By: Flynn, Villalba, Koop, Alonzo, Meyer, H.B. No. 3158 et al.

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 3158:

By: Alonzo C.S.H.B. No. 3158

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

- 2 relating to the retirement systems for and the provision of other
- 3 benefits to police and fire fighters in certain municipalities.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
- 5 SECTION 1. Section 1.01, Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes,
- 6 is amended to read as follows:
- 7 Sec. 1.01. AMENDMENT, RESTATEMENT, AND CONSOLIDATION. (a)
- 8 The purpose of this article is to restate and amend the provisions
- 9 of a former law governing the pension funds for police officers and
- 10 fire fighters in certain municipalities (Chapter 4, Acts of the
- 11 43rd Legislature, 1st Called Session, 1933, also known as Article
- 12 6243a) having previously been amended and restated to permit the
- 13 consolidation of the terms of certain pension plans created under
- 14 Sections 1, 11A, and 11B of that Act for the purpose of simply and
- 15 accurately reflecting the joint administration of the plans.
- 16 (b) [The provisions of this article are entirely consistent
- 17 with all terms and conditions relating to benefits and benefit
- 18 entitlement previously contained in the plans.] This article does
- 19 not [intend to] take away or reduce any accrued benefit contained in
- 20 the plans created under former Article 6243a or under this article
- 21 as it existed on or before August 31, 2017.
- SECTION 2. Section 2.01, Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes,
- 23 is amended to read as follows:
- 24 Sec. 2.01. DEFINITIONS. In this article:

- 1 (1) "415 compensation" means a member's wages, salary,
 2 and other amounts received for personal services rendered in the
- 3 course of employment with the city during a limitation year and
- 4 permitted to be treated as compensation for purposes of Section
- 5 415(c) of the code, including differential wage payments described
- 6 in Section 414(u)(12) of the code. The term does not include
- 7 amounts picked up under Section 4.03(i) of this article.
- 8 (2) "Active service" means any period that a member
- 9 receives compensation as a police officer or fire fighter from
- 10 either department for services rendered.
- 11 (3) [(2)] "Actuarial equivalent" means a form of
- 12 benefit differing in time, duration, or manner of payment from a
- 13 standard benefit payable under this article but having the same
- 14 value when computed using the assumptions set forth in this
- 15 article.
- 16 [(3) "Administrator" means the person designated by
- 17 the board to supervise the affairs of the pension system.
- 18 (4) "Alternate payee" has the meaning given the term
- 19 by Section 414(p) [414] of the code or any successor provision.
- 20 (5) "Alternative investment" means an investment in an
- 21 <u>asset other than a traditional asset. The term includes an</u>
- 22 <u>investment</u> in private equity funds, private real estate
- 23 transactions, hedge funds, and infrastructure.
- (6) $[\frac{(5)}{(5)}]$ "Annual additions" means the sum of the
- 25 following amounts credited to a member's account under any defined
- 26 contribution plan maintained by the city for the limitation year:
- 27 (A) city contributions;

- 1 (B) member contributions, other than rollover
- 2 contributions from a plan maintained by any employer other than the
- 3 city;
- 4 (C) forfeitures; and
- 5 (D) amounts allocated after March 31, 1984, to an
- 6 individual medical <u>benefit</u> account, as defined in Section 415(1)(2)
- 7 [415(1)(2)] of the code, that is part of a pension or annuity plan
- 8 maintained by the city.
- 9 [The term does not include amounts described in Paragraph (D)
- 10 of this subdivision for the purpose of computing the percentage
- 11 limitation described in Section 415(c)(1)(B) of the code. For any
- 12 limitation year beginning before January 1, 1987, only that portion
- 13 of member contributions equal to the lesser of member contributions
- 14 in excess of six percent of 415 compensation or one-half of member
- 15 contributions to the combined pension plan or any qualified defined
- 16 contribution plan maintained by the city is treated as annual
- 17 additions.
- 18 (7) [(6)] "Annual benefit" means the aggregate
- 19 benefit attributable to city and member contributions payable
- 20 annually under the combined pension plan, or any plan maintained by
- 21 the city, exclusive of any benefit not required to be considered for
- 22 purposes of applying the limitations of Section 415 of the code to
- 23 the combined pension plan, payable in the form of a straight life
- 24 annuity beginning at age 62 with no ancillary benefits. Solely for
- 25 purposes of computing the limitations under the combined pension
- 26 plan, benefits actually payable to a pensioner are adjusted to the
- 27 actuarial equivalent of a straight life annuity pursuant to Section

