By: Kolkhorst, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Duncan) H.B. No. 1579 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 4, 2005; May 5, 2005, read first time and referred to Committee on State 1-1 1-2 1-3 Affairs; May 21, 2005, reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0; May 21, 2005, sent to printer.) 1-4 1-5 1-6

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 1579

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1-62 1-63 By: Duncan

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

relating to certain retired school employees and the powers and duties of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 22, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 22.007 to read as follows:

Sec. 22.007. INCENTIVES FOR EARLY RETIREMENT. A district

not offer or provide a financial or other incentive to an employee of the district to encourage the employee to retire from the Teacher Retirement System of Texas.
SECTION 2. Sections 823.401(d) and (e), Government Code,

are amended to read as follows:

(d) A member may establish credit under this section by depositing with the retirement system for each year of service credit the actuarial present value, at the time of deposit, of the additional standard retirement annuity benefits that would be attributable to the purchase of the service credit under this section, based on rates and tables recommended by the retirement system's actuary and adopted by the board of trustees [claimed a

contribution computed at the rate of:

[(1) 12 percent of the full-time rate of the member's annual compensation, plus any additional eligible compensation received, during the first year of service for which the member received membership credit in the retirement system that is both after the service for which credit is sought and after September 1, 1956; or

- [(2) 12 percent of the full-time rate of the member's annual compensation, plus any additional eligible compensation received, during the most recent year of service for which the member received membership credit that is after the service for which credit is sought, if the member has performed no service in Texas since September 1, 1956].

 (e) [In addition to the contribution required by Subsection
- (d), a member claiming credit under this section must pay a fee of eight percent, compounded annually, of the required contribution from the date of first eligibility to the date of deposit. deposit for at least one year of credit[, including the fee,] must be made with an initial application for credit, and all payments for service claimed under this section must be made before retirement.

SECTION 3. Sections 824.202(a), (b), and (d), Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) A member is eligible to retire and receive a standard

- service retirement annuity if:
- (1) the member is at least 65 years old and has at
- least five years of service credit in the retirement system; or

 (2) the member is at least 60 years old and has at least five [20] years of service credit in the retirement system and

[(3) the member is at least 50 years old and has at least 30 years of service credit in the retirement system; or

 $[\frac{4}{4}]$ the sum of the member's age and amount of service credit in the retirement system equals the number 80.

(b) If a member is at least 55 years old and has at least five years of service credit in the retirement system, <u>but does not</u> meet the requirements under Subsection (d), the member is eligible

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to retire and receive a service retirement annuity reduced from the 2 - 12-2 standard service retirement annuity available under Subsection 2-3 (a)(1), to a percentage derived from the following table:

Age at Date of Retirement] 2-4 [Years of Service 2**-**5 59 55 56 57 58 60 61 62 63 65 Age at 2-6 date of 2-7 retirement 2-8 Percentage 47% 51% 55% 59% 63% 67% 73% 80% 87% 93% 100% of 2-9 2-10 standard 2-11 annuity 2-12 receivable 2-13

[at least 5 but less than 20]

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(d) If the sum of a member's age and amount of service credit in the retirement system equals the number 80, with at least five years of service credit, or if the [a] member has at least 30 years of service credit in the retirement system, the member is eligible to retire regardless of age and receive a service retirement annuity, reduced from [consisting of a percentage of] the standard service retirement annuity available under Subsection (a)(2) $[\frac{(a)(3)}{(a)}]$, to a percentage derived from the following table: <u>50 51 52 53 54 55 56</u> Age at date of

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retirement <u>Percentage 70% 73% 76% 79% 82% 85% 88% 91% 94% 97% 100%</u>

of

standard annuity receivable

For each year of age under 50 years with 30 years of service credit, the standard service retirement annuity shall be three percent less than the percentage for age 50 with 30 years of service credit [in Subsection (c). The board of trustees shall extend the table in Subsection (c) to ages earlier than 50 years by decreasing the percentages by two percent for each year of age under 50 years].

SECTION 4. Section 824.203(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Except as provided by Subsections (c) and $[\tau]$ (d), [and] $\frac{(e)_{r}}{r}$] the standard service retirement annuity is an amount computed on the basis of the member's average annual compensation for the five [three] years of service, whether or not consecutive, in which the member received the highest annual compensation, times 2.3 percent for each year of service credit in the retirement system.

