are made. Such payments shall be made in regular monthly installments in such

amounts as the governing board of any such public school, in its judgment, shall determine to be reasonable and appropriate in view of the length and type of service rendered by any such person to such public school by which such person was employed at the time of retirement. All such additional payments shall be uniform, based upon the length of service and the type of services performed, to persons formerly employed by such public school who have retired or been retired in accordance with the provisions of Section 1-101 et seq. of this title.

The governing board of any such public school may adopt rules and regulations of general application outlining the terms and conditions under which such additional retirement benefits shall be paid, and all decisions of such board shall be final.

(10) In addition to the teachers' retirement herein provided, teachers may voluntarily avail themselves of the Federal Social Security Program upon a district basis.

(11) ~~For those members who joined the System prior to July 1, 1992, upon~~ Upon the death of an in-service member, the System shall pay to the designated beneficiary of the member or, if there is no designated beneficiary or if the designated beneficiary predeceases the member, to the estate of the member, the sum of Eighteen Thousand Dollars (\$18,000.00) as a death benefit. Provided, if the deceased member had ten (10) years or more of creditable service and the death occurred after February 1, 1985, the member's designated beneficiary may elect to receive the retirement benefit to which the deceased member would have been entitled at the time of death under the Option 2 plan of retirement in lieu of the death benefit provided for in this subsection. Provided further, the option provided in this subsection is only available when the member has designated one individual as the designated beneficiary.

(12) Upon the death of an annuitant who has contributed to the System, the retirement system shall pay to the designated

beneficiary of the annuitant or, if there is no designated beneficiary or if the designated beneficiary predeceases the annuitant, to the estate of the annuitant, the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) as a death benefit. The benefit payable pursuant to this subsection shall be deemed, for purposes of federal income taxation, as life insurance proceeds and not as a death benefit if the Internal Revenue Service approves this provision pursuant to a private letter ruling request which shall be submitted by the board of trustees of the System for that purpose.

(13) Upon the death of a member who dies leaving no living beneficiary or having designated his or her estate as beneficiary, the System may pay any applicable death benefit, unpaid contributions, or unpaid benefit which may be subject to probate, in an amount of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) or less, without the intervention of the probate court or probate procedure pursuant to Section 1 et seq. of Title 58 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

(a) Before any applicable probate procedure may be waived, the System must be in receipt of the member's proof of death and the following documents from those persons claiming to be the legal heirs of the deceased member:

1. The member's valid last will and testament;
2. An affidavit or affidavits of heirship which must state:
 - a. the names and signatures of all claiming heirs to the deceased member's estate including the claiming heirs' names, relationship to the deceased, current addresses and current telephone numbers,
 - b. a statement or statements by the claiming heirs that no application or petition for the appointment of a personal representative is pending or has been granted in any jurisdiction,

- c. a statement that the value of the deceased member's entire estate is subject to probate, and that the estate wherever located, less liens and encumbrances, does not exceed Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), including the payment of benefits or unpaid contributions from the System as authorized by this subsection,
 - d. a description of the personal property claimed, (i.e., death benefit or unpaid contributions or both) together with a statement that such personal property is subject to probate,
 - e. a statement by each individual claiming heir identifying the amount of personal property that the heir is claiming from the System, and that the heir has been notified of, is aware of and consents to the identified claims of all the other claiming heirs of the deceased member pending with the System;
3. A written agreement or agreements signed by all claiming heirs of the deceased member which provides that the claiming heirs release, discharge and hold harmless the System from any and all liability, obligations and costs which it may incur as a result of making a payment to any of the deceased member's heirs;
 4. A corroborating affidavit from an individual other than a claiming heir, who was familiar with the affairs of the deceased member;
 5. Proof that all debts of the deceased member, including payment of last sickness, hospital, medical, death, funeral and burial expenses have been paid or provided for.

(b) The Executive Director of the System shall retain complete discretion in determining which requests for probate waiver may be granted or denied, for any reason. Should the System have any question as to the validity of any document presented by the claiming heirs, or as to any statement or assertion contained therein, the probate requirement provided for in Section 1 et seq. of Title 58 of the Oklahoma Statutes, shall not be waived.

(c) After paying any death benefits or unpaid contributions to any claiming heirs as provided pursuant to this subsection, the System is discharged and released from any and all liability, obligation and costs to the same extent as if the System had dealt with a personal representative of the deceased member. The System is not required to inquire into the truth of any matter specified in this subsection or into the payment of any estate tax liability.

(14) Upon the death of a retired member, the benefit payment for the month in which the retired member died, if not previously paid, shall be made to the beneficiary of the member or to the member's estate if there is no beneficiary. Such benefit payment shall be made in an amount equal to a full monthly benefit payment regardless of the day of the month in which the retired member died.

SECTION 18. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 17-106.1, as amended by Section 7, Chapter 391, O.S.L. 2002 (70 O.S. Supp. 2003, Section 17-106.1), is amended to read as follows:

Section 17-106.1 A. The Board of Trustees of the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma shall discharge their duties with respect to the System solely in the interest of the participants and beneficiaries and:

1. For the exclusive purpose of:
 - a. providing benefits to participants and their beneficiaries, and
 - b. defraying reasonable expenses of administering the System;

2. With the care, skill, prudence, and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing that a prudent person acting in a like capacity and familiar with such matters would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims;

3. By diversifying the investments of the System so as to minimize the risk of large losses, unless under the circumstances it is clearly prudent not to do so; and

4. In accordance with the laws, documents and instruments governing the System.

B. The Board of Trustees may procure insurance indemnifying the members of the Board of Trustees from personal loss or accountability from liability resulting from a member's action or inaction as a member of the Board.

C. The Board of Trustees may establish an investment committee. The investment committee shall be composed of not more than five (5) members of the Board of Trustees appointed by the chairman of the Board of Trustees. The committee shall make recommendations to the full Board of Trustees on all matters related to the choice of custodians and managers of the assets of the System, on the establishment of investment and fund management guidelines, and in planning future investment policy. The committee shall have no authority to act on behalf of the Board of Trustees in any circumstances whatsoever. No recommendation of the committee shall have effect as an action of the Board of Trustees nor take effect without the approval of the Board of Trustees as provided by law.

D. The Board of Trustees may retain qualified investment managers to provide for the investment of the monies of the System. The investment managers shall be chosen by a solicitation of proposals on a competitive bid basis pursuant to standards set by the Board of Trustees. Subject to the overall investment guidelines set by the Board of Trustees, the investment managers shall have full discretion in the management of those monies of the System

allocated to the investment managers. The Board of Trustees shall manage those monies not specifically allocated to the investment managers. The monies of the System allocated to the investment managers shall be actively managed by the investment managers, which may include selling investments and realizing losses if such action is considered advantageous to longer term return maximization.

Because of the total return objective, no distinction shall be made for management and performance evaluation purposes between realized and unrealized capital gains and losses.

E. Funds and revenues for investment by the investment managers or the Board of Trustees shall be placed with a custodian selected by the Board of Trustees. The custodian shall be a bank or trust company offering pension fund master trustee and master custodial services. The custodian shall be chosen by a solicitation of proposals on a competitive bid basis pursuant to standards set by the Board of Trustees. In compliance with the investment policy guidelines of the Board of Trustees, the custodian bank or trust company shall be contractually responsible for ensuring that all monies of the System are invested in income-producing investment vehicles at all times. If a custodian bank or trust company has not received direction from the investment managers of the System as to the investment of the monies of the System in specific investment vehicles, the custodian bank or trust company shall be contractually responsible to the Board of Trustees for investing the monies in appropriately collateralized short-term interest-bearing investment vehicles.

F. By November 1, 1988, and prior to August 1 of each year thereafter, the Board of Trustees shall develop a written investment plan for the System.

G. The Board of Trustees shall compile a quarterly financial report of all the funds of the System on a fiscal year basis. The report shall be compiled pursuant to uniform reporting standards

prescribed by the Oklahoma State Pension Commission for all state retirement systems. The report shall include several relevant measures of investment value, including acquisition cost and current fair market value with appropriate summaries of total holdings and returns. The report shall contain combined and individual rate of returns of the investment managers by category of investment, over periods of time. The Board of Trustees shall include in the quarterly reports all commissions, fees or payments for investment services performed on behalf of the Board. The report shall be distributed to the Governor, the Oklahoma State Pension Commission, the Legislative Service Bureau, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

H. After July 1 and before October 1 of each year, the Board of Trustees publish widely an annual report presented in simple and easily understood language pursuant to uniform reporting standards prescribed by the Oklahoma State Pension Commission for all state retirement systems. The report shall be submitted to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Oklahoma State Pension Commission and the members of the System. The annual report shall cover the operation of the System during the past fiscal year, including income, disbursements, and the financial condition of the System at the end of the fiscal year. The annual report shall also contain the information issued in the quarterly reports required pursuant to subsection G of this section as well as a summary of the results of the most recent actuarial valuation to include total assets, total liabilities, unfunded liability or over funded status, contributions and any other information deemed relevant by the Board of Trustees. The annual report shall be written in such a manner as to permit a readily understandable means for analyzing the financial condition and performance of the System for the fiscal year. In order to standardize the information and analysis of the financial condition

of the System, the Board shall provide information regarding the financial and actuarial condition of the System using assumptions or requirements as hereinafter required for the report stating the condition of the System as of July 1, 2002, and for each subsequent reporting date, which information shall be contained in an appendix or addendum to the annual report. For purposes other than the reporting requirements contained in the appendix or addendum, all actuarial and economic assumptions shall be those assumptions adopted by the System in its annual actuarial valuation. The appendix or addendum shall contain a statement of the financial condition of the System:

1. Using an assumed rate of return of seven and one-half percent (7.5%), net of investment expenses, per annum, compounded annually;

2. Using an actuarial assumption regarding cost-of-living adjustments for the System of two percent (2%) annually;

3. That relies upon the use of appropriate preretirement, postretirement and disability retirement information using generational projections taken from the RP-2000 Mortality Tables, published by the Society of Actuaries;

4. Which accurately and completely summarizes all sources of system assets, other than employee contributions, which shall include, but not be limited to, the total of all employer contributions, any dedicated tax or fee revenue of whatever kind or however denominated, and the total amount of any other source of revenue which accrues to the System, other than return on investments, such as federal monies used for the purpose of making employer contributions; and

5. Using an assumption that the unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities of the System are amortized over a period of thirty (30) years, in a manner consistent with the Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement Number 25.