- 1 415(b) [8.01] of the code [this article] even though no member may
- 2 actually receive a benefit in the form of a straight life annuity.
- 3 (8) [(7)] "Article 6243a" means Chapter 4, Acts of the
- 4 43rd Legislature, 1st Called Session, 1933 (former Article 6243a,
- 5 Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), pertaining to a pension system for
- 6 police officers, fire fighters, and fire alarm operators in certain
- 7 cities.
- 8 $\underline{(9)}$ [$\frac{(8)}{}$] "Assignment pay" means monthly pay, in
- 9 addition to salary, granted to a Group B member and authorized by
- 10 the city council for the performance of certain enumerated duty
- 11 assignments.
- 12 (10) $[\frac{(9)}{}]$ "Base pay" means the maximum monthly civil
- 13 service pay from time to time established by the city for a person
- 14 who holds the rank of "police officer" in the city's police
- 15 department or the rank of "fire and rescue officer" in the city's
- 16 <u>fire department</u> [a police officer or fire fighter], exclusive of
- 17 any other form of compensation. The term does not include
- 18 compensation paid by the city to a person for prior periods of
- 19 service or compensation that otherwise constitutes back pay unless
- 20 the compensation is eligible back pay. The board may adopt rules
- 21 and procedures necessary to include eligible back pay as base pay
- 22 for purposes of this definition, including rules regarding how
- 23 <u>increases in benefits will be determined and administered.</u>
- 24 (11) $[\frac{(10)}{}]$ "Base pension" means the amount of
- 25 retirement, death, or disability benefits as determined [computed
- 26 under this article] at the earliest of the time a Group B member
- 27 and, solely for the purposes of Section 6.12 of this article, a

1 Group A member: (A) begins participation in DROP; 2 3 (B) leaves or left active service; [leaves active service,] dies; [,] or 4 (C) 5 (D) becomes entitled to a disability pension under the combined pension plan [disabled]. 6 7 Solely for purposes of this definition, when a member becomes entitled to a disability pension, the base pension shall be 8 determined as of the date on which the disability pension begins. 9 10 (12) [(11)] "Board" means the board of trustees created under Section 3.01 of this article for the purpose of 11 12 administering the pension system. (13) [(12)] "Child" means <u>a</u> [an unmarried] person 13 14 [under the age of 19] whose [natural or adoptive] parent, as 15 recognized under the laws of this state, is a primary party. 16 (14) [(13)] "City" means each municipality having a 17 population of more than 1.18 million and located predominantly in a county that has a total area of less than 1,000 square miles. 18 19 (15) "City attorney" means the chief legal officer of 20 a city. 21 (16) [(14)] "City council" means the governing body of 22 the city. 23 (17) "City manager" means the city manager of a city or 24 the city manager's designee and includes, to the extent of any designation, an interim or acting city manager, chief financial 25

officer, budget director, or assistant city manager. If a city does

not have an individual serving in a position otherwise described by

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- 1 this subdivision, "city manager" means the mayor of that city.
- 2 (18) [(15)] "City service incentive pay" means annual
- 3 <u>incentive</u> pay, adjusted by the city from time to time, in addition
- 4 to the salary of a member granted to the member under the authority
- 5 of the city charter and received by the member during active
- 6 service.
- 7 (19) [(16)] "Code" means the United States Internal
- 8 Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.
- 9 (20) [(17)] "Combined pension plan" means any pension
- 10 plan created pursuant to this article before September 1, 2017.
- 11 (21) [(18)] "Computation pay" shall be used in
- 12 determining the amount of the city's contribution under Section
- 13 4.02(d) of this article and a Group B member's contribution under
- 14 Section 4.03(d) of this article and in determining the base pension
- 15 [of any benefits] to be paid to a Group B member or the benefits to
- 16 <u>be paid to the member's qualified survivors and means the sum of the</u>
- 17 following:
- 18 (A) the biweekly [monthly] rate of pay of a
- 19 [Group B] member for the highest civil service rank the person
- 20 holds, from time to time, as a result of a competitive examination;
- 21 plus
- 22 (B) the [monthly rate of pay of a Group B member
- 23 as] educational incentive pay of a member, computed on a biweekly
- 24 <u>basis</u>; plus
- (C) the longevity [monthly rate of] pay of a
- 26 [Group B] member [as longevity pay], as authorized by the
- 27 legislature, computed on a biweekly basis; plus

1 (D) the city service incentive pay, computed on a 2 biweekly [monthly] basis, of a [Group B] member.

3 The term includes only amounts actually paid in salary or payments made instead of salary to the member and member 4 5 contributions picked up by the city, and does not include any imputed pay. Furthermore, any [Any] compensation received by a 6 7 $[\frac{\text{Group B}}{\text{B}}]$ member, other than that noted in Paragraphs (A)-(D) of 8 this subdivision (for example, compensation for overtime work, certification pay, and the [monthly rate of] pay a member would 9 10 receive from the city in the form of assignment pay), will not be considered in determining the computation pay of a $[\frac{Croup}{B}]$ 11 member. Any lump-sum payments for compensatory time, unused sick 12 leave, unused vacation time, or city service incentive pay payable 13 14 after a [Group B] member leaves active service, dies [death], 15 becomes disabled [disability], or resigns [resignation], or after any other type of termination may not be considered in determining 16 17 the computation pay of any [Group B] member. Computation pay for a [Group B] member for any given period [month] is determined on the 18 19 biweekly [monthly] rates of pay due the [Group B] member for the entire period [month]. The term does not include compensation paid 20 by the city to a person for prior periods of service or compensation 21 that otherwise constitutes back pay unless the compensation is 22 23 eligible back pay. The board may adopt rules and procedures 24 necessary to include eligible back pay as computation pay for purposes of this definition, including rules regarding how 25 26 increases in benefits will be determined and administered. [If a Group B member works less than the member's assigned schedule for 27