SECTION 5. Sections 824.2045(a), (b), (c), and Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) A member [who is eligible for an unreduced service retirement annuity and is not participating in the deferred retirement option plan under Subchapter I] may select a standard service retirement annuity or an optional service retirement annuity described by Section 824.204, reduced for early age as applicable under Section 824.202, together with a partial lump-sum distribution, if:

(1) the member is eligible for a service retirement

annuity;

(2) the sum of the member's age and amount of service

credit in the retirement system equals the number 90; and

(3) the member is not participating in the deferred retirement option plan under Subchapter I.

(b) The amount of the lump-sum distribution under this section may not exceed the sum of 36 members of a standard service. section may not exceed the sum of 36 months of a standard service retirement annuity <u>reduced for early age as applicable under Section 824.202</u> computed without regard to this section.

(c) The service retirement annuity selected by the member

shall be actuarially reduced to reflect the lump-sum option selected by the member and shall be actuarially equivalent to a standard or optional service retirement annuity, as applicable,

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reduced for early age as applicable under Section 824.202, without the partial lump-sum distribution. The annuity and lump sum shall be computed to result in no actuarial loss to the retirement system.

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(d) The retiring member may choose a lump sum equal to 12 months of a standard service retirement annuity and payable at the same time that the first monthly payment of the annuity is paid, a lump sum equal to 24 months of a standard annuity and payable in one or two annual payments, or a lump sum equal to 36 months of a standard annuity and payable in one, two, or three annual payments. At the option of the member, a payment under this subsection may be made as provided by Section 825.509. The amount of the lump sum shall be computed based on a standard service retirement annuity reduced for early age as applicable under Section 824.202.

SECTION 6. Section 824.405, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 824.405. TABLES FOR DETERMINATION OF DEATH BENEFIT ANNUITY. For the purpose of computing a death benefit annuity under Section 824.402(a)(4) or 824.403, the board of trustees shall extend the tables:

- (1) in Section 824.202(b) to ages earlier than 55 years by actuarially reducing the benefit available at the age of 55 years to the actuarial equivalent at the attained age of the beneficiary; and
- (2) in Section 824.202(d) [824.202(c)] to ages earlier than the earliest retirement age by actuarially reducing the benefit available at the earliest retirement age to the actuarial equivalent at the attained age of the beneficiary.

SECTION 7. Section 824.602(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

- (a) Subject to Section 825.506, the retirement system may not, under Section 824.601, withhold a monthly benefit payment if the retiree is employed in a Texas public educational institution:
- (1) as a substitute only with pay not more than the daily rate of substitute pay established by the employer and, if the retiree is a disability retiree, the employment has not exceeded a total of 90 days in the school year;
- (2) in a position, other than as a substitute, on no more than a one-half time basis for the month;
- (3) in one or more positions on as much as a full-time basis, if the work occurs in not more than six months of a school year that begins after the retiree's effective date of retirement;
- (4) in a position, other than as a substitute, on no more than a one-half time basis for no more than 90 days in the school year, if the retiree is a disability retiree;
- (5) in a position as a classroom teacher on as much as a full-time basis, if the retiree has retired under Section 824.202(a), is certified under Subchapter B, Chapter 21, Education Code, to teach the subjects assigned, is teaching in an acute shortage area as determined by the board of trustees of a school district as provided by Subsection (m), and has been separated from service with all public schools for at least 12 months;
- (6) in a position as a principal, including as an assistant principal, on as much as a full-time basis, if the retiree has retired under Section 824.202(a) without reduction for retirement at an early age, is certified under Subchapter B, Chapter 21, Education Code, to serve as a principal, and has been separated from service with all public schools for at least 12 months; or
- (7) as a bus driver for a school district on as much as a full-time basis, if the retiree has retired under Section 824.202(a) and the retiree's primary employment is as a bus driver.

SECTION 8. Subchapter G, Chapter 824, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 824.6022 to read as follows:

Sec. 824.6022. REQUIRED REPORTS; OFFENSE. (a) An employer shall file a monthly certified statement of employment of a retiree in the form and manner required by the retirement system.

