

Act No. 143
Public Acts of 1997
Approved by the Governor
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STATE OF MICHIGAN
89TH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 1997

Introduced by Senator Hoffman

ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 719

AN ACT to amend 1980 PA 300, entitled "An act to provide a retirement system for the public school employees of this state; to create certain funds for this retirement system; to provide for the creation of a retirement board within the department of management and budget; to prescribe the powers and duties of the retirement board; to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state departments, agencies, officials, and employees; to prescribe penalties and provide remedies; and to repeal acts and parts of acts," by amending sections 4, 8, 22, 25, 26, 34, 36, 41, and 91 (MCL 38.1304, 38.1308, 38.1322, 38.1325, 38.1326, 38.1334, 38.1336, 38.1341, and 38.1391), sections 4, 8, 22, 25, 26, 34, and 91 as amended by 1996 PA 488, section 36 as added by 1989 PA 194, and section 41 as amended by 1996 PA 278; and to repeal acts and parts of acts.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

Sec. 4. (1) "Compound interest" means interest compounded annually on July 1 on the contributions on account as of the previous July 1 and computed at the rate of investment return determined under section 104a(1) for the last completed state fiscal year.

(2) "Contributory service" means credited service other than noncontributory service.

(3) "Deferred member" means a member who has ceased to be a public school employee and has satisfied the requirements of section 82 for a deferred vested service retirement allowance.

(4) "Department" means the department of management and budget.

(5) "Designated date" means September 30, 1997.

(6) "Direct rollover" means a payment by the retirement system to the eligible retirement plan specified by the distributee.

(7) "Distributee" includes a member or deferred member. Distributee also includes the member's or deferred member's surviving spouse or the member's or deferred member's spouse or former spouse under an eligible domestic relations order, with regard to the interest of the spouse or former spouse.

(8) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, "eligible retirement plan" means an individual retirement account described in section 408(a) of the internal revenue code, an individual retirement annuity described in section 408(b) of the internal revenue code, an annuity plan described in section 403(a) of the internal revenue code, or a qualified trust described in section 401(a) of the internal revenue code, that accepts the distributee's eligible rollover distribution. However, in the case of an eligible rollover distribution to a surviving spouse, an eligible retirement plan means an individual retirement account or an individual retirement annuity described above.

(9) "Eligible rollover distribution" means a distribution of all or any portion of the balance to the credit of the distributee. Eligible rollover distribution does not include any of the following:

(a) A distribution made for the life or life expectancy of the distributee or the joint lives or joint life expectancies of the distributee and the distributee's designated beneficiary.

(b) A distribution for a specified period of 10 years or more.

(c) A distribution to the extent that the distribution is required under section 401(a)(9) of the internal revenue code.

(d) The portion of any distribution that is not includable in federal gross income, determined without regard to the exclusion for net unrealized appreciation with respect to employer securities.

(10) "Employee organization professional services leave" or "professional services leave" means a leave of absence that is renewed annually by the reporting unit so that a member may accept a position with a public school employee organization to which he or she belongs and which represents employees of a reporting unit in employment matters. The member shall be included in membership of the retirement system during a professional services leave if all of the conditions of section 71(5) and (6) are satisfied.

(11) "Employee organization professional services released time" or "professional services released time" means a portion of the school fiscal year during which a member is released by the reporting unit from his or her regularly assigned duties to engage in employment matters for a public school employee organization to which he or she belongs. The member's compensation received or service rendered, or both, as applicable, by a member while on professional services released time shall be reportable to the retirement system if all of the conditions of section 71(5) and (6) are satisfied.

(12) "Final average compensation" means the aggregate amount of a member's compensation earned within the averaging period in which the aggregate amount of compensation was highest divided by the member's number of years, including any fraction of a year, of credited service during the averaging period. The averaging period shall be 36 consecutive calendar months if the member contributes to the member investment plan; otherwise, the averaging period shall be 60 consecutive calendar months. If the member has less than 1 year of credited service in the averaging period, the number of consecutive calendar months in the averaging period shall be increased to the lowest number of consecutive calendar months that contains 1 year of credited service.

(13) "Health benefits" means hospital, medical-surgical, and sick care benefits and dental, vision, and hearing benefits for retirants, retirement allowance beneficiaries, and health insurance dependents provided pursuant to section 91.

(14) "Internal revenue code" means the United States internal revenue code of 1986.