- 1 any given month, the computation pay for the Group B member shall be
- 2 prorated for the portion of the month that the Group B member
- 3 worked.
- 4 [(19) "Educational incentive pay" means incentive pay
- 5 designed to reward completion of certain hours of college credit,
- 6 adjusted by the city from time to time, that is paid to a member in
- 7 addition to the member's salary.
- 8 (22) [(20)] "Department" means either the police
- 9 department of the city, the fire department of the city, or both the
- 10 police and fire departments of the city together.
- 11 (23) (21) "Dependent parent" means a natural parent
- 12 or parent who adopted a primary party and who immediately before the
- 13 death of a primary party received over half of the parent's
- 14 financial support from the primary party.
- 15 (24) [(22)] "Disability retirement" means any period
- 16 that a pensioner receives periodic disability compensation or a
- 17 disability pension.
- 18 (25) "DROP" means the deferred retirement option plan
- 19 established in accordance with Section 6.14 of this article.
- 20 (26) "Educational incentive pay" means incentive pay
- 21 designed to reward completion of certain hours of college credit,
- 22 adjusted by the city from time to time, that is paid to a member in
- 23 <u>addition to the member's salary.</u>
- 24 (27) "Eligible back pay," except as otherwise provided
- 25 by this definition, means additional compensation paid by the city
- 26 to a member or pensioner:
- 27 (A) that constitutes back pay to the member's or

- 1 pensioner's prior period of service and is otherwise considered
- 2 taxable wages paid by the city to the member or pensioner for
- 3 federal income tax purposes; and
- 4 (B) for which the pension system receives:
- 5 (i) an amount equal to the aggregate member
- 6 and city contributions that the pension system would have collected
- 7 with respect to the compensation for all time periods relating to
- 8 the back pay compensation; and
- 9 (ii) interest, calculated using the pension
- 10 system's actuarial rate of return assumptions in effect for the
- 11 periods relating to the back pay, compounded annually, on the
- 12 contribution amounts for the period from the date that the
- 13 contributions would have been received if the back pay compensation
- 14 had been paid during the relevant periods of prior service through
- 15 the date the amount relating to the contributions for back pay is
- 16 <u>actually received by the pension system.</u>
- 17 The term does not include any additional compensation paid by
- 18 the city to a member or pensioner wholly or partly or directly or
- 19 indirectly as the result of litigation instituted to recover back
- 20 pay.
- The pension system is not obligated to collect the additional
- 22 contributions or interest described in Paragraph (B) of this
- 23 subdivision from the member, pensioner, or city. The pension system
- 24 may not recognize back pay as eligible back pay until the
- 25 contributions and interest described in Paragraph (B) of this
- 26 subdivision have been received.
- 27 (28) "Executive director" means the person designated

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   by the board to supervise the operation of the pension system.
               (29) [<del>(23) "415 compensation" means a member's wages,</del>
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   salary, and other amounts received for personal services rendered
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   in the course of employment with the city during a limitation year,
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   but does not include:
                     [(A) contributions made by the city to a plan of
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   deferred compensation, or a simplified employee pension plan, to
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    the extent such contributions are excludable from the member's
   gross income;
9
10
                     [(B) any distributions from a plan of deferred
   compensation, or a simplified employee pension plan, to the extent
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   the distributions are excludable from the member's gross income;
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                     [(C) other amounts that received special tax
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   benefits, such as premiums for group term life insurance, to the
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   extent that the premiums are not includable in the gross income of
   the member, or contributions made by the city, including
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   contributions toward the purchase of an annuity described by
   Section 403(b) of the code, whether or not contributed pursuant to a
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   salary reduction agreement and whether or not the amounts are
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   actually excludable from the gross income of the member; and
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                     [(D) for any limitation year beginning after
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   December 31, 1988, compensation in excess of $200,000, adjusted in
2.2
    a manner permitted under Section 415(d) of the code.
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               [\frac{(24)}{}]
                      "Fund" means all funds and property held to
   provide benefits to [for the benefit of] all persons who are or who
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   may become entitled to any benefits under any plan within the
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pension system, together with all income, profits, or other

- 1 increments.
- 2 (30) [(25)] "Group A member" means any police officer
- 3 or fire fighter <u>included in Group A membership under</u> [described by]
- 4 Section 5.01(a)(1) of this article.
- 5 (31) [(26)] "Group B member" means any police officer
- 6 or fire fighter included in Group B membership under [described by]
- 7 Section 5.01(a)(2) of this article.
- 8 (32) [(27)] "Health director" means any qualified
- 9 physician designated from time to time by the board.
- 10 $\underline{(33)}$ [$\frac{(28)}{}$] "Limitation year" means the plan year of
- 11 the combined pension plan and any defined benefit plan or defined
- 12 contribution plan of the city in which a member participates.
- 13 (34) [(29)] "Longevity pay" means pay in addition to
- 14 the salary of a member granted under Section 141.032, Local
- 15 Government Code, for each year of active service completed by a
- 16 member in either department.
- 17 (35) [(30)] "Member" means both Group A and Group B
- 18 members.
- (36) $[\frac{(31)}{}]$ "Member's account" means an account
- 20 established and maintained for a member with respect to the
- 21 member's total interest in one or more defined contribution plans
- 22 under this article or maintained by the city resulting in annual
- 23 additions.
- 24 (37) "Nominations committee" means the nominations
- 25 <u>committee established under Section 3.011 of this article.</u>
- 26 (38) [(32)] "Old plan" means any pension plan created
- 27 pursuant to Section 1 of Article 6243a.