(b) A person commits an offense if the person is an administrator of an employer, is responsible for filing a statement under Subsection (a), and knowingly fails to file the statement as

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SECTION 9. Section 825.307(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

- (a) The retirement system shall deposit in a member's individual account in the member savings account:
- (1) the amount of contributions to the retirement system that is deducted from the member's compensation;
- (2) the portion of a deposit made on or after resumption of membership that represents the amount of retirement benefits received;
- (3) the portion of a deposit to reinstate service credit previously canceled that represents the amount withdrawn or refunded;
- (4) the portion of a deposit to establish military service credit required by Section 823.302(c);
- (5) the portion of a deposit to establish equivalent service credit required by Section 823.401(d), membership 823.402(e)(1) or 823.404(c)[, 823.405, (e)(2), or823.3021(f)(1); and
- (6) interest earned on money in the acc provided by Subsections (b) and (c) and Section 825.313(c). account

SECTION 10. Section 825.308, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 825.308. STATE CONTRIBUTION ACCOUNT. The retirement

- required by Section 825.404;
- (2) amounts from the interest account as provided by Section 825.313(b)(2);
- (3) retirement annuities waived or forfeited in accordance with Section 824.601 or 824.004;
 - (4) fees collected under Section 825.403(h);
- (5) fees and interest for reinstatement of service credit or establishment of membership service credit as provided by
- Section 823.501;

 (6) the portion of a deposit required by Section

 (6) the portion of a deposit required by Section are a credit that represents a fee; 823.302 to establish military service credit that represents a fee; and
- (7) employer contributions required under Section 825.4092 [the portion of a deposit required by Section 823.401(e) to establish out-of-state service credit that represents a fee].

SECTION 11. Section 825.404(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) During each fiscal year, the state shall contribute to the retirement system an amount equal to <u>not less than six percent</u> and not more than 10 [eight] percent of the aggregate annual compensation of all members of the retirement system during that

SECTION 12. Subchapter E, Chapter 825, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 825.4041 to read as follows:

Sec. 825.4041. EMPLOYER PAYMENTS. (a) For this section, a new member is a person first employed on or after September 1, 2005, including a former member who withdrew retirement contributions under Section 822.003 and is reemployed on

or after September 1, 2005.

(b) During each fiscal year, an employer shall pay an amount equal to the state contribution rate, as established by the General Appropriations Act for the fiscal year, applied to the aggregate compensation of new members of the retirement system, as described by Subsection (a), during their first 90 days of employment.

(c) On a monthly basis an employer shall:

(1) report to the retirement system, prescribed by the system, a certification of the total amount of salary paid during the first 90 days of employment of a new member and the total amount of employer payments due under this section for the payroll periods; and

(2) retain information, as determined by the retirement system, sufficient to allow administration of this section, including information for each employee showing the

C.S.H.B. No. 1579 applicable salary as well as aggregate compensation for the first

90 days of employment for new employees.

(d) A person who was hired before September 1, 2005, and was subject to a 90-day waiting period for membership in the retirement system becomes eligible to participate in the retirement system as a member starting September 1, 2005. For the purpose of this section, the member shall be treated as a new member for the remainder of the waiting period.

(e) The employer must remit the amount required under this section to the retirement system at the same time the employer remits the member's contribution. In computing the amount required to be remitted, the employer shall include compensation paid to an employee for the entire pay period that contains the 90th calendar

day of new employment.

(f) At the end of each school year, the retirement system shall certify to the commissioner of education and to the state

auditor:

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5-68 5**-**69 within the period required by Section 825.408, all payments required under this section for the school year; and

(2) the amounts of the unpaid required payments.

- If the commissioner of education or the state auditor receives a certification under Subsection (f), the commissioner or the state auditor shall direct the comptroller to withhold the amount certified, plus interest computed at the rate and in the manner provided by Section 825.408, from the first state money payable to the employer. The amount withheld shall be deposited to the credit of the appropriate accounts of the retirement system.
- (h) The board of trustees shall take this section into consideration in adopting the biennial estimate of the amount necessary to pay the state's contributions to the system.

(i) During the period for which an employer must make a payment under Subsection (b), the employee:

(1) is not eligible to receive compensa supplementation under Chapter 1580, Insurance Code; and

(2) is not included for purposes of computing compensation

amount of state assistance under Section 1579.251, Insurance Code.