I. The Board of Trustees shall adopt a cost of living adjustment actuarial assumption in its annual actuarial valuation report.

SECTION 19. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 17-116.2, as last amended by Section 3, Chapter 486, O.S.L. 2003 (70 O.S. Supp. 2003, Section 17-116.2), is amended to read as follows:

Section 17-116.2 A. 1. Beginning July 1, 1987, and prior to July 1, 1995, a member who retires on or after the member's normal retirement age or whose retirement is because of disability shall receive an annual allowance for life, payable monthly, in an amount equal to two percent (2%) of the member's highest three-year average salary upon which member contributions were made, multiplied by the number of the member's years of creditable service.

A classified member who retired prior to July 1, 1986, shall have his retirement allowance calculated on a minimum average salary of Eleven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$11,500.00) or on his current minimum average salary plus Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00), whichever is greater. Beginning July 1, 1994, a classified member who retired prior to July 1, 1993, shall have the member's retirement allowance calculated on the member's current minimum average salary plus Five Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$550.00). An unclassified member who retired prior to July 1, 1986, shall have his retirement allowance calculated on a minimum average salary of Nine Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$9,500.00) or on his current minimum average salary plus One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), whichever is greater. Beginning July 1, 1994, an unclassified member who retired prior to July 1, 1993, shall have the member's retirement allowance calculated on the member's current minimum average salary plus Two Hundred Seventy-five Dollars (\$275.00). Those individuals receiving benefits pursuant to subsection (3) of Section 17-105 of this title whose benefits commenced prior to July 1, 1993, shall receive an increase in benefits of two and one-half

percent (2 1/2%). No retirement benefit payments shall be made retroactively.

Except for those members retiring because of a disability, the retirement allowance shall be subject to adjustment for those members retiring before normal retirement age in accordance with the actuarial equivalent factors adopted by the Board of Trustees.

2. Beginning July 1, 1995, a member, who has no service performed on or after July 1, 1995, for an entity or institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, who retires on or after the member's normal retirement age or whose retirement is because of disability shall receive an annual allowance for life, payable monthly as follows:

- a. if the member becomes a member after June 30, 1995, and was not eligible to become a member prior to July 1, 1995, in an amount equal to two percent (2%) of the member's average salary upon which member contributions were made, multiplied by the number of the member's years of creditable service, or
- b. if the member became a member or is eligible to become a member prior to July 1, 1995, and elected to have a maximum compensation level in excess of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) pursuant to paragraph 1 of subsection C of this section or pursuant to subsection E of this section, or if the member's salary has never exceeded Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) prior to July 1, 1995, in an amount equal to:
 - (1) two percent (2%) of the member's average salary upon which member contributions were made not to exceed Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00), multiplied by the number of the member's years of credited service authorized and performed prior

to July 1, 1995, plus any years of prior service authorized under this title, plus

- (2) two percent (2%) of the member's average salary upon which member contributions were made, multiplied by the number of the member's years of credited service authorized and performed after June 30, 1995, or

c. if the member became a member or is eligible to become a member prior to July 1, 1995, and was eligible to elect to have a maximum compensation level in excess of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) and did not elect or elected not to have a maximum compensation level of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) pursuant to paragraph 1 of subsection C of this section or pursuant to subsection E of this section, in an amount equal to:

- (1) two percent (2%) of the member's average salary upon which member contributions were made not to exceed Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00), multiplied by the number of the member's years of credited service authorized and performed prior to July 1, 1995, plus any years of prior service authorized under this title, plus
- (2) two percent (2%) of the member's average salary upon which member contributions were made, multiplied by the number of the member's years of credited service authorized and performed after June 30, 1995.

B. Except as otherwise provided for in this section, the amount contributed by each member to the retirement system shall be:

1. Beginning July 1, 1992, through June 30, 1996, six percent (6%) of the regular annual compensation of such member not in excess

of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) and beginning July 1, 1995, through June 30, 1996, six percent (6%) of the maximum compensation level; and

2. Beginning July 1, 1996, through June 30, 1997, six and one-half percent (6 1/2%) of the regular annual compensation of members, who are not employed by an entity or institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education not in excess of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) and beginning July 1, 1996, through June 30, 1997, six and one-half percent (6 1/2%) of the regular annual compensation of members, who are employed by an entity or institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, not in excess of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00);

3. Beginning July 1, 1997, seven percent (7%) of the regular annual compensation of the member not in excess of any applicable maximum compensation level of the member; and

4. All public schools in this state shall treat the employee contributions as being picked-up under the provisions of Section 414 (h) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 in determining tax treatment.

C. 1. Prior to July 1, 1995, an active member of the System may elect to have a maximum compensation level of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00). Such an election shall be made in writing and filed with the System. Members whose salaries are in excess of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) on the effective date of this act shall file the election with the System prior to January 1, 1988. Members whose salaries exceed Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) after the effective date of this act shall file the election when the salary exceeds Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00). If a member makes such an election, the member shall contribute the following amounts:

a. beginning July 1, 1992, through June 30, 1993, eleven percent (11%) of the regular annual compensation of

such member that is in excess of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) and is not in excess of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00),

b. beginning July 1, 1993, through June 30, 1994, nine percent (9%) of the regular annual compensation of such member that is in excess of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) and is not in excess of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00), and

c. beginning July 1, 1994, through June 30, 1995, eight percent (8%) of the regular annual compensation of such member that is in excess of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) and is not in excess of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00). Except as provided in subsection E of this section, any such election shall be irrevocable.

2. After June 30, 1995, in addition to the amount contributed by each member to the retirement system pursuant to subsection B of this section, the total amount contributed by each member to the retirement system shall include, beginning July 1, 1995, through June 30, 1997, seven percent (7%) of the regular annual compensation of each member, who is not employed by an entity or institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, that is in excess of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) and beginning July 1, 1996, through June 30, 1997, seven percent (7%) of the regular annual compensation of each member who is employed by an entity or institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education in excess of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00), but not in excess of any applicable maximum compensation level of the member.

D. For purposes of Section 17-101 et seq. of this title, regular annual compensation shall include:

1. ~~Normal periodic payments of money for service the right to~~ Salary which accrues on a regular basis in proportion to the service performed, ~~such periodic payments shall include~~ including payments for staff development ~~or other periodic payments to qualifying employees of the employer;~~

2. Amounts that would otherwise qualify as salary under paragraph 1 of this subsection but are not received directly by the member pursuant to a good faith, voluntary written salary reduction agreement in order to finance payments to a deferred compensation or tax-sheltered annuity program or to finance benefit options under a cafeteria plan qualifying under the United States Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C., Section 101 et seq.; and

3. Group health and disability insurance, group term life insurance, annuities and pension plans, provided on a periodic basis to all qualified employees of the employer, which qualify as fringe benefits under the United States Internal Revenue Code.

Excluded from regular annual compensation are expense reimbursement payments, office, vehicle, housing or other maintenance allowances, the flexible benefit allowance provided pursuant to Section 26-105 of this title, payment for unused vacation and sick leave, any payment made for reason of termination or retirement not specifically provided for in paragraphs 1 through 3 of this subsection, maintenance or other nonmonetary compensation, payment received as an independent contractor or consultant, pursuant to a lawful contract which complies with the requirements of subsection B of Section 6-101.2 of this title, any benefit payments not made pursuant to a valid employment agreement, or any compensation not described in paragraphs 1 through 3 of this subsection.

E. 1. Any member who was a contributing member of the Retirement System between July 1, 1987, and June 30, 1995, who at the time the member was eligible to make an election to increase the

maximum compensation level of the member, failed to make an election or chose not to increase the maximum compensation level of the member to Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00), may elect to make back contributions to the Retirement System. The member shall complete a new election form and file with the Board of Trustees, the form and a payment equaling the difference between the amount contributed at the twenty-five-thousand-dollar level and the appropriate contribution on compensation in excess of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) up to a maximum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) shall be made prior to the official retirement date of the member. The required payment shall include any contribution required by the employing school district, and shall include interest compounded annually at ten percent (10%) per annum of both employer and employee contributions.

2. Any changes made pursuant to this subsection shall be irrevocable.

F. 1. An individual who withdrew from the Teachers' Retirement System and whose salary was in excess of Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$7,800.00) and had elected to contribute only on Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$7,800.00) before his or her withdrawal shall contribute on the earning ceiling as provided for in this section on his or her reentry into membership in the Teachers' Retirement System.

2. An individual who elected to contribute on a maximum of Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$7,800.00) per annum shall, beginning July 1, 1979, contribute on his or her earning ceiling as provided for in this section.

3. Any member who elected to contribute on Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$7,800.00) prior to January 1, 1978, and whose salary was more than Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$7,800.00) during the school years 1974-75 through 1978-79 may elect to make back contributions to the retirement system by paying

the five percent (5%) contributions on the difference between Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$7,800.00) and the actual salary of the member, not to exceed Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) for each applicable school year, plus interest compounded annually at ten percent (10%) per annum. Such payment shall be made prior to the official retirement date of the member.

G. Each employer shall cause to be deducted from the salary of each member on each and every payroll of such employer for each and every payroll period, the proper percentage of his or her earnable compensation as provided for in subsection B or subsection C of this section.