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- 1 (39) [(33)] "Pensioner," "Group A pensioner," or
- 2 "Group B pensioner" means a former member of the pension system who
- 3 is on either a service or disability retirement.
- 4 (40) (40) "Pension service" means the time, in
- 5 years, and prorated for fractional years, that a member has
- 6 contributed to the fund under the terms of the combined pension plan
- 7 or any plan within the pension system, reduced to reflect refunds
- 8 that have been received and not fully repaid.
- 9 (41) [(35)] "Pension system" means the fund and any
- 10 plans created pursuant to this article or Article 6243a and that are
- 11 intended to be qualified under Section 401(a) of the code.
- 12 (42) [(36)] "Plan A" means any plan created pursuant
- 13 to Section 11A of Article 6243a.
- 14 (43) $[\frac{(37)}{}]$ "Plan B" means any plan created pursuant
- 15 to Section 11B of Article 6243a.
- 16 (44) [(38)] "Police officer" or "fire fighter" means,
- 17 as appropriate, a police officer, fire fighter, fire and rescue
- 18 officer, fire alarm operator, fire inspector, apprentice police
- 19 officer, apprentice fire fighter, or similar employee of either
- 20 department as defined in the classifications of the human resources
- 21 [personnel] department of the city.
- 22 (45) [(39)] "Primary party," "Group B primary party,"
- 23 or "Group A primary party" means a member[, former member,] or
- 24 pensioner.
- 25 (46) [(40)] "Qualified actuary" means either:
- 26 (A) an individual who is a Fellow of the Society
- 27 of Actuaries, a Fellow of the Conference of Consulting Actuaries

- 1 [in Public Practice], or a member of the American Academy of
- 2 Actuaries; or
- 3 (B) a firm that employs one or more persons who
- 4 are Fellows of the Society of Actuaries, Fellows of the Conference
- 5 of Consulting Actuaries [in Public Practice], or members of the
- 6 American Academy of Actuaries and are providing services to the
- 7 pension system.
- 8 (47) [(41)] "Qualified domestic relations order" has
- 9 the meaning provided by Section 414(p) [414] of the code.
- 10 (48) [(42)] "Qualified survivor" means a person who is
- 11 eligible to receive <u>death</u> [survivor] benefits after the death of a
- 12 primary party and includes only:
- 13 (A) a surviving spouse, if the spouse was
- 14 continuously married to the primary party from [both at] the date
- 15 when the primary party either voluntarily or involuntarily left
- 16 active service as a member through [and at] the date of the primary
- 17 party's death;
- 18 (B) all surviving, unmarried[, legitimate, and
- 19 legally adopted] children who are either under 19 years of age or
- 20 have a disability, as determined by the board under Section
- 21 6.06(o-2) of this article, and who were:
- (i) born or adopted before the primary
- 23 party [as a member] either voluntarily or involuntarily left active
- 24 service<u>;</u> or
- 25 (ii) [who were] born after the primary party
- 26 [a member] left active service if the mother was pregnant with the
- 27 child before the primary party [member] left active service; and

- 1 (C) a surviving dependent parent of a primary
- 2 party if the primary party is not survived by a spouse or child
- 3 eligible for benefits.
- 4 (49) [(43)] "Service retirement" means any period
- 5 that a pensioner receives a retirement pension but does not include
- 6 any period of disability retirement.
- 7 (50) [(44)] "Spouse" means the person to whom [husband
- 8 or wife of] a primary party is legally married [recognized] under
- 9 the laws of this state or any other state.
- 10 (51) "Traditional asset" includes stocks, bonds, and
- 11 cash [(45) "Total wages and salaries" means all pay received by a
- 12 member of any plan within the pension system from the city,
- 13 excluding any lump-sum payments for unused sick time or unused
- 14 vacation time accrued by any member and payable as the result of the
- 15 member's death, disability, resignation, or any other reason for
- 16 leaving active service].
- 17 (52) $[\frac{(46)}{}]$ "Trustee" means a member of the board.
- 18 SECTION 3. Sections 2.02(a) and (b), Article 6243a-1,
- 19 Revised Statutes, are amended to read as follows:
- 20 (a) If the amount of any benefit or contribution is to be
- 21 determined on the basis of actuarial assumptions that are not
- 22 otherwise specifically set forth for that purpose in this article,
- 23 the actuarial assumptions to be used are those earnings and
- 24 mortality assumptions being used on the date of the determination
- 25 by the pension system's qualified actuary and approved by the
- 26 board.
- 27 (b) The actuarial assumptions being used at any particular