(15) "Member investment plan" means the program of member contributions described in section 43a.

Sec. 8. (1) "Service" means personal service performed as a public school employee or creditable under this act.

(2) "Simple interest" means interest at 1 or more rates per annum determined by the retirement board.

(3) "State of Michigan service" means service performed as a state employee in the classified or unclassified service under the state employees' retirement act, 1943 PA 240, MCL 38.1 to 38.69.

(4) "Teacher" means a person employed by a reporting unit who is engaged in teaching, who is engaged in administering and supervising teaching, or who is under a teacher's contract with a reporting unit.

(5) "Transitional public employment program" means participation in public service employment programs in the areas of environmental quality, health care, education, public safety, crime prevention and control, prison rehabilitation, transportation, recreation, maintenance of parks, streets, and other public facilities, solid waste removal, pollution control, housing and neighborhood improvements, rural development, conservation, beautification, veterans' outreach, and other fields of human betterment and community improvement as part of a program of comprehensive manpower services authorized, undertaken, and financed under the comprehensive employment and training act of 1973, former Public Law 93-203, 87 Stat. 839.

Sec. 22. (1) The Michigan public school employees' retirement board is created in the department and shall consist of the superintendent of public instruction and 11 members appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate as follows:

(a) Two members who are working as classroom teachers or as other certified school personnel.

(b) One nonteacher member who is working in a noncertified educational support position or a retirant who retired from a noncertified educational support position.

(c) One member who is a school system superintendent.

(d) One member who is working in a school system in a finance or operations management position, but who is not a school system superintendent.

(e) One retirant who retired from a classroom teacher position.

(f) One retirant who retired from a finance or operations management position.

(g) One administrator or trustee of a community college, which community college is a reporting unit.

(h) Two from the general public, 1 of which shall have experience in health insurance or actuarial science and 1 of which shall have experience in institutional investments. An individual appointed under this subdivision shall not be a member, deferred member, retirant, or retirement allowance beneficiary under this act.

(i) One elected member of a reporting unit's board of control.

(2) One of the retirement board members under subsection (1) shall be a member who is an employee of a school district of the first class or a retirant who retired from a position as an employee of a school district of the first class. One of the retirant members of the retirement board shall be selected from the membership of the largest organization of retirants.

(3) The term of office of the retirement board members shall be 4 years. A vacancy of a member on the retirement board shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment for the remainder of the unexpired term. A retirement board member shall continue to hold office until a successor is appointed and has qualified, but not to exceed an additional 4 years.

(4) The 7 members appointed and serving on the retirement board on July 1, 1997 shall have their respective terms extended by 2 years and shall serve for the remainder of their extended terms. As each board member's term expires under this subsection, the new appointment shall be made in accordance with subsection (1). On January 1, 1997, 2 new individuals shall be appointed as members of the retirement board in accordance with subsection (1). The initial terms of office of these 2 new members shall expire on March 30, 2001. On October 31, 1997, 2 new individuals shall be appointed as members of the retirement board in accordance with subsection (1). The initial terms of office of these 2 new members shall expire on March 30, 2000.

Sec. 25. (1) The board shall have only the rights, authority, and discretion in the proper discharge of its duties provided in this act and former 1945 PA 136.

(2) The retirement board may promulgate rules pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328, for the implementation and administration of this act.

Sec. 26. (1) The state treasurer shall be treasurer of the retirement system and shall have investment authority, including the custodianship of the funds of the retirement system, and shall have fiduciary responsibility with regard to the investment of funds of the retirement system.

(2) The state treasurer shall deposit the funds of the retirement system in the same manner and subject to the law governing the deposit of state funds by the treasurer. Income earned by the retirement system's funds shall be credited to the respective reserves under this act that earned the income.

Sec. 34. The reserve for health benefits is the account to which payments of reporting units for health benefits are credited. Benefits payable pursuant to section 91 shall be paid from the reserve for health benefits.

Sec. 36. (1) The reserve for undistributed investment income is the account to which all income from the investment of assets, all gifts and bequests received by the retirement system, and all other money received by the retirement system the disposition of which is not specifically provided for is credited. In each fiscal year, the retirement board shall transfer from the reserve for undistributed investment income all amounts necessary to credit the interest required under this act to the reserve for employee contributions, the reserve for employer contributions, the reserve for member investment plan, the reserve for retired benefit payments, and the reserve for health benefits, to fund the reserve for administrative expenses, and any supplemental payments required pursuant to section 104a.