1. Deductions shall begin with the first payroll period of the school year. In determining the amount earnable by a member in a payroll period, the Board of Trustees shall consider the rate of annual compensation payable to such member on the first day of the payroll period as continuing throughout such payroll period, and it may omit deductions from compensation for any period less than a full period, and to facilitate the making of deductions, it may modify the deduction required of any member by such an amount as shall not exceed one-tenth of one percent (1/10 of 1%) of the annual compensation upon the basis of which such deduction is to be made. Prior to January 1, 1991, any active contributing member who joined the System subsequent to July 1, 1943, may pay the normal cost, which shall mean the single sum which would have been paid under existing statutes at the time the service was performed, plus interest, for years of teaching service in Oklahoma from the date of establishment of the System in 1943 to date of membership, in a lump sum, or in installments equal to establishing one (1) year of creditable service. Effective January 1, 1991, any active contributing member who joined the System subsequent to July 1, 1943, may pay the amount determined by the Board of Trustees pursuant to Section 17-116.8 of this title for years of teaching

service in Oklahoma from the date of establishment of the System in 1943 to date of membership, in a lump sum, or in installments equal to establishing one (1) year of creditable service. For purposes of this option, teaching service in Oklahoma shall include the teaching of vocational agricultural courses within Oklahoma for the federal government. Years for which contributions are paid shall count as membership service under this plan. A member may receive credit for not more than five (5) years of teaching service rendered while in the Peace Corps or in the public schools of a territory of the United States or the public schools, American Military Dependent Schools or state colleges or state universities outside this state by paying his or her contributions, plus interest, and membership fees to the retirement system, subject to the regulations of the Board of Trustees, providing he or she is not receiving and is not eligible to receive retirement credit or benefits from said service in any other public retirement system of this state, or any other state or territory of the United States subject to the following provisions:

- a. the member is required to have two (2) years of employed service teaching earned in Oklahoma for each year of Peace Corps, territorial, out-of-state, noncovered in-state or military membership credit granted.
- b. prior to January 1, 1991, the out-of-state or noncovered in-state payment shall be the normal cost, which means the single sum which would have been paid under existing law at the time the service was performed, plus interest, on the basis of what his or her annual salary would have been in Oklahoma or out of state, whichever is greater, had he or she been employed as a teacher. Effective January 1, 1991, the Peace Corps, territorial, out-of-state or noncovered

in-state payment shall be the amount determined by the Board of Trustees pursuant to Section 17-116.8 of this title.

2. In addition to the deductions hereinabove provided for, any member who becomes a member of the Armed Forces of the United States of America during any period of national emergency, including World War II, the Korean conflict, the Vietnam conflict or others as may be determined by the Board of Trustees, or whose entrance into or training for the teaching profession was interrupted by his or her entrance into the Armed Forces, and who was or shall have become a member of the Teachers' Retirement System shall be granted the privilege of making up his or her five percent (5%) contributions as provided for in this section until January 1, 1991, for not to exceed five (5) years of service in the Armed Forces by electing to pay said contributions on the basis of the rate of pay in his or her contract as a teacher at the time his or her service in the Armed Forces commenced or in the case of a teacher who was not teaching prior to entering the Armed Forces, on the basis of the salary of the first year of teaching after being honorably discharged from the Armed Forces. Effective January 1, 1991, the member will receive such service upon payment of the amount determined by the Board of Trustees pursuant to Section 17-116.8 of this title. Such contributions shall be credited in the regular manner, and the period for which said contributions were paid shall be counted as creditable years of service and allocated to the period during which the military service was rendered, except that the period for which contributions were paid must have been continuous and shall be credited in the aggregate, regardless of fiscal year limitations. Notwithstanding any provision herein to the contrary, contributions, benefits and service credit with respect to qualified military service as defined by Section 414(u) of the Internal Revenue Code of

1986, shall be provided in accordance with Section 414(u) of the Internal Revenue Code.

3. Retirement benefits for all service credits purchased pursuant to this subsection shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2 of this subsection.

H. ~~For those members who joined the System prior to July 1, 1992,~~ Effective July 1, 2004, the total creditable service of a member who retires or terminates employment and elects a vested benefit shall include not to exceed one hundred twenty (120) days of unused sick leave accumulated subsequent to August 1, 1959. Twenty (20) days of unused sick leave shall equal one (1) month for purposes of creditable service credit. If the member becomes a member or was eligible to become a member prior to July 1, 1995, the year of credit received in this section shall be treated as service earned prior to July 1, 1995. This ~~paragraph~~ subsection shall apply to members retiring or vesting on or after the effective date of this act and shall not be retroactive.

I. Any member who:

1. Shall be absent from the teaching service because of election to the State Legislature or appointment to the executive branch in an education-related capacity shall be allowed thirty (30) days from the date as of which the person is officially elected or appointed to file an election with the Teachers' Retirement System to retain his or her membership in the Teachers' Retirement System upon payment of the contribution required of other members and employers of said members as provided for in this section and his or her service credits shall continue to be accumulated during such absence, provided he or she is not receiving retirement credits or benefits from said service beginning after July 1, 1992, in other public retirement systems; or

2. Became an employee of the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation on or subsequent to June 1, 2001, but prior to July 1,

2002, who was previously employed by a participating employer within the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma, may elect to cancel any accumulated service credit accrued within the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System on or after June 1, 2001, but prior to July 1, 2002, by filing an election with the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System for the cancellation of such service credit. The election shall be irrevocable and shall require the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System to transfer all accumulated employer and employee contributions made on behalf of or by the person making such election to the Teachers' Retirement System for such period of time. The Teachers' Retirement System shall compute the employee contributions that would have been made to the System by such employee if the contributions had been computed pursuant to this section. In order to receive the full amount of creditable service for the period of time on or after June 1, 2001, but not later than June 30, 2002, the employee shall be required to pay any difference between the transferred employee contributions and the amount computed by the Teachers' Retirement System. The employee may make payment of any required amount in the manner provided by and subject to the requirements of Section 17-116.8 of this title. After payment of all required employee contributions, the Teachers' Retirement System shall credit the period of time represented by the transferred employee contributions as creditable service within the meaning of Section 17-101 of this title. After the transfer of the employee contributions, the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System shall cancel any service credit previously accumulated for the period of time represented by such transferred employee contributions. Any person who makes the election provided for by this paragraph, and who continues employment with the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation on or after July 1, 2002, shall continue to accrue service credit in the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma. The employer shall

make employer contributions according to the requirements of Section 17-108.1 of this title and shall provide for the deduction of employee contributions as required by this section.

J. Any member who shall be absent from the teaching service because of election or appointment as a local, state or national education association officer shall be allowed to retain his or her membership in the Teachers' Retirement System upon payment of the contribution required of other members and employers of said members as provided for in this section and his or her service credits shall continue to be accumulated during such absence. Provided, however, any one such absence shall not exceed eight (8) continuous years. No member who has less than ten (10) years of contributory service on July 1, 1994, may make this election after June 30, 1994. Members contributing to the System on July 1, 1994, may continue to contribute under this subsection until they have completed eight (8) years allowed by this subsection. The member may file for retirement when otherwise eligible for retirement as provided by Section 17-105 of this title. Conditioned upon receiving a favorable determination letter or private letter ruling from the Internal Revenue Service, the eligible absence and participation continuation in the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma pursuant to this subsection shall be increased to twelve (12) years. The Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma shall make any necessary efforts in obtaining an Internal Revenue Service determination letter or private letter ruling concerning such increase.

K. A member may receive credit for those years of service accumulated by the member while employed by an entity which is a participating employer in the Oklahoma Firefighters Pension and Retirement System, the Oklahoma Police Pension and Retirement System, the Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges, the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System, or the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System, if the member is not receiving or

eligible to receive retirement credit or benefits from said service in any other public retirement system. A member also may receive credit for those years of service with the Department of Wildlife Conservation or with an employer that is a participating employer within one of the state retirement systems specifically referred to in this section when at the time of such service by the member the employer was not such a participating employer, if the member is not receiving or eligible to receive retirement credit or benefits from said service in any other public retirement system. To receive the service credit provided in this subsection, the member shall pay the amount determined by the Board of Trustees pursuant to Section 17-116.8 of this title. For purposes of this subsection, creditable service transferred from the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System shall include service authorized under paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of Section 913 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes as amended from time to time. Members who retire prior to July 1, 1993, shall have their monthly benefit adjusted to include all services accrued under paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of Section 913 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Provided however, any adjustment of existing retirement benefits caused by reason of inclusion of such service authorized under paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of Section 913 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes shall not affect any retirement benefit paid prior to July 1, 1993.

L. 1. An active member of the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma may receive credit for those years of service accumulated by the member while a member of the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System if:

- a. the member is an active member of the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma, and
- b. the member provides notice to the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System and the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma of the member's election

to transfer said service credit. The notice shall include a list of the years to be transferred, and

c. the member is not receiving or eligible to receive retirement credit or benefits from said service in any other public retirement system, notwithstanding the years of service sought to be transferred under this subsection.

Members electing to take advantage of the transfer authorized by this subsection who are receiving or eligible to receive retirement credit or benefits from said service in any other public retirement system shall have all service credit with the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System canceled which is not transferred to the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma or used as a cash offset in such a transfer pursuant to subparagraph d of paragraph 2 of this subsection. Service credit transferred to the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma under this subsection shall also be canceled with the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System.