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- 1 time shall be attached by the executive director [administrator] as
- 2 an addendum to this article and treated for all purposes as a part
- 3 of any plan created by this article. The executive director shall
- 4 promptly update any addendum to conform to any changed actuarial
- 5 assumptions approved by the board.
- 6 SECTION 4. Part 2, Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, is
- 7 amended by adding Section 2.03 to read as follows:
- 8 Sec. 2.03. REFERENCES TO CERTAIN LAW. A reference to a
- 9 statute made in this article includes a reference to any
- 10 regulation, rule, order, or notice made by a governmental entity
- 11 with the authority under law to adopt the regulation, rule, order,
- 12 or notice, and on which the governmental entity intends persons to
- 13 rely, as appropriate.
- SECTION 5. Section 3.01, Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes,
- 15 is amended by amending Subsections (a), (b), (d), (e), (f), (h),
- 16 (i), (j), (n), and (o) and adding Subsections (b-1), (b-2), (b-3),
- 17 (b-4), (d-1), (j-1), (j-2), (j-3), (j-4), (j-5), (j-6), (j-7),
- 18 (j-8), (j-9), (p), (q), (r), and (s) to read as follows:
- 19 (a) The pension system shall be administered by the board.
- 20 The board shall execute its fiduciary duty to hold and administer
- 21 the assets of the fund for the exclusive benefit of members and
- 22 their beneficiaries under Section 802.203, Government Code,
- 23 Section 67(f), Article XVI, Texas Constitution, and any other
- 24 applicable law, in a manner that ensures the sustainability of the
- 25 pension system for purposes of providing current and future
- 26 benefits to members and their beneficiaries.
- (b) Subject to Subsections (b-1) and (b-2), the $[\frac{The}{T}]$ board

- 1 consists of 11 [seven] trustees who shall be selected and shall
- 2 serve as follows:
- 3 (1) five trustees appointed by the mayor;
- 4 (2) three trustees appointed by the nominations
- 5 committee;
- 6 (3) one trustee appointed jointly by the city manager
- 7 and the nominations committee;
- 8 (4) subject to Subsection (b-3) of this section, one
- 9 trustee who is a current or former police officer of the city
- 10 nominated and elected by members of the pension system under rules
- 11 adopted by the board; and
- 12 (5) subject to Subsection (b-3) of this section, one
- 13 trustee who is a current or former fire fighter of the city
- 14 nominated and elected by members of the pension system under rules
- 15 <u>adopted by the board.</u>
- 16 <u>(b-1)</u> To be appointed or elected a trustee under this
- 17 section, a person:
- 18 (1) must have demonstrated financial, accounting,
- 19 business, investment, budgeting, real estate, or actuarial
- 20 expertise; and
- 21 (2) may not be an elected official of the city.
- 22 (b-2) To be appointed a trustee under Subsection (b)(1),
- 23 (2), or (3) of this section a person may not be an active member or
- 24 pensioner.
- 25 (b-3) If the board determines that it is not possible to
- 26 nominate or elect a trustee under Subsection (b)(4) or (5) of this
- 27 section who meets the requirements of Subsection (b-1) of this

1 section, the board shall notify the nominations committee and the

2 nominations committee shall appoint a trustee who meets the

requirements of Subsection (b-1) of this section to represent the

4 interests of police officers or fire fighters, as appropriate, of

5 the city on the board. An appointment under this subsection may be

6 made without regard to whether the trustee is qualified under

7 Subsection (b)(4) or (5), as applicable, of this section.

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(b-4) A trustee is not required to reside in a particular city or county of this state. [The city council shall name from among its members three council members who shall serve as trustees of the board. The council member trustees shall be named as soon as possible after the first Monday in May of each odd-numbered year and shall serve for the term of office to which they were elected as council members. If there is a vacancy in any of the council member trustees' seats on the board, the city council shall name another council member to serve out the remainder of the unexpired term.

[(2) The police and fire department members of the pension plans within the pension system shall separately, by department and not by plan, elect from among their respective memberships two active police officer and two active fire fighter members. On their election, each of the trustees under this subdivision shall execute a written affirmation of the person's undertaking to faithfully perform duties to the pension system. The police and fire department trustees shall serve terms of four years each, the terms being staggered so that one term, but not both from the same department, shall expire on June 1 of each odd-numbered year. If a vacancy occurs among the police and fire

- department trustees, the vacancy shall be filled in accordance with
 the provisions of Subsection (d) of this section. The police and
 fire department trustees will continue to serve beyond the
 expiration of their terms, if their successors have not been
 elected and affirmed in writing their undertaking to faithfully
 perform their duties to the pension system, until their successors
 are elected and have affirmed in writing their undertaking to
 faithfully perform their duties to the pension system.
- 9 (d) A [If a] vacancy on the board in a trustee position under Subsection (b)(1), (2), or (3) of this section shall be filled in 10 the same manner as the original appointment. The board by rule 11 12 shall determine the manner by which a vacancy in a trustee position under Subsection (b)(4) or (5) of this section is filled [occurs 13 among the police or fire department alternate trustees, for reasons 14 15 other than the failure to elect a successor alternate trustee or the occurrence of a vacancy among the regular trustees of either 16 17 department, the board shall appoint a new alternate representing the department from which the vacancy occurs to serve 18 as the alternate trustee for the remainder of the alternate 19 trustee's term]. [A candidate is not eligible for election 20 21 alternate trustee position and to a regular trustee position during 22 the same election.
- 23 (d-1) The city manager and the nominations committee shall 24 jointly appoint a trustee to fill a vacancy under Subsection (b)(3) 25 of this section not later than the 60th day after the date of the 26 vacancy.
- 27 (e) The mayor shall determine whether all trustees