(2) The stabilization subaccount is the account to which the amounts transferred pursuant to subsection (3) to the reserve for undistributed investment income are credited. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, no amounts shall be transferred from the stabilization subaccount to any other reserve. The director of the department may transfer from the stabilization subaccount to the reserve for employer contributions part or all of the amount necessary to reduce or eliminate any unfunded actuarial accrued liability, as determined under sections 41 and 41a.

(3) Beginning on the designated date, if the actuarial valuation prepared pursuant to sections 41 and 41a demonstrates that as of the beginning of a fiscal year, and after all credits and transfers required by this act for the previous fiscal year have been made, the sum of the actuarial value of assets and the actuarial present value of future normal cost contributions exceeds the actuarial present value of benefits, an amount equal to the excess shall be credited to the stabilization subaccount pursuant to subsection (2) and shall be debited against the reserve for employer contributions.

Sec. 41. (1) The annual level percentage of payroll contribution rate to finance benefits being provided and to be provided by the retirement system shall be determined by actuarial valuation pursuant to subsection (2) upon the basis of the risk assumptions that the retirement board and the department adopt after consultation with the state treasurer and an actuary. An annual actuarial valuation shall be made of the retirement system in order to determine the actuarial condition of the retirement system and the required contribution to the retirement system. An annual actuarial gain-

loss experience study of the retirement system shall be made in order to determine the financial effect of variations of actual retirement system experience from projected experience.

(2) The contribution rate for benefits payable in the event of the death of a member before retirement or the disability of a member shall be computed using a terminal funding method of valuation. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the contribution rate for other benefits shall be computed using an individual projected benefit entry age normal cost method of valuation. For the 1995-96 state fiscal year and for each subsequent fiscal year, the contribution rate for health benefits provided under section 91 shall be computed using a cash disbursement method. The contribution rate for service likely to be rendered in the current year, the normal cost contribution rate, shall be equal to the aggregate amount of individual projected benefit entry age normal costs divided by 1% of the aggregate amount of active members' valuation compensation. The contribution rate for unfunded service rendered before the valuation date, the unfunded actuarial accrued liability contribution rate, shall be the aggregate amount of unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities divided by 1% of the actuarial present value over a period not to exceed 50 years of projected valuation compensation, where unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities are equal to the actuarial present value of benefits, reduced by the actuarial present value of future normal cost contributions and the actuarial value of assets on the valuation date.

(3) Before November 1 of each year, the executive secretary of the retirement board shall certify to the director of the department the aggregate compensation estimated to be paid public school employees for the current state fiscal year.

(4) On the basis of the estimate under subsection (3), the annual actuarial valuation, and any adjustment required under subsection (6), the director of the department shall compute the sum due and payable to the retirement system and shall certify this amount to the reporting units.

(5) The reporting units shall make payment of the amount certified under subsection (4) to the director of the department in 12 equal monthly installments.

(6) Not later than 90 days after termination of each state fiscal year, the executive secretary of the retirement board shall certify to the director of the department and each reporting unit the actual aggregate compensation paid to public school employees during the preceding state fiscal year. Upon receipt of that certification, the director of the department shall compute any adjustment required to the amount due to a difference between the estimated and the actual aggregate compensation and the estimated and the actual actuarial employer contribution rate. The difference, if any, shall be paid as provided in subsection (9).

(7) The director of the department may require evidence of correctness and may conduct an audit of the aggregate compensation that the director of the department considers necessary to establish its correctness.

(8) A reporting unit shall forward employee and employer social security contributions and reports as required by the federal old-age, survivors, disability, and hospital insurance provisions of title II of the social security act, chapter 531, 49 Stat. 620, 42 U.S.C. 401 to 405, 406 to 418, 420 to 423, 424a to 426-1, and 427 to 433.