2. For purposes of this subsection, the "sending system" shall mean the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System. The "receiving system" shall mean the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma.

a. Within thirty (30) days notification of an intent to transfer is received by the sending system, the sending system shall, according to its own rules and regulations:

(1) for members who have accrued at least eight (8) years of credited service with the sending system, determine the present value of the member's earned benefits attributable to the years of service sought to be transferred, discounted according to the member's age at the time of transfer and computed as of the earliest

age at which the member would be able to retire. Said computation shall assume an unreduced benefit and be computed using interest and mortality assumptions consistent with the actuarial assumptions adopted by the Board of Trustees for purposes of preparing the annual actuarial evaluation, but shall not make any projections regarding future salary. For employees who have accrued at least eight (8) years of credited service, the sending system shall use the product of this calculation for purposes of determining the transfer fee to be paid by the employee under subparagraph c of this paragraph so long as it is greater than the product of the calculation in division (2) of this subparagraph, and

- (2) determine the sum of the employee and employer contributions applicable to the years of service sought to be transferred plus interest consistent with the actuarial assumptions adopted by the Board of Trustees for purposes of preparing the annual actuarial evaluation. For all non-vested members, and for members who have accrued at least eight (8) years of credited service, if the product of this calculation is greater than the product of the calculation in division (1) of this subparagraph, the sending system shall use the product of this calculation for purposes of determining the amount to be transferred by the sending system under subparagraph c of this paragraph and any transfer fee to be paid by the member under subparagraph d of this paragraph.

- b. Within thirty (30) days notification of an intent to transfer is received by the receiving system, the receiving system shall determine, according to the system's own rules and regulations, the present value of the member's incremental projected benefits discounted according to the member's age at the time of the transfer. Incremental projected benefits shall be the difference between the projected benefit said member would receive without transferring the service credit and the projected benefit after transfer of service credit computed as of the earliest age at which the member would be able to retire. Said computation shall assume an unreduced benefit and be computed using interest, salary projections and mortality assumptions consistent with the actuarial assumptions adopted by the Board of Trustees for purposes of preparing the annual actuarial evaluation.
- c. The sending system shall, within sixty (60) days from the date notification of an intent to transfer is received by the sending system, transfer to the receiving system the amount determined in subparagraph a of this paragraph. Except if the cost as calculated under subparagraph a of this paragraph is greater than the actuarial value of the incremental benefit in the receiving system, as established in subparagraph b of this paragraph, the sending system shall send the receiving system an amount equal to the actuarial value of the incremental projected benefit in the receiving system.
- d. In order to receive the credit provided for in paragraph 1 of this subsection, if the cost of the actuarial value of the incremental benefit to the

receiving system is greater than the cost as calculated under subparagraph a of this paragraph for the same years of service to the sending system as established in subparagraphs a and b of this paragraph, the employee shall elect to:

- (1) pay any difference to receive full credit for the years sought to be transferred, or
- (2) receive prorated service credit for only the amount received from the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System pursuant to this subsection.

Such an election shall be made in writing, filed with the System prior to receiving the credit provided for in paragraph 1 of this subsection, and shall be irrevocable.

3. Within sixty (60) days of successfully completing all of the requirements for transfer under this subsection, the sending system shall pay the receiving system any amount due under this subsection. Within sixty (60) days of successfully completing all of the requirements for transfer under this subsection, the member shall pay the receiving system any amount due under this subsection. In the event that the member is unable to pay the transfer fee provided for in this subsection by the due date, the Board of Trustees of the receiving system shall permit the member to amortize the transfer fee over a period not to exceed sixty (60) months. Said payments shall be made by payroll deductions unless the Board of Trustees permits an alternate payment source. The amortization shall include interest in an amount not to exceed the actuarially assumed interest rate adopted by the Board of Trustees for investment earnings each year. Any member who ceases to make payment, terminates, retires or dies before completing the payments provided for in this section shall receive prorated service credit for only those payments made,

unless the unpaid balance is paid by said member, his or her estate or successor in interest within six (6) months after said member's death, termination of employment or retirement, provided no retirement benefits shall be payable until the unpaid balance is paid, unless said member or beneficiary affirmatively waives the additional six-month period in which to pay the unpaid balance.

4. Years of service transferred pursuant to this subsection shall be used both in determining the member's retirement benefit and in determining the years of service for retirement and/or vesting purposes. Years of service rendered as a member of the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System prior to July 1, 1992, if any, shall be deemed to be years of service rendered as a member of the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma prior to July 1, 1992, and shall qualify such person as a member of the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma before July 1, 1992.

5. Notwithstanding the requirements of subsection (5) of Section 917 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes, members electing to take advantage of the transfer authorized by this subsection who have withdrawn their contributions from the sending system shall remit to the sending system the amount of the accumulated contributions the member has withdrawn plus simple interest of ten percent (10%) per annum prior to making said election or the election shall be deemed invalid and the transfer shall be canceled. If such an election is deemed invalid and the transfer is canceled, the accumulated contribution remitted to the sending system by the member who originally withdrew their contributions shall be returned to the member. The member's rights and obligations regarding any service credit reestablished in the sending system due to a failure to satisfy the requirements of this subsection shall be determined by the sending system in accordance with Section 901 et seq. of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

6. If any member fails for any reason to satisfy the requirements of this subsection, the election to transfer service credit shall be void and of no effect, and any service credited as a result of this transfer shall be canceled. If such service is canceled, the years of canceled service credit which were unsuccessfully transferred to the receiving system from the sending system shall be reestablished in the sending system. The member's rights and obligations regarding any service credit reestablished in the sending system due to a failure to satisfy the requirements of this subsection shall be determined by the sending system in accordance with Section 901 et seq. of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

7. The Board of Trustees shall promulgate such rules as are necessary to implement the provisions of this subsection.

M. Any member whose regular annual compensation was not determined as provided for by law may pay the member contribution required pursuant to subsection B of this section on such amount not included in the member's regular annual compensation and receive credit for such amount in the calculation of the member's benefit. The employees must pay the employer contributions required pursuant to Section 17-108.1 of this title. Interest at the rate of ten percent (10%) per annum shall be charged to both employee and employer contributions. Provided that the employing district may pay all or any portion of the contributions and interest the member is required to pay. Any payment by the employing district for a prior year obligation shall be considered a current obligation of the employer.

N. Any active member who elected during the 1978-79 school year to pay the difference between five percent (5%) on actual salary not exceeding Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) and six percent (6%) on actual salary not exceeding Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00)

shall receive credit for one (1) year of credited service upon receipt and approval of a proper request by the Board of Trustees.

O. Effective July 1, 1988, any member who is employed by the Governor, the State Senate, the House of Representatives or the Legislative Service Bureau shall be allowed to elect to retain membership in the Retirement System upon payment of the accrued and current member contributions and employer contributions as provided in subsection B of this section and Section 17-108.1 of this title. Such contributions may be paid on behalf of the member by the employing entity. Upon payment of such contributions, service credits shall continue to be accumulated during such employment. Accrued contributions shall be paid to the Retirement System by August 1, 1989. Current contributions shall be paid to the Retirement System by the tenth of the following month beginning with the month of July 1989.

P. Notwithstanding any requirements of this title to restrict the payment of service purchases, the Board of Trustees shall promulgate such rules as necessary to allow active members of the System to make installment payments for the redeposit of withdrawn accounts or other payments due under the provisions of this title. The rules shall permit the member to amortize the balance due over a period not to exceed sixty (60) months, and shall include interest consistent with the actuarial assumptions adopted by the Board of Trustees for purposes of preparing the annual actuarial evaluation. Further, the rules shall provide that all payments must be completed prior to the effective retirement date of the member.

Q. 1. A member of the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System who becomes a member of the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma because the member has become employed by an entity or institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, State Board of Education, State Board of Vocational and Technical Education, Oklahoma Department of Vocational and Technical

Education, Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics, Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology, State Department of Rehabilitation Services, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, Department of Corrections, State Department of Education, Oklahoma Board of Private Vocational Schools, Board of Regents of Oklahoma Colleges, Oklahoma Student Loan Authority, or the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma, may elect to receive credit in the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma for those years of service accumulated by the member in the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System pursuant to this subsection. A member shall be eligible to elect to receive credit for such years of service if:

- a. the member is an active member of the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma,
- b. the member provides notice to the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System of the member's election to transfer such retirement credit. The notice shall include a list of the years to be transferred, and
- c. the member is not receiving or eligible to receive retirement credit or benefits from such service in any other public retirement system, notwithstanding the years of service sought to be transferred under this subsection.

Members electing to take advantage of the transfer authorized by this subsection shall have all service credit with the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System canceled which is transferred to the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma.

2. For purposes of this subsection, the "sending system" shall mean the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System. The "receiving system" shall mean the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma. Within thirty (30) days after notification of an intent

to transfer is received by the sending system, the sending system shall, according to its own rules, send to the receiving system all employer and employee contributions made on behalf of the member which were made to the sending system plus an additional amount of earnings based on the actuarial assumed rate of the sending system. Upon receipt of these contributions by the receiving system, the receiving system shall give credit to the transferring member in an amount equal to the years of service accrued in the sending system.

3. If the transferring member's normal retirement date calculation is based upon the sum of the member's age and number of years of credited service totaling eighty (80) in the sending system, then the member shall retain such calculation in the receiving system.

4. The Board of Trustees shall promulgate such rules as are necessary to implement the provisions of this subsection.

R. A former member of the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma who withdrew his or her contributions from the System prior to January 1, 1983, and who had at least ten (10) years of service in the System and purchased that service in the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System, may elect to revoke that purchase from the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System and to repay the withdrawn contributions to the System in order to be eligible, once such member reaches the normal retirement age, to receive a retirement benefit that is based upon years of service and compensation at the time such member terminated employment. In addition, such former member may elect to transfer service credit accrued in the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System to the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma pursuant to subsection L of this section. The election, pursuant to this subsection, shall be made prior to September 1, 2000. The election and the repayment shall be made according to rules promulgated by the Board.