appointed under Subsection (b)(1) of this section hold office for 1 staggered two-year terms or staggered three-year terms. 2 nominations committee shall determine whether all trustees 3 appointed or elected under Subsection (b)(2), (3), (4), or (5) of 4 5 this section hold office for staggered two-year terms or staggered three-year terms. An appointed trustee may not serve for more than 6 six consecutive years on the board [If a vacancy occurs among the 7 police or fire department regular trustees, the alternate trustee representing the department from which the vacancy occurs shall 9 10 serve as the regular trustee for the remainder of the unexpired regular trustee's term]. [Thereafter, the board shall appoint a 11 new alternate trustee from the same department to serve for a period 12 ending on the earlier of the expiration of the regular trustee's 13 term or the original alternate trustee's term. 14 If the original alternate trustee's term has not expired after serving in place of 15 the regular trustee, then that person shall serve out the remainder 16 17 the unexpired term. After a new regular trustee has been elected, the original alternate trustee shall return to serve as an 18 alternate trustee until the regular trustee's term has expired. 19 However, if the original alternate trustee, while an alternate 20 trustee, is elected to a full term as a regular trustee before the 21 expiration of the term as an alternate trustee, the term of the 22 alternate trustee extends until the expiration of the original 23 24 alternate trustee's term. The nomination and election of the trustees under 25

Subsection (b)(4) or (5) of this section [representing the police and fire departments] shall be held under the supervision of the

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- 1 board, and the board shall adopt such rules [and regulations]
- 2 governing the election procedure as it considers appropriate, as
- 3 long as the rules [and regulations] are consistent with generally
- 4 accepted principles of secret ballot and majority rule. The rules
- 5 [and regulations] adopted by the board shall be recorded in the
- 6 minutes of the board and made available to the members of any
- 7 pension plan within the pension system.
- 8 (h) The <u>executive director</u> [administrator], or in the
- 9 executive director's [administrator's] absence a member of the
- 10 administrative staff designated by the board, shall serve as the
- 11 secretary of the board.
- 12 (i) The board shall serve without separate compensation
- 13 from the fund, but a trustee is entitled to reimbursement for travel
- 14 <u>expenses and, if applicable, [with entitlement]</u> to any appropriate
- 15 compensation from the city as if the $\underline{\text{trustee}}$ [$\underline{\text{board members}}$] were
- 16 performing the trustee's [their] regular functions for the police
- 17 or fire department or for the city. The board shall meet not less
- 18 than once each month and may meet at any time on the call of its
- 19 chairman.
- 20 (j) The board has full power to make rules [and regulations]
- 21 pertaining to the conduct of its meetings and to the operation of
- 22 the pension system as long as its rules are not, subject to
- 23 Subsections (j-1) and (j-2) of this section, inconsistent with the
- 24 terms of this article, any pension plan within the pension system,
- 25 or the laws of this state or the United States to the extent
- 26 applicable. A board meeting may be held by telephone conference
- 27 call or by videoconference call in accordance with Sections 551.125

- 1 and 551.127, Government Code, except that Section 551.125(b),
- 2 Government Code, does not apply.
- 3 (j-1) The board may adopt a rule that conflicts with this
- 4 article:
- 5 (1) to ensure compliance with the code, including
- 6 Section 415 of the code, and other applicable federal law;
- 7 (2) subject to Subsections (j-5) through (j-8) of this
- 8 section, to amortize the unfunded actuarial accrued liability of
- 9 the pension system within a period that does not exceed 35 years, if
- 10 the board determines the rule is appropriate based on the
- 11 evaluations required under Subsection (j-5) of this section; or
- 12 (3) subject to Subsections (j-6) and (j-7) of this
- 13 section and notwithstanding any other law, to increase the benefits
- 14 provided under this article in any manner the board determines
- 15 appropriate if the increase will not cause the amortization period
- 16 of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability of the pension system
- 17 to exceed 25 years, after taking into account the impact of the
- 18 increase.
- 19 (j-2) Except as provided by Subsection (j-1) of this section
- or Section 4.02(b) of this article, a provision of any plan provided
- 21 by the pension system may only be amended if approved by the board.
- 22 An amendment described by this subsection:
- 23 (1) may not cause the amortization period of the
- 24 unfunded actuarial accrued liability of the pension system to
- 25 exceed 35 years, after taking into account the impact of the
- 26 amendment, as determined by the board and reviewed by the State
- 27 Pension Review Board; and