SECTION 13. Subchapter E, Chapter 825, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 825.4092 to read as follows:

Sec. 825.4092. EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS FOR RETIREES. (a) This section applies to an employer who reports to the retirement system the employment of a retiree.

(b) Except as provided by Subsection (e), payroll period for which a retiree is reported, the employer shall contribute to the retirement system for each retiree reported an amount based on the retiree's salary equal to the sum of:

(1) the current contribution amount that would be by the retiree if the retiree were an active, contributed contributing member; and

(2) the current contribution amount authorized by the General Appropriations Act that the state would contribute for that

retiree if the retiree were an active, contributing member.

- (c) Except as provided by Subsection (e), each period, for each retiree who is enrolled in the Texas Public School Employees Group Benefits Program under Chapter 1575, Insurance Code, the employer who reports the employment of a retiree shall contribute to the trust fund established under that chapter any difference between the amount the retiree is required to pay for the retiree and any enrolled dependents to participate in the group program and the full cost of the retiree's and enrolled dependents' participation in the group program, as determined by the retirement If more than one employer reports the retiree to the retirement system during a month, the amount of the required payment shall be prorated among the employers.
- (d) Contributions under this section are subject to the requirements of Section 825.408.
- (e) The amounts required to be paid under Subsections (b) and (c) are not required to be paid by a reporting employer for a retiree who was reported by that employer under retirement system

rules in effect for the report month of January 2005

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Section 1575.203(a), Insurance Code, is amended SECTION 14. to read as follows:

(a) Each state fiscal year, each active employee shall, as a condition of employment, contribute to the fund an amount equal to 0.65 [0.5] percent of the employee's salary.

SECTION 15. Section 1575.204, Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1575.204. PUBLIC SCHOOL CONTRIBUTION. (a) Each state fiscal year, each public school shall contribute to the fund the amount prescribed by the General Appropriations Act, which may not be less than 0.25 percent or greater than 0.75 percent of the salary of each active employee of the public school. The public school shall make the contributions on a monthly basis and as otherwise prescribed by the trustee.

(b) Each state fiscal year, each employer who reports to the retirement system under Section 824.6022, Government Code, the employment of a retiree who is enrolled in the group program shall contribute to the fund the difference, if any, between the contribution amount that the reported retiree is required to pay for the retiree and any enrolled dependents to participate in the group program and the full cost of the retiree's and enrolled dependents' participation in the group program, as determined by the trustee. The amounts required to be paid under this subsection are not required to be paid by a reporting employer for a retiree who was reported by that employer under retirement system rules in effect for the report month of January 2005.

SECTION 16. (a) Section 824.202(c), Government Code, is repealed.

Section 823.405, Government Code, is repealed. (b)

SECTION 17. (a) The Teacher Retirement System of Texas shall make a one-time supplemental payment of a retirement or death benefit, as provided by this section.

(b) The supplemental payment is payable in January 2006 and, to the extent practicable, on a date or dates that coincide with the regular annuity payment payable to each eligible annuitant.

- (c) The amount of the supplemental payment is equal to the gross amount of the regular annuity payment to which the eligible annuitant is otherwise entitled for the month of December 2005 and is payable in January 2006, without regard to any forfeiture of benefits under Section 824.602, Government Code. The Teacher Retirement System of Texas shall make applicable tax withholding and other legally required deductions before disbursing the supplemental payment. The supplemental payment under this section is in addition to and not in lieu of the regular monthly annuity payment to which the eligible annuitant is otherwise entitled.
- (d) Subject to Subsection (e) of this section, to be eligible for the supplemental payment, a person must be, for the month of December 2005, and disregarding any forfeiture of monthly benefits under Section 824.602, Government Code, an annuitant eligible to receive:
 - (1)a standard retirement annuity payment;
- (2) an optional retirement annuity payment as either a retiree or beneficiary;
- life annuity under (3) a payment 824.402(a)(4), Government Code;
- (4) an annuity for a guaranteed period of 60 months under Section 824.402(a)(3), Government Code; or
- (5) an alternate payee annuity payment under Section 804.005, Government Code.
- If the annuitant is a retiree or a beneficiary under an (e) optional retirement payment plan, to be eligible for the supplemental payment, the effective date of the retirement of the member of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas must have been before September 1, 2003. If the annuitant is a beneficiary under Section 824.402(a)(3) or (4), Government Code, to be eligible for the supplemental payment, the date of death of the member of the retirement system must have been before September 1, 2003. supplemental payment shall be made to an alternate payee who is an

C.S.H.B. No. 1579 annuitant under Section 804.005, Government Code, only if the annuity payments to the alternate payee commenced before September 1, 2003. The supplemental payment is in addition to the guaranteed number of payments under Section 824.402(a)(3) or 824.204(c)(3) or (4), Government Code, and may not be counted as one of the guaranteed monthly payments.