SECTION 20. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 17-116.19 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Beginning July 1, 2004, any person receiving benefits from the Teacher's Retirement System of Oklahoma as of June 30, 2003, who continues to receive benefits on or after July 1, 2004, shall receive a percentage increase in said benefits on July 1, 2004, as follows:

Years of Service of the Retired Member	Monthly Benefit	
	as of June 30, 2004	Benefit Increase
20 years or more	Less than \$1,500.00	4.5%
	\$1,500.00 to \$2,500.00	4.0%
	Over \$2,500.00	3.5%
15 to 19 years	Less than \$1,000.00	4.0%
	\$1,000.00 to \$2,000.00	3.5%
	Greater than \$2,000.00	3.0%
Less than 15 years	Less than \$801.00	3.5%
	\$801.00 to \$1,499.99	3.0%
	\$1,500.00 or greater	2.5%

B. Beginning in July 2004, those individuals receiving benefits pursuant to subsection (3) of Section 17-105 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes whose benefits commenced prior to July 1, 2003, shall receive an increase in benefits of four percent (4%).

SECTION 21. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2001, Section 905, is amended to read as follows:

Section 905. (1) There shall be a Board of Trustees which shall consist of thirteen (13) members as follows: ~~The Chairman a member~~ of the Corporation Commission selected by the Corporation Commission, the Administrator of the Office of Personnel Management or the Administrator's designee, the State Insurance Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee, the Director of State Finance or the Director's designee, a member of the ~~State~~ Oklahoma Tax Commission

selected by the ~~State~~ Tax Commission, three members appointed by the Governor, one member appointed by the Supreme Court, two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and two members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the State Senate. One member appointed by the Governor shall be an active member of the System. One member appointed by the Speaker shall be an active member of the System. One member appointed by the President Pro Tempore shall be a retired member of the System.

(2) The member of the Board of Trustees on the operative date of this act who was appointed by the Supreme Court shall complete the term of office for which the member was appointed. The members thereafter appointed by the Supreme Court shall serve terms of office of four (4) years.

(3) Members of the Board of Trustees on the operative date of this act who were appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives or by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall complete their term of office for which they were appointed. The initial term of office of members appointed thereafter shall expire on January 8, 1991. The members thereafter appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall serve terms of office of four (4) years.

(4) The initial term of office of the members appointed by the Governor shall expire on January 14, 1991. The members thereafter appointed by the Governor shall serve a term of office of four (4) years which is coterminous with the term of office of the office of the appointing authority.

(5) One of the members appointed to the Board by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and two members appointed to the Board by the Governor shall:

(a) have demonstrated professional experience in investment or funds management, public funds management, public or private pension fund management or retirement system management;

(b) have demonstrated experience in the banking profession and have demonstrated professional experience in investment or funds management;

(c) be licensed to practice law in this state and have demonstrated professional experience in commercial matters; or

(d) be licensed by the Oklahoma ~~State Board of Public~~ Accountancy Board to practice in this state as a public accountant or a certified public accountant.

The appointing authorities, in making appointments that conform to the requirements of this subsection, shall give due consideration to balancing the appointments among the criteria specified in paragraphs (a) through (d) of this subsection.

(6) No member of the Board of Trustees shall be a lobbyist registered in this state as provided by law.

(7) Any vacancy that occurs on the Board of Trustees shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as the office was previously filled.

(8) Notwithstanding any of the provisions of this section to the contrary, any person serving as an appointed member of the Board on the operative date of this act shall be eligible for reappointment when the term of office of the member expires.

(9) The Board shall elect one of its members as Chairman of the Board at its annual meeting. He shall preside over meetings of the Board and perform such other duties as may be required by the Board.

(10) The Board shall also elect another member to serve as Vice Chairman, and the Vice Chairman shall perform duties of Chairman in the absence of the latter or upon his inability or refusal to act.

SECTION 22. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2001, Section 907, is amended to read as follows:

Section 907. A. The principal office of the System shall be in quarters at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Offices shall be assigned to the System by the Department of Central Services. Upon the failure

or inability of the Department of Central Services to provide adequate facilities, the Board is hereby authorized to contract for necessary office space in suitable quarters. If the Board acquires an office building for investment purposes, it may occupy suitable quarters in the building.

B. The Board shall keep a record of all of its proceedings, which shall be open at all reasonable hours to inspection. A statement covering the operation of the System for the past fiscal year, including income, disbursements, and the financial condition of the fund at the end of each fiscal year and showing the valuation of its assets, investments, and liabilities, shall be delivered to the Governor after the end of each fiscal year and prior to December 1 of the next fiscal year and made readily available to the members and participating employers.

C. The Office of the State Auditor and Inspector shall make an annual audit of the accounts of the System. The audit shall be filed in accordance with the requirements for financial statement audits in Section 212A of this title.

SECTION 23. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2001, Section 909.1, as last amended by Section 16, Chapter 406, O.S.L. 2003 (74 O.S. Supp. 2003, Section 909.1), is amended to read as follows:

Section 909.1 A. The Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System Board of Trustees shall discharge their duties with respect to the System solely in the interest of the participants and beneficiaries and:

1. For the exclusive purpose of:
 - a. providing benefits to participants and their beneficiaries, and
 - b. defraying reasonable expenses of administering the System;

2. With the care, skill, prudence, and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing that a prudent person acting in a like

capacity and familiar with such matters would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims;

3. By diversifying the investments of the System so as to minimize the risk of large losses, unless under the circumstances it is clearly prudent not to do so; and

4. In accordance with the laws, documents and instruments governing the System.

B. The Board of Trustees may procure insurance indemnifying the members of the Board of Trustees from personal loss or accountability from liability resulting from a member's action or inaction as a member of the Board of Trustees.

C. The Board of Trustees may establish an investment committee. The investment committee shall be composed of not more than five (5) members of the Board of Trustees appointed by the chairman of the Board of Trustees. The committee shall make recommendations to the full Board of Trustees on all matters related to the choice of custodians and managers of the assets of the System, on the establishment of investment and fund management guidelines, and in planning future investment policy. The committee shall have no authority to act on behalf of the Board of Trustees in any circumstances whatsoever. No recommendation of the committee shall have effect as an action of the Board of Trustees nor take effect without the approval of the Board of Trustees as provided by law.

D. The Board of Trustees shall retain qualified investment managers to provide for the investment of the monies of the System. The investment managers shall be chosen by a solicitation of proposals on a competitive bid basis pursuant to standards set by the Board of Trustees. Subject to the overall investment guidelines set by the Board of Trustees, the investment managers shall have full discretion in the management of those monies of the System allocated to the investment managers. The Board of Trustees shall manage those monies not specifically allocated to the investment

managers. The monies of the System allocated to the investment managers shall be actively managed by the investment managers, which may include selling investments and realizing losses if such action is considered advantageous to longer term return maximization.

Because of the total return objective, no distinction shall be made for management and performance evaluation purposes between realized and unrealized capital gains and losses.

E. Funds and revenues for investment by the investment managers or the Board of Trustees shall be placed with a custodian selected by the Board of Trustees. The custodian shall be a bank or trust company offering pension fund master trustee and master custodial services. The custodian shall be chosen by a solicitation of proposals on a competitive basis pursuant to standards set by the Board of Trustees. In compliance with the investment policy guidelines of the Board of Trustees, the custodian bank or trust company shall be contractually responsible for ensuring that all monies of the System are invested in income-producing investment vehicles at all times. If a custodian bank or trust company has not received direction from the investment managers of the System as to the investment of the monies of the System in specific investment vehicles, the custodian bank or trust company shall be contractually responsible to the Board of Trustees for investing the monies in appropriately collateralized short-term interest-bearing investment vehicles.

F. By November 1, 1988, and prior to August 1 of each year thereafter, the Board of Trustees shall develop a written investment plan for the System.

G. The Board of Trustees shall compile a quarterly financial report of all the funds of the System on a fiscal year basis. The report shall be compiled pursuant to uniform reporting standards prescribed by the Oklahoma State Pension Commission for all state retirement systems. The report shall include several relevant

measures of investment value, including acquisition cost and current fair market value with appropriate summaries of total holdings and returns. The report shall contain combined and individual rate of returns of the investment managers by category of investment, over periods of time. The Board of Trustees shall include in the quarterly reports all commissions, fees or payments for investment services performed on behalf of the Board. The report shall be distributed to the Governor, the Oklahoma State Pension Commission, the Legislative Service Bureau, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

H. After July 1 and before December 1 of each year, the Board of Trustees shall publish widely an annual report presented in simple and easily understood language pursuant to uniform reporting standards prescribed by the Oklahoma State Pension Commission for all state retirement systems. The report shall be submitted to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Oklahoma State Pension Commission and the members of the System. The annual report shall cover the operation of the System during the past fiscal year, including income, disbursements, and the financial condition of the System at the end of the fiscal year. The annual report shall also contain the information issued in the quarterly reports required pursuant to subsection G of this section as well as a summary of the results of the most recent actuarial valuation to include total assets, total liabilities, unfunded liability or over funded status, contributions and any other information deemed relevant by the Board of Trustees. The annual report shall be written in such a manner as to permit a readily understandable means for analyzing the financial condition and performance of the System for the fiscal year. In order to standardize the information and analysis of the financial condition of the System, the Board shall provide information regarding the financial and actuarial condition of the System using assumptions or

requirements as hereinafter required for the report stating the condition of the System as of July 1, 2002, and for each subsequent reporting date, which information shall be contained in an appendix or addendum to the annual report. For purposes other than the reporting requirements contained in the appendix or addendum, all actuarial and economic assumptions shall be those assumptions adopted by the System in its annual actuarial valuation. The appendix or addendum shall contain a statement of the financial condition of the System:

1. Using an assumed rate of return of seven and one-half percent (7.5%), net of investment expenses, per annum, compounded annually;

2. Using an actuarial assumption regarding cost-of-living adjustments for the System of two percent (2%) annually;

3. That relies upon the use of appropriate preretirement, postretirement and disability retirement information using generational projections taken from the RP-2000 Mortality Tables, published by the Society of Actuaries;

4. Which accurately and completely summarizes all sources of system assets, other than employee contributions, which shall include, but not be limited to, the total of all employer contributions, any dedicated tax or fee revenue of whatever kind or however denominated, and the total amount of any other source of revenue which accrues to the System, other than return on investments, such as federal monies used for the purpose of making employer contributions; and

5. Using an assumption that the unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities of the System are amortized over a period of thirty (30) years, in a manner consistent with the Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement Number 25.