(9) For an employer of an employee of a local public school district or an intermediate school district, for differences occurring in fiscal years beginning on or after October 1, 1993, a minimum of 20% of the difference between the estimated and the actual aggregate compensation and the estimated and the actual actuarial employer contribution rate described in subsection (6), if any, shall be paid by that employer in the next succeeding state fiscal year and a minimum of 25% of the remaining difference shall be paid by that employer in each of the following 4 state fiscal years, or until 100% of the remaining difference is submitted, whichever first occurs. For an employer of other public school employees, for differences occurring in fiscal years beginning on or after October 1, 1991, a minimum of 20% of the difference between the estimated and the actual aggregate compensation and the estimated and the actual actuarial employer contribution rate described in subsection (6), if any, shall be paid by that employer in the next succeeding state fiscal year and a minimum of 25% of the remaining difference shall be paid by that employer in each of the following 4 state fiscal years, or until 100% of the remaining difference is submitted, whichever first occurs. In addition, interest shall be included for each year that a portion of the remaining difference is carried forward. The interest rate shall equal the actuarially assumed rate of investment return for the state fiscal year in which payment is made.

(10) Beginning on the designated date, all assets held by the retirement system shall be reassigned their fair market value, as determined by the state treasurer, as of the designated date, and in calculating any unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities, any market gains or losses incurred before the designated date shall not be considered by the retirement system's actuaries.

(11) Beginning on the designated date, the actuary used by the retirement board shall assume a rate of return on investments of 8.00% per annum, as of the designated date, which rate may only be changed with the approval of the retirement board and the director of the department.

(12) Beginning on the designated date, the value of assets used shall be based on a method that spreads over a 5-year period the difference between actual and expected return occurring in each year after the designated date and such methodology may only be changed with the approval of the retirement board and the director of the department.

(13) Beginning on the designated date, the actuary used by the retirement board shall use a salary increase assumption that projects annual salary increases of 4%. In addition to the 4%, the retirement board shall use an

additional percentage based upon an age-related scale to reflect merit, longevity, and promotional salary increase. The actuary shall use this assumption until a change in the assumption is approved in writing by the retirement board and the director of the department.

Sec. 91. (1) The retirement system shall pay the entire monthly premium or membership or subscription fee for hospital, medical-surgical, and sick care benefits for the benefit of a retirant or retirement allowance beneficiary who elects coverage in the plan authorized by the retirement board and the department.

(2) The retirement system may pay up to the maximum of the amount payable under subsection (1) toward the monthly premium for hospital, medical-surgical, and sick care benefits for the benefit of a retirant or retirement allowance beneficiary enrolled in a group health insurance or prepaid service plan not authorized by the retirement board and the department, if enrolled before June 1, 1975, for whom the retirement system on July 18, 1983 was making a payment towards his or her monthly premium.

(3) A retirant or retirement allowance beneficiary receiving hospital, medical-surgical, and sick care benefits coverage under subsection (1) or (2), until eligible for medicare, shall have an amount equal to the cost chargeable to a medicare recipient for part B of medicare deducted from his or her retirement allowance.

(4) The retirement system shall pay 90% of the monthly premium or membership or subscription fee for dental, vision, and hearing benefits for the benefit of a retirant or retirement allowance beneficiary who elects coverage in the plan authorized by the retirement board and the department. Payments shall begin under this subsection upon approval by the retirement board and the department of plan coverage and a plan provider.

(5) The retirement system shall pay up to 90% of the maximum of the amount payable under subsection (1) toward the monthly premium or membership or subscription fee for hospital, medical-surgical, and sick care benefits coverage described in subsections (1) and (2) for each health insurance dependent of a retirant receiving benefits under subsection (1) or (2). Payment shall not exceed 90% of the actual monthly premium or membership or subscription fee. The retirement system shall pay 90% of the monthly premium or membership or subscription fee for dental, vision, and hearing benefits described in subsection (4) for the benefit of each health insurance dependent of a retirant receiving benefits under subsection (4). Payment for health benefits coverage for a health insurance dependent of a retirant shall not be made after the retirant's death, unless the retirant designated a retirement allowance beneficiary as provided in section 85 and the dependent was covered or eligible for coverage as a health insurance dependent of the retirant on the retirant's date of death. Payment for health benefits coverage shall not be made for a health insurance dependent after the later of the retirant's death or the retirement allowance beneficiary's death. Payment under this subsection and subsection (6) shall begin October 1, 1985 for health insurance dependents who on July 10, 1985 are covered by the hospital, medical-surgical, and sick care benefits plan authorized by the retirement board and the department. Payment under this subsection and subsection (6) for other health insurance dependents shall not begin before January 1, 1986.

(6) The payment described in subsection (5) shall also be made for each health insurance dependent of a deceased member or deceased duty disability retirant if a retirement allowance is being paid to a retirement allowance beneficiary because of the death of the member or duty disability retirant as provided in section 43c(c), 89, or 90. Payment for health benefits coverage for a health insurance dependent shall not be made after the retirement allowance beneficiary's death.