- 1 (2) is not required to be ratified by the legislature.
- 2 (j-3) The board may correct any defect, supply any omission,
- 3 and reconcile any inconsistency that may appear in this article in a
- 4 manner and to the extent that the board believes would:
- 5 (1) be expedient for the administration of the pension
- 6 system;
- 7 (2) be for the greatest benefit of all members,
- 8 pensioners, and qualified survivors; and
- 9 (3) not adversely affect the benefits of a member,
- 10 pensioner, or qualified survivor.
- 11 <u>(j-4)</u> The board has full discretion and authority to
- 12 construe and interpret the combined pension plan and to do all acts
- 13 necessary to carry out the purpose of the combined pension plan. A
- 14 decision of the board is final and binding on all affected parties.
- 15 <u>(j-5)</u> Not later than January 1, 2018, the board shall
- 16 conduct an evaluation of:
- 17 (1) how benefits are computed under this article to
- 18 identify potential means of abusing the computation of benefits to
- 19 inflate pension benefits received by pensioners; and
- 20 (2) the impact, including the impact on the combined
- 21 pension plan, of establishing one or more alternative benefit
- 22 plans, including a defined contribution plan or a hybrid retirement
- 23 plan that combines elements of both a defined benefit plan and a
- 24 defined contribution plan, for newly hired employees of the city
- 25 and for members who voluntarily elect to transfer to an alternative
- 26 benefit plan.
- 27 (j-6) The board may not adopt a rule under Subsection

- 1 (j-1)(2) or (3) of this section unless the rule has first been
- 2 reviewed by the State Pension Review Board and the State Pension
- 3 Review Board finds that implementation of a rule under:
- 4 (1) Subsection (j-1)(2) of this section complies with
- 5 the amortization period prescribed by that subdivision and
- 6 Subsection (j-8) of this section; or
- 7 (2) Subsection (j-1)(3) of this section complies with
- 8 the amortization period prescribed by that subdivision.
- 9 (j-7) The board shall provide the State Pension Review Board
- 10 with a copy of a proposed rule for purposes of Subsection (j-6) of
- 11 this section at least 90 days before the date the board intends to
- 12 implement the rule.
- 13 (j-8) The board may not adopt a rule under Subsection
- 14 (j-1)(2) of this section based on an evaluation under Subsection
- 15 (j-5)(2) of this section if the board determines implementation of
- 16 the rule would cause the amortization period of the unfunded
- 17 actuarial accrued liability of the combined pension plan or any
- 18 plan established under this article by the pension system to exceed
- 19 35 years, after taking into account implementation of the rule.
- 20 <u>(j-9)</u> At least twice each year, the board shall have a
- 21 meeting to receive public input regarding the pension system and to
- 22 <u>inform the public about the health and performance of the pension</u>
- 23 system.
- 24 (n) $\underline{\text{Six}}$ [Four] trustees of the board constitute a quorum at
- 25 any [called] meeting[, except that a trustee from the police
- 26 department and a trustee from the fire department must be present to
- 27 conduct business].

- 1 (o) No action may be taken by the board except at a meeting. Except as provided by Section 4.071 of this article, or as otherwise 2 specifically provided by law, [and] no action shall be taken during 3 a board meeting without the approval of a majority of the trustees 4 of the board [present]. Only actions of the board taken or approved 5 of during a meeting are binding on the board, and no other written 6 or oral statement or representation made by any person is binding on 7 8 the board or the pension system.
- (p) The board may file suit on behalf of the pension system 9 in a court of competent jurisdiction regardless of the court's 10 location. The board has sole authority to litigate matters on 11 12 behalf of the pension system. Notwithstanding Chapter 15, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, or any other law, an action against the 13 pension system or the board shall be brought in a court of competent 14 jurisdiction located in the city or county in which the pension 15 16 system is located.
- 17 (q) The board may purchase from one or more insurers one or more insurance policies that provide for the reimbursement of a 18 19 trustee or employee of the pension system for liability imposed as damages caused by, and for costs and expenses incurred by the 20 individual in defense of, an alleged act, error, or omission 21 committed by the individual in the individual's capacity as a 22 fiduciary or employee of the pension system. The board may not 23 24 purchase an insurance policy that provides for the reimbursement of a trustee or employee of the pension system due to the trustee's or 25 26 employee's dishonesty, fraudulent breach of trust, lack of good faith, intentional fraud or deception, or intentional failure to 27

1 act prudently. The board shall adopt a code or codes of ethics 2 consistent with Section 825.212, Government Code. In adopting or 3 amending a code or codes of ethics, the board may consider comments 4 on the policy from the city attorney of the city. The board shall: 5 6 (1) review the code or codes of ethics on an annual 7 basis and amend the code or codes as the board considers necessary; 8 (2) file a copy of the code or codes of ethics adopted or amended in accordance with this subsection with the State 9 10 Pension Review Board; and (3) provide a copy of the code or codes of ethics 11 12 adopted or amended in accordance with this subsection to the city 13 attorney. 14 (s) The board shall develop an Internet website designed to 15 give active members and pensioners access to the information concerning the pension system and the individual's participation in 16 17 the pension system required by Section 802.106, Government Code, as well as information concerning the financial health of the pension 18 19 system. SECTION 6. Part 3, Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, is 20 amended by adding Sections 3.011, 3.012, and 3.013 to read as 21 follows: 2.2 23 Sec. 3.011. NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE. (a) Subject to Subsection (b) of this section, the nominations committee consists 24