- I. The Board shall distribute the corpus and income of the System to the members and their beneficiaries in accordance with the

System's laws and rules and regulations. At no time prior to the satisfaction of all liabilities with respect to members and their beneficiaries shall any part of the corpus and income be used for, or diverted to, purposes other than the exclusive benefit of the members and their beneficiaries.

J. The Board of Trustees shall adopt a cost of living adjustment actuarial assumption in its annual actuarial valuation report.

SECTION 24. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2001, Section 915, as last amended by Section 7, Chapter 486, O.S.L. 2003 (74 O.S. Supp. 2003, Section 915), is amended to read as follows:

Section 915. A. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection and as provided for elected officials in Section 913.4 of this title, any member who shall retire on or after the member's normal retirement date shall be entitled to receive an annual retirement benefit equal to two percent (2%) of the member's final average compensation as determined pursuant to paragraph (18) of Section 902 of this title, multiplied by the number of years of credited service that has been credited to the member in accordance with the provisions of Section 913 of this title other than years credited pursuant to paragraph (2) of this ~~section~~ subsection.

(2) Effective January 1, 2004, except as otherwise provided for elected officials in Section 913.4 of this title and except for those members making contributions pursuant to paragraphs (c), (d) and (e) of subsection (1) of Section 919.1 of this title, any member who shall retire ~~on or after the member's normal retirement date~~ shall be entitled to receive an annual retirement benefit equal to two and one-half percent (2 1/2%) of the member's final average compensation as determined pursuant to paragraph (18) of Section 902 of this title, multiplied by the number of full years of participating service after January 1, 2004, that have been credited to the member in accordance with the provisions of Section 913 of

this title and only for those full years of participating service for which contributions have been made pursuant to paragraph (f) of subsection (1) of Section 919.1 of this title. The two and one-half percent (2 1/2%) multiplier shall not apply to purchased service, purchased or granted military service or transferred service. In order to receive the two and one-half percent (2 1/2%) multiplier in computing retirement benefits, an active member shall make an irrevocable written election to pay the contributions pursuant to paragraph (f) of subsection (1) of Section 919.1 of this title. The two and one-half percent (2 1/2%) multiplier pursuant to this paragraph shall not apply to additional years of service credit attributed to sick leave pursuant to paragraph 7 of subsection B of Section 913 of this title and fractional years pursuant to subsection C of Section 913 of this title and shall be attributable only to the participating service credited after the election of the member.

(3) The minimum final average compensation for any person who becomes a member of the System on or after July 1, 1995:

- a. and who had twenty (20) or more years of credited service within the System as of the member's retirement date shall be no less than Thirteen Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$13,800.00) per annum,
- b. and who had at least fifteen (15) but not more than nineteen (19) years of credited service within the System as of the member's retirement date shall be no less than Six Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars (\$6,900.00) per annum,
- c. and who had less than fifteen (15) years of credited service within the System as of the member's retirement date shall not be eligible for any minimum amount of final average compensation and the member's final average compensation shall be the final average

compensation as defined by paragraph (18) of Section 902 of this title,

(4) Provided, further, any member who has elected a vested benefit pursuant to Section 917 of this title shall be entitled to receive benefits as outlined in this section except the percent factor and the member's maximum compensation level in effect the date the member's employment was terminated with a participating employer shall be applicable.

(5) Any member who is a correctional officer or a probation and parole officer employed by the Department of Corrections at the time of retirement and who retires on or before June 30, 2000, shall be entitled to receive an annual retirement benefit equal to two and one-half percent (2 1/2%) of the final average compensation of the member not to exceed Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) and two percent (2%) of the final average salary in excess of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) but not exceeding the maximum compensation level as provided in paragraph (9) of Section 902 of this title, multiplied by the number of years of service as a correctional officer or a probation and parole officer, provided, any years accrued prior to July 1, 1990, as a correctional officer or a probation and parole officer by a member who is employed as a correctional officer or a probation and parole officer on July 1, 1990, shall be calculated for retirement purposes at two and one-quarter percent (2 1/4%) of the final average compensation of the member not to exceed Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) and two percent (2%) of the final average salary in excess of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) but not exceeding the maximum compensation level as provided in paragraph (9) of Section 902 of this title, multiplied by the number of years of such service and any years in excess of twenty (20) years as such an officer or years credited to the member in accordance with the provisions of Section 913 of this title shall be calculated for retirement purposes at two

percent (2%) of the final average compensation of the member multiplied by the number of years of such service. Any person who contributes to the System as a correctional officer or a probation and parole officer as provided in paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of Section 919.1 of this title, on or before June 30, 2000, but who does not make such contributions after June 30, 2000, and who does not qualify for normal retirement under subparagraph (c) of paragraph (24) of Section 902 of this title shall have retirement benefits for each year of full-time-equivalent participating service as a correctional or a probation and parole officer after July 1, 1990, computed on two and one-half percent (2 1/2%) of the final average compensation based upon those years as a correctional officer or a probation and parole officer. Provided, further, any fugitive apprehension agent shall be entitled to receive benefits as outlined in this act for service as a fugitive apprehension agent prior to July 1, 2002, only upon payment to the System of the employee contributions which would have been paid if such fugitive apprehension agent had been covered by this section prior to the effective date of this act, plus interest of not to exceed ten percent (10%) as determined by the Board. The Department of Corrections may make the employee contribution and interest payment on behalf of such member.

(6) Any member who is a correctional officer, a probation and parole officer or a fugitive apprehension agent employed by the Department of Corrections at the time of retirement and who retires on or after July 1, 2002, shall be entitled to receive an annual retirement benefit equal to two and one-half percent (2 1/2%) of the final average compensation of the member, but not exceeding the maximum compensation level as provided in paragraph (18) of Section 902 of this title, multiplied by the number of years of service as a correctional officer, a probation and parole officer or a fugitive apprehension agent, and any years in excess of twenty (20) years as

such an officer or agent, or years credited to the member in accordance with the provisions of Section 913 of this title, shall be calculated for retirement purposes at two percent (2%) of the final average compensation of the member multiplied by the number of years of such service. For purposes of this paragraph, "final average compensation" shall be determined by computing the average annual salary, in the manner prescribed by paragraph (18) of Section 902 of this title, for the highest three (3) years of the last ten (10) years of participating service immediately preceding retirement or termination of employment for all years of service performed by such member, both for years of service performed as a correctional officer, probation and parole officer or fugitive apprehension agent, not in excess of twenty (20) years, and for years of service performed in excess of twenty (20) years, whether as a correctional officer, probation and parole officer, fugitive apprehension agent or other position unless the computation of benefits would result in a lower retirement benefit amount than if final average compensation were to be computed as otherwise provided by this paragraph.

(7) Any person who contributed to the System as a correctional officer, a probation and parole officer or a fugitive apprehension agent as provided in paragraphs (c) or (d) of subsection (1) of Section 919.1 of this title, and who retires under normal retirement or early retirement on or after January 1, 2004, under paragraph (24) of Section 902 of this title shall have retirement benefits for each year of full-time-equivalent participating service as a correctional officer, a probation and parole officer or a fugitive apprehension agent, computed on two and one-half percent (2 1/2%) of the final average compensation based upon those years as a correctional officer, a probation and parole officer or a fugitive apprehension agent. For purposes of this paragraph, "final average compensation" shall be determined by computing the average annual salary, in the manner prescribed by paragraph (18) of Section 902 of

this title, for the highest three (3) years of the last ten (10) years of participating service immediately preceding retirement or termination of employment for all years of service performed by such member, both for years of service performed as a correctional officer, probation and parole officer or fugitive apprehension agent, not in excess of twenty (20) years, and for years of service performed in excess of twenty (20) years, whether as a correctional officer, probation and parole officer, fugitive apprehension agent or other position unless the computation of benefits would result in a lower retirement benefit amount than if final average compensation were to be computed as otherwise provided by this paragraph.

(8) Any member who is:

- a. initially on or after July 1, 2002, employed as a firefighter for the Oklahoma Military Department and who retires on or after the member's normal retirement date shall be entitled to receive an annual retirement benefit equal to two and one-half percent (2 1/2%) of the final average compensation of the member multiplied by the number of years of service in such service,
- b. (1) a firefighter who performs firefighting services for the Oklahoma Military Department prior to July 1, 2002, and who makes an election in writing on a form prescribed for this purpose by the System not later than December 31, 2002, shall be entitled to receive a retirement benefit based upon two and one-half percent (2 1/2%) of the final average compensation of the member multiplied by the number of years of service as a firefighter with the Oklahoma Military Department on or after July 1, 2002. The election authorized by this subdivision shall be

irrevocable once the election is filed with the System,

- (2) a firefighter who performs firefighting services for the Oklahoma Military Department prior to July 1, 2002, and who makes the election in division (1) of this subparagraph may also make an election in writing on a form prescribed for this purpose by the System not later than December 31, 2002, to receive a retirement benefit based upon two and one-half percent (2 1/2%) of the final average compensation of the member multiplied by the number of years of service as a firefighter with the Oklahoma Military Department prior to July 1, 2002. The election authorized by this subdivision shall be irrevocable once the election is filed with the System. Retirement benefits shall be calculated based upon the two and one-half percent (2 1/2%) multiplier upon payment being made pursuant to Section 913.5 of this title.

(9) Upon death of a retirant, there shall be paid to his beneficiary an amount equal to the excess, if any, of his accumulated contributions over the sum of all retirement benefit payments made.

(10) Such annual retirement benefits shall be paid in equal monthly installments, except that the Board may provide for the payment of retirement benefits which total less than Two Hundred Forty Dollars (\$240.00) a year on other than a monthly basis.