(7) The payments provided by this section shall not be made on behalf of a retiring section 82 deferred member or health insurance dependent of a deferred member having less than 21 full years of attained credited service or the retiring deferred member's retirement allowance beneficiary, and shall not be made on behalf of a retirement allowance beneficiary of a deferred member who dies before retiring. The retirement system shall pay, on behalf of a retiring section 82 deferred member or health insurance dependent of a deferred member or a retirement allowance beneficiary of a deceased deferred member, either of whose allowance is based upon not less than 21 years of attained credited service, 10% of the payments provided by this section, increased by 10% for each attained full year of credited service beyond 21 years, not to exceed 100%. This subsection applies to any member who attains deferred status under section 82 after October 31, 1980.

(8) Any retirant or retirement allowance beneficiary excluded from payments under this section may participate in the hospital, medical-surgical, and sick care benefits plan, the dental plan, vision plan, or hearing plan, or any combination of the plans described in this section in the manner prescribed by the retirement system at his or her own cost.

(9) The hospital, medical-surgical, and sick care benefits plan, dental plan, vision plan, and hearing plan that covers retirants, retirement allowance beneficiaries, and health insurance dependents pursuant to this section shall contain a coordination of benefits provision that provides all of the following:

(a) If the person covered under the hospital, medical-surgical, and sick care benefits plan is also eligible for medicare or medicaid, or both, then the benefits under medicare or medicaid, or both, shall be determined before the benefits of the hospital, medical-surgical, and sick care benefits plan provided pursuant to this section.

(b) If the person covered under any of the plans provided by this section is also covered under another plan that contains a coordination of benefits provision, the benefits shall be coordinated as provided by the coordination of benefits act, 1984 PA 64, MCL 550.251 to 550.255.

(c) If the person covered under any of the plans provided by this section is also covered under another plan that does not contain a coordination of benefits provision, the benefits under the other plan shall be determined before the benefits of the plan provided pursuant to this section.

(10) For purposes of this section:

(a) "Health insurance dependent" means any of the following:

(i) The spouse of the retirant or the surviving spouse to whom the retirant or deceased member was married at the time of the retirant's or deceased member's death.

(ii) An unmarried child, by birth or adoption, of the retirant or deceased member, until December 31 of the calendar year in which the child becomes 19 years of age.

(iii) An unmarried child, by birth or adoption, of the retirant or deceased member, until December 31 of the calendar year in which the child becomes 25 years of age, who is enrolled as a full-time student, and who is or was at the time of the retirant's or deceased member's death a dependent of the retirant or deceased member as defined in section 152 of the internal revenue code.

(iv) An unmarried child, by birth or adoption, of the retirant or deceased member who is incapable of self-sustaining employment because of mental or physical handicap, and who is or was at the time of the retirant's or deceased member's death a dependent of the retirant or deceased member as defined in section 152 of the internal revenue code.

(v) The parents of the retirant or deceased member, or the parents of his or her spouse, who are residing in the household of the retirant or retirement allowance beneficiary.

(b) "Medicaid" means benefits under the federal medicaid program established under title XIX of the social security act, chapter 531, 49 Stat. 620, 42 U.S.C. 1396 to 1396f, 1396g-1 to 1396r-6, and 1396r-8 to 1396v.

(c) "Medicare" means benefits under the federal medicare program established under title XVIII of the social security act, chapter 531, 49 Stat. 620, 42 U.S.C. 1395 to 1395b, 1395b-2, 1395b-6 to 1395b-7, 1395c to 1395i, 1395i-2 to 1395i-5, 1395j to 1395t, 1395u to 1395w, 1395w-2 to 1395w-4, 1395w-21 to 1395w-28, 1395x to 1395yy, and 1395bbb to 1395ggg.

Enacting section 1. Section 41b, sections 109 to 112, and article 7 of the public school employees retirement act of 1979, 1980 PA 300, MCL 38.1341b, 38.1409 to 38.1412, and 38.1451 to 38.1467, are repealed.

Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless all of the following bills of the 89th Legislature are enacted into law:

- (a) Senate Bill No. 178.
- (b) House Bill No. 5083.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

Carol Morey Viventi

Secretary of the Senate.

Gregory B. Bennett

Clerk of the House of Representatives.

Approved _____

Governor.