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- (f) The supplemental payment does not apply to payments under:
- Section 824.304(a), Government Code, relating to (1)disability retirees with less than 10 years of service credit;
- (2) Section 824.804(b), Government Code, relating to participants in the deferred retirement option plan with regard to payments from their deferred retirement option plan accounts;
- (3) Section 824.501(a), Government Code, relating to retiree survivor beneficiaries receiving a survivor annuity in an amount fixed by statute; or
- Section 824.404(a), Government Code, relating to (4)active member survivor beneficiaries receiving a survivor annuity in an amount fixed by statute.
- (g) Except as provided by this section, the board of trustees of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas shall determine the eligibility for and the amount and timing of a supplemental payment and the manner in which the payment is made.
- (h) The Teacher Retirement System of Texas shall pay the supplemental payment made under this section from the retired reserve account and may transfer to that account from the state contribution account any portion of the amount that exceeds the amount in the retired reserve account available to finance the supplemental payment and that is actuarially determined to be necessary to finance the supplemental payment. The supplemental payment under this section must comply with Section 821.006, Government Code.
- SECTION 18. (a) Notwithstanding Sections 823.401(d) (e), Government Code, as amended by this Act, a member of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas may establish out-of-state service credit by making the contribution required under Section 823.401, Government Code, as it existed before amendment by this Act, if the person was a member of the system on December 31, 2005, and the out-of-state service was performed before January 1, 2006.
- The Teacher Retirement System of Texas shall deposit in (b) the state contribution account under Section 825.308, Government Code, the portion of a deposit required under Section 823.401, Government Code, as it existed before amendment by this Act, to establish out-of-state service that represents a fee.
- SECTION 19. (a) The changes in law made by this Act to Sections 824.202, 824.203, and 824.2045, Government Code, apply only to a person who retires under the Teacher Retirement System of Texas on or after September 1, 2005, unless the person meets one of the requirements of Subsection (b) of this section. A person who retires under the Teacher Retirement System of Texas before September 1, 2005, is governed by the law as it existed immediately before that date, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.
- (b) A person who retires under the Teacher Retirement System of Texas on or after September 1, 2005, and who meets one or more of the following requirements on or before August 31, 2005, is governed by the law as it existed immediately before September 1, 2005, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose:
 - (1)the person has attained age 50;
- (2) the sum of the person's age and amount of service credit in the retirement system equals 70 or greater; or
- (3) the person has at least 25 years of service credit in the retirement system.
- (c) Only service actually credited in the retirement system on or before August 31, 2005, may be used to determine eligibility under Subsections (b)(2) and (3) of this section. Service credit that will be established only after completion of additional payments under an installment agreement after August 31, 2005, may not be considered to be actually credited for the purpose of

Subsections (b)(2) and (3) of this section.

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SECTION 20. Section 824.602, Government Code, as amended by this Act, applies only to a person who retires from the Teacher Retirement System of Texas on or after the effective date of this Act. A person who retires from the Teacher Retirement System of Texas before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law as it existed immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 21. The changes in law made by this Act by the addition of Section 825.4092, Government Code, and the amendment of Section 1575.204, Insurance Code, apply to a reporting entity that reports a retiree of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas during any month after the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 22. Unless the agreement is terminated before all payments are made, the change in law made by this Act does not apply to an agreement that existed immediately before January 1, 2006, between an individual and the Teacher Retirement System of Texas for the purchase in installments of service credit under Section 823.405, Government Code.

SECTION 23. (a) Except as provided by Subsections (b) and (c) of this section, this Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

(b) The change in law made by this Act to Section

- 825.307(a), Government Code, takes effect January 1, 2009.
 (c) The repeal by this Act of Section 823.405, Government Code, takes effect January 1, 2006.

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