(11) Pursuant to the rules established by the Board, a retiree receiving monthly benefits from the System may authorize warrant deductions for any products currently offered to active state employees through the Employees Benefits Council, provided that

product is offered to state retirees as a group and has a minimum participation of five hundred state retirees. The System has no responsibility for the marketing, enrolling or administration of such products, but shall retain a processing fee of two percent (2%) of the gross deductions for the products. Retirement benefit deductions shall be made for membership dues for any statewide association for which payroll deductions are authorized pursuant to subsection B of Section 7.10 of Title 62 of the Oklahoma Statutes for retired members of any state-supported retirement system, upon proper authorization given by the member to the board from which the member or beneficiary is currently receiving retirement benefits.

B. A member shall be considered disabled if such member qualifies for the payment of Social Security disability benefits, or the payment of benefits pursuant to the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974, Section 231 et seq. of Title 45 of the United States Code, and shall be eligible for benefits hereunder upon proof of such disability, provided such member is an active regularly scheduled employee with a participating employer at the time of injury or inception of illness or disease resulting in subsequent certification of eligibility for Social Security disability benefits by reason of such injury, illness or disease, providing such disability is certified by the Social Security Administration within one (1) year after the last date physically on the job and after completion of at least eight (8) years of participating service or combined prior and participating service or resulting in subsequent certification of eligibility of disability by the Railroad Retirement Board providing such certification is made by the Railroad Retirement Board within one (1) year after the last date physically on the job and after completion of at least eight (8) years of participating service or combined prior and participating service. The member shall submit to the Retirement System the Social Security Award Notice or the Railroad Retirement Award Notice

certifying the date of entitlement for disability benefits, as issued by the Social Security Administration, Department of Health and Human Services or the Railroad Retirement Board. Disability benefits shall become effective on the date of entitlement as established by the Social Security Administration or the Railroad Retirement Board, but not before the first day of the month following removal from the payroll, whichever is later, and final approval by the Retirement System. Benefits shall be based upon length of service and compensation as of the date of disability, without actuarial reduction because of commencement prior to the normal retirement date. The only optional form of benefit payment available for disability benefits is Option A as provided for in Section 918 of this title. Option A must be elected in accordance with the provisions of Section 918 of this title. Benefit payments shall cease upon the member's recovery from disability prior to the normal retirement date. Future benefits, if any, shall be paid based upon length of service and compensation as of the date of disability. In the event that disability ceases and the member returns to employment within the System credited service to the date of disability shall be restored, and future benefits shall be determined accordingly.

C. A member who incurred a disability pursuant to subsection B of this section on or after July 1, 1999, and who has retired from the System with an early retirement benefit pending certification from the Social Security Administration or the Railroad Retirement Board shall receive a retirement benefit not less than the disability retirement benefit provided by subsection B of this section once the System receives a Social Security Award Notice or a Railroad Retirement Award Notice pursuant to subsection B of this section and a completed Application for Disability Benefits. In addition, such member shall receive the difference, if any, between the early retirement benefit and the disability benefit from the

date the Social Security Administration or the Railroad Retirement Board establishes disability entitlement.

D. Any actively participating member of the System on or after July 1, 1998, except for those employees provided in subparagraph (e) of paragraph (14) of Section 902 of this title, whose employment is less than full-time, shall have his or her final average compensation calculated on an annualized basis using his or her hourly wage subject to the maximum compensation limits; provided, however, any such member who has at least three (3) years of full-time employment during the last ten (10) years immediately preceding termination or retirement shall not be eligible for the annualization provisions contained herein. The Board of Trustees shall promulgate such administrative rules as are necessary to implement the provisions of this subsection.

SECTION 25. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2001, Section 917, as last amended by Section 19, Chapter 406, O.S.L. 2003 (74 O.S. Supp. 2003, Section 917), is amended to read as follows:

Section 917. (1) Upon termination of employment with a participating employer, not followed by employment with such participating employer, or another participating employer, within four (4) calendar months, the member shall be paid an amount equal to the amount of money he or she has paid into the System upon the filing of the proper application with the System. Payment of these accumulated contributions may be made in less than four (4) calendar months only in the event that a member is not eligible to elect a vested benefit pursuant to this section and said member is terminally ill, as evidenced by a physician's certification that the member is not expected to live beyond four (4) months.

(2) If such member has completed eight (8) years of credited service at date of termination or if the member is a legislative session employee of the Legislature or if the employee is a session employee employed by the Legislative Service Bureau, four (4) years

of credited service at date of termination, he may elect a vested benefit in lieu of receiving his accumulated contributions. The amount of the vested benefit shall commence at the normal retirement date and shall be paid monthly during the lifetime of the retirant with the last payment made on the last day of the month in which death occurs.

(3) Upon death before the normal or early retirement date of a member who has elected a vested benefit, his accumulated contributions shall be paid to his beneficiary unless the spouse of the deceased member elects monthly benefits as provided for in Section 918 of this title.

(4) Upon death after the normal or early retirement date of a retirant who elected a vested benefit without an option, the excess, if any, of his accumulated contributions over the sum of all payments of the vested benefit made to date of death shall be paid to his beneficiary.

(5) If a former employee, who meets the eligibility requirements for membership, returns to employment after the expiration of four (4) calendar months following the termination of his employment and the employee has withdrawn his accumulated contributions, he may pay to the System the sum of the accumulated contributions he has withdrawn plus interest of not to exceed ten percent (10%), as determined by the Board, and shall receive the same benefits as if he had never withdrawn his contributions. No member shall be permitted to take advantage of the payback for restoration of creditable service more than one time. If a member, who has elected a vested benefit, or a reemployed member, who has not withdrawn the member's contributions, again becomes an employee of a participating employer, the period of absence shall not be counted as a break in service; however, the period of absence shall not be credited.

(6) Prior to January 1, 1991, members, who at the time of employment were ineligible for membership into the System due to their age, shall receive benefits for the period of ineligibility if the employer and employee contributions are paid the System for that ineligible period. No interest shall be paid on a payback of this type. However, effective January 1, 1991, to receive benefits, the member shall pay the amount determined by the Board pursuant to Section 913.5 of this title.

(7) When any error in calculation or participation coverage to a prior or current employee exists, it shall be the responsibility of the participating employer which made the error to pay the amount determined by the Board pursuant to Section 913.5 of this title. This obligation of the participating employer to pay the amount due pursuant to this section shall be considered a current obligation of the employer until the amount is paid in full, regardless of the dates of the periods of service.

(8) Upon application to the Board and payment as determined by the Board, a member of the System may receive service credit for those years of service that the member was eligible to receive service credit from the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma. To receive the service credit, the member shall pay the amount determined by the Board pursuant to Section 913.5 of this title.

(9) Upon the death of a retired member, the benefit payment for the month in which the retired member died, if not previously paid, shall be made to the ~~beneficiary~~ estate of the member or to the member's ~~estate~~ beneficiary if there is no ~~beneficiary~~ estate. Such benefit payment shall be made in an amount equal to a full monthly benefit payment regardless of the day of the month in which the retired member died.

(10) Subject to the provisions of Sections 918 and 918.1 of this title, if there are two or more beneficiaries designated by the member, upon the member's death, the System shall pay any applicable

benefits to any of the beneficiaries that have completed all required paperwork regardless of whether or not all beneficiaries have completed such paperwork.

SECTION 26. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2001, Section 920, as amended by Section 9, Chapter 486, O.S.L. 2003 (74 O.S. Supp. 2003, Section 920), is amended to read as follows:

Section 920. (1) Effective July 1, 1994, every state agency which is a participating employer shall contribute to the System an amount equal to eleven and one-half percent (11 1/2%) of the monthly compensation of each member, but not in excess of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00).

(2) Effective July 1, 1995, every state agency which is a participating employer shall contribute to the System an amount equal to eleven and one-half percent (11 1/2%) of the monthly compensation of each member, not to exceed the allowable annual compensation as defined in paragraph (9) of Section 902 of this title.

(3) Effective July 1, 1996, every state agency which is a participating employer shall contribute to the System an amount equal to twelve percent (12%) of the monthly compensation of each member, not to exceed the allowable annual compensation defined in paragraph (9) of Section 902 of this title.

(4) Effective July 1, 1999, and through the fiscal year ending June 30, ~~2006~~ 2005, every state agency which is a participating employer shall contribute to the System an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the monthly compensation of each member, not to exceed the allowable annual compensation defined in paragraph (9) of Section 902 of this title.

(5) Effective July 1, ~~2006~~ 2005, every state agency which is a participating employer shall contribute an amount to the System equal to a percentage of monthly compensation of each member, not to

exceed the allowable annual compensation defined in paragraph (9) of Section 902 of this title as follows:

July 1, 2006 <u>2005</u> - June 30, 2007 <u>2006</u>	11 <u>1/2</u> %
July 1, 2007 <u>2006</u> - June 30, 2008 <u>2007</u>	12 <u>1/2</u> %
July 1, 2008 <u>2007</u> - June 30, 2009 <u>2008</u>	13 <u>1/2</u> %
July 1, 2009 <u>2008</u> - June 30, 2010 <u>2009</u>	14 <u>1/2</u> %
July 1, 2010 <u>2009</u> - June 30, 2011 <u>2010</u>	15 <u>1/2</u> %
July 1, 2011 <u>2010</u> - June 30, 2012 <u>2011</u>	
and each year thereafter	16 <u>1/2</u> %

(6) The Board shall certify, on or before July 15 of each year, to the Office of State Finance in the case of the state and to the retirement coordinator for each participating employer an actuarially determined estimate of the rate of contribution which will be required, together with all accumulated contributions and other assets of the System, to be paid by each such participating employer to pay all liabilities which shall exist or accrue under the System, including amortization of the past service cost over a period of not to exceed forty (40) years from June 30, 1987, and the cost of administration of the System, as determined by the Board, upon recommendation of the actuary.