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(1) the executive director, who is a nonvoting member;

(2) the president, chair, or other executive head of

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of:

1	the following organizations or their successor organizations, or
2	that person's designee:
3	(A) the Dallas Black Firefighters Association;
4	(B) the Black Police Association of Greater
5	Dallas;
6	(C) the National Latino Law Enforcement
7	Organization;
8	(D) the Dallas Fraternal Order Police Lodge 588;
9	(E) the Dallas Police Association;
10	(F) the Dallas Fire Fighters Association,
11	International Association of Fire Fighters Local No. 58; and
12	(G) the Dallas Hispanic Firefighters
13	Association, Inc.;
14	(3) a pensioner who is:
15	(A) a former police officer of the city;
16	(B) appointed by the president, chair, or other
17	executive head of the Dallas Police Retired Officers Association;
18	and
19	(C) a member of the Dallas Police Retired
20	Officers Association; and
21	(4) a pensioner who is:
22	(A) a former fire fighter of the city;
23	(B) jointly appointed by the president, chair, or
24	other executive head of the following organizations:
25	(i) the Dallas Retired Firefighters
26	Association;
27	(ii) the Retired Black Firefighters

- 1 Association of Dallas; and
- 2 (iii) the Dallas Hispanic Retired Fire
- 3 Fighters Association; and
- 4 (C) a member of an organization described by
- 5 Paragraph (B) of this subdivision.
- 6 (b) If an organization described by Subsection (a)(2) of
- 7 this section elects not to participate on the nominations
- 8 committee, is prohibited from participating on the nominations
- 9 committee under Subsection (h) of this section, or ceases to exist,
- 10 the nominations committee members appointed under that subsection
- 11 consist only of representatives of the remaining organizations, if
- 12 any.
- 13 (c) A vacancy on the nominations committee in a position
- 14 under Subsection (a)(3) or (4) of this section shall be filled not
- 15 <u>later than the 30th day after the date of the vacancy.</u> If a vacancy
- 16 <u>is not filled within the time prescribed by this subsection, the</u>
- 17 position on the nominations committee is eliminated.
- 18 (d) The executive director shall serve as presiding officer
- 19 of the nominations committee.
- 20 (e) The nominations committee shall meet at the call of the
- 21 presiding officer.
- 22 (f) The nominations committee shall appoint trustees to the
- 23 board in accordance with Sections 3.01(b)(2), (b)(3), and (b-3) of
- 24 this article.
- 25 (g) Persons serving on the nominations committee under
- 26 Subsection (a)(2), (3), or (4) of this section serve without
- 27 compensation and may not be reimbursed for travel or other expenses

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- 1 incurred while conducting the business of the nominations
- 2 committee. The executive director may not receive additional
- 3 compensation for service on the nominations committee.
- 4 (h) An organization described by Subsection (a)(2), (3), or
- 5 (4) of this section may not participate on or make appointments to
- 6 the nominations committee unless the organization is in good
- 7 standing with the secretary of state, if applicable.
- 8 <u>(i) Chapter 2110, Government Code, does not apply to the</u>
- 9 nominations committee.
- 10 (j) The nominations committee may establish policies and
- 11 procedures governing its operations.
- 12 Sec. 3.012. REMOVAL OF TRUSTEES. (a) In accordance with
- 13 procedures adopted by board rule, a trustee:
- 14 (1) appointed under Section 3.01(b)(1) of this article
- 15 may be removed by the mayor for cause;
- (2) appointed or elected under Section 3.01(b)(2),
- 17 (4), or (5) of this <u>article may be removed by the nominations</u>
- 18 committee for cause; and
- 19 (3) appointed under Section 3.01(b)(3) of this article
- 20 may be removed jointly by the city manager and the nominations
- 21 <u>committee for cause.</u>
- 22 <u>(b) It is a cause for removal of a trustee from the board</u>
- 23 that the trustee:
- 24 (1) does not have at the time of taking office the
- 25 qualifications required by Section 3.01(b) or (b-1)(1) of this
- 26 article, subject to Subsection (b-3) of that section;
- 27 (2) does not maintain during service on the board the

- 1 qualifications required by Section 3.01(b) or (b-1)(1) of this
- 2 article, subject to Subsection (b-3) of that section;
- 3 (3) is ineligible for membership under Section
- 4 3.01(b-1)(2) or (b-2) of this article; or
- 5 (4) is absent from more than 40 percent of the meetings
- 6 that the trustee is eligible to attend during a calendar year
- 7 without an excuse approved by a majority vote of the board.
- 8 (c) The validity of an action of the board is not affected by
- 9 the fact that it is taken when a cause for removal of a trustee
- 10 exists.
- 11 (d) If the executive director has knowledge that a potential
- 12 cause for removal exists, the executive director shall notify the
- 13 chairman of the board of the potential cause. The chairman shall
- 14 then notify the appointing or nominating official or body, as
- 15 appropriate, that a potential cause for removal exists. If the
- 16 potential cause for removal involves the chairman, the executive
- 17 director shall notify the vice chairman or next highest ranking
- 18 officer of the board, who shall then notify the appointing or