(7) The Office of State Finance and the Governor shall include in the budget and in the budget request for appropriations the sum required to satisfy the state's obligation under this section as certified by the Board and shall present the same to the Legislature for allowance and appropriation.

(8) Each other participating employer shall appropriate and pay to the System a sum sufficient to satisfy the obligation under this section as certified by the Board.

(9) Each participating employer is hereby authorized to pay the employer's contribution from the same fund that the compensation for which said contribution is paid from or from any other funds available to it for such purpose.

(10) Forfeitures arising from severance of employment, death or for any other reason may not be applied to increase the benefits any member would otherwise receive under the System's law. However, forfeitures may be used to reduce an employer's contribution.

SECTION 27. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2001, Section 920A, as amended by Section 10, Chapter 486, O.S.L. 2003 (74 O.S. Supp. 2003, Section 920A), is amended to read as follows:

Section 920A. A. Any county, county hospital, city or town, conservation district or any public or private trust in which a county, city or town participates and is the primary beneficiary, which is a participating employer and any eligible employee shall contribute to the System. The total employer and employee contributions shall be based on the allowable annual compensation as defined in ~~subsection~~ paragraph (9) of Section 902 of this title. Except as provided for in this section, the employer shall not pay for the employee any of the employee contribution to the System.

B. For the fiscal ~~years~~ year ending ~~June 30, 2004,~~ June 30, 2005, ~~and June 30, 2006,~~ the total employer and employee contributions shall equal thirteen and one-half percent (13 1/2%) of the allowable monthly compensation of each member; provided, however, each participating employer listed in this section may set the amount of the employer and employee contribution to equal thirteen and one-half percent (13 1/2%) of the allowable monthly compensation of each member for compensation as provided in ~~subsection~~ paragraph (9) of Section 902 of this title; provided, the employer contribution shall not exceed ten percent (10%) and the employee contribution shall not exceed eight and one-half percent (8 1/2%).

C. The total employer and employee contributions for fiscal years following the fiscal year ending June 30, ~~2006~~ 2005, shall be as follows:

fiscal year ending	amount
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June 30, 2007	14 1/2%
<u>July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006</u>	<u>15%</u>
June 30, 2008	15 1/2%
<u>July 1, 2006 - June 30, 2007</u>	<u>16%</u>
June 30, 2009	16 1/2%
<u>July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008</u>	<u>17%</u>
June 30, 2010	17 1/2%
<u>July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009</u>	<u>18%</u>
June 30, 2011	18 1/2%
June 30, 2012	
<u>July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010</u>	<u>19%</u>
<u>July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011</u>	
and each fiscal year	
thereafter	19 1/2%
	<u>20%</u>

Such employee and employer contributions shall be based upon the allowable monthly compensation of each member for compensation as provided in ~~subsection~~ paragraph (9) of Section 902 of this title. The maximum employer contribution of ten percent (10%) in subsection B of this section shall increase by one and one-half percent (1.5%) beginning in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, and one percent (1%) for each fiscal year thereafter until it reaches sixteen and one-half percent (16.5%). For such years, the employee contribution shall not exceed eight and one-half percent (8 1/2%).

D. For members who make the election pursuant to paragraph (2) of subsection A of Section 915 of this title, the employee contribution shall increase by two and ninety-one one-hundredths percent (2.91%). Such employee contribution increase shall be paid by the employee.

E. Each participating employer pursuant to the provisions of this section may pick up under the provisions of Section 414(h) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and pay the contribution which

the member is required by law to make to the System for all compensation earned after December 31, 1989. Although the contributions so picked up are designated as member contributions, such contributions shall be treated as contributions being paid by the participating employer in lieu of contributions by the member in determining tax treatment under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and such picked up contributions shall not be includable in the gross income of the member until such amounts are distributed or made available to the member or the beneficiary of the member. The member, by the terms of this System, shall not have any option to choose to receive the contributions so picked up directly and the picked up contributions must be paid by the participating employer to the System.

F. Member contributions which are picked up shall be treated in the same manner and to the same extent as member contributions made prior to the date on which member contributions were picked up by the participating employer. Member contributions so picked up shall be included in gross salary for purposes of determining benefits and contributions under the System.

G. The participating employer shall pay the member contributions from the same source of funds used in paying salary to the member, by effecting an equal cash reduction in gross salary of the member.

SECTION 28. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 920B of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

All participating employers shall remit to the System all required retirement contributions due on a monthly basis. For non-state agency employers, all required employer and employee contributions and supporting documentation are due and must be received by the System on or before the fifteenth day of the month following the month for which the contributions are due. For state

agency employers, all required employer and employee contributions and supporting documentation are due and must be received by the System on or before the fifteenth day following the last day of the payroll period for which said contributions are due. Employer and employee contributions remitted to the System after thirty (30) days from the above due dates shall be subject to a monthly late charge of one and one-half percent (1.5%) of the unpaid balance to be paid by the employer to the System.

SECTION 29. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2001, Section 923, is amended to read as follows:

Section 923. A. Except as otherwise provided by this section, no alteration, amendment, or repeal of this act shall affect the then existing rights of members and beneficiaries, but shall be effective only as to rights which would otherwise accrue hereunder as a result of services rendered by an employee after such alteration, amendment, or repeal. Any annuity, benefits, fund, property, or rights created by or accruing to any person under the provisions of this act shall not be subject to execution, garnishment or attachment, or any other process or claim whatsoever, and shall be unassignable, except as specifically provided by Section 901 et seq. of this title. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board of Trustees may offset any benefits of a member or beneficiary to pay a judgment or settlement against a member or beneficiary for a crime involving the System, for a fraud or breach of the member's fiduciary duty to the System, or for funds or monies incorrectly paid to a member or a beneficiary, provided such offset is in accordance with the requirements of Section 401(a)(13) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. The offset applies to any benefits which may otherwise be payable to a member or beneficiary from any plan or fund which is administered by the Board of Trustees.

B. 1. The provisions of subsection A of this section shall not apply to a qualified domestic order as provided pursuant to this subsection.

2. The term "qualified domestic order" means an order issued by a district court of this state pursuant to the domestic relation laws of the State of Oklahoma which relates to the provision of marital property rights to a spouse or former spouse of a member or provision of support for a minor child or children and which creates or recognizes the existence of the right of an alternate payee, or assigns to an alternate payee the right, to receive a portion of the benefits payable with respect to a member of the System.

3. For purposes of the payment of marital property, to qualify as an alternate payee, a spouse or former spouse must have been married to the related member for a period of not less than thirty (30) continuous months immediately preceding the commencement of the proceedings from which the qualified domestic order issues.

4. A qualified domestic order is valid and binding on the State Board and the related member only if it meets the requirements of this subsection.

5. A qualified domestic order shall clearly specify:

- a. the name and last-known mailing address (if any) of the member and the name and mailing address of the alternate payee covered by the order,
- b. the amount or percentage of the member's benefits to be paid by the System to the alternate payee,
- c. the number of payments or period to which such order applies,
- d. the characterization of the benefit as to marital property rights or child support, and
- e. each plan to which such order applies.

6. A qualified domestic order meets the requirements of this subsection only if such order:

- a. does not require the System to provide any type or form of benefit, or any option not otherwise provided under state law as relates to the System,
- b. does not require the System to provide increased benefits, and
- c. does not require the payment of benefits to an alternate payee which are required to be paid to another alternate payee pursuant to another order previously determined to be a qualified domestic order or an order recognized by the System as a valid order prior to the effective date of this act.

7. A qualified domestic order shall not require payment of benefits to an alternate payee prior to the actual retirement date or withdrawal of the related member and shall not attach to or require the payment of any amount of benefits related to a deferred compensation plan or program authorized by Section 1701 et seq. of this title.

8. The obligation of the System to pay an alternate payee pursuant to a qualified domestic order shall cease upon the death of the related member.

9. This subsection shall not be subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), 29 U.S.C.A. Section 1001 et seq., as amended from time to time, or rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, and court cases interpreting said act.

10. The Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System Board of Trustees shall promulgate such rules as are necessary to implement the provisions of this subsection.

11. An alternate payee who has acquired beneficiary rights pursuant to a valid qualified domestic order must fully comply with all provisions of the rules promulgated by the Board pursuant to this subsection in order to continue receiving his or her benefit.

SECTION 30. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

On or before November 1, 2004, the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System shall conduct a study pursuant to this section. The study shall focus on the creation of a deferred retirement option plan within the System for all active and future members of the System. The study shall include recommendations concerning any necessary changes to the employer and employee contributions that will be needed to pay for the deferred retirement option plan. The Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System shall issue a report based on the findings of the study and shall include any recommendations for the implementation of a deferred retirement option plan. The report shall be delivered to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Chair of the Retirement and Group Health Committee of the Senate, the Chair of the Retirement Laws Committee of the House of Representatives and the Speaker of the House of Representatives no later than December 1, 2004.

SECTION 31. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 930.8 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

Beginning July 1, 2004, any person receiving benefits from the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System as of June 30, 2003, who continues to receive benefits on or after July 1, 2004, shall receive a percentage increase in said benefits on July 1, 2004, as follows:

Years of Service of the Retired Member	Monthly Benefit as of June 30, 2004	Benefit Increase
20 years or more	Less than \$1,500.00	4.5%
	\$1,500.00 to \$2,500.00	4.0%
	Over \$2,500.00	3.5%
15 to 19 years	Less than \$1,000.00	4.0%
	\$1,000.00 to \$2,000.00	3.5%

	Greater than \$2,000.00	3.0%
Less than 15 years	\$800.00 or less	3.5%
	\$800.01 to \$1,499.99	3.0%
	\$1,500.00 or greater	2.5%

SECTION 32. This act shall become effective July 1, 2004.

SECTION 33. 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.

49-2-3453 SJ 6/12/2015 1:47:22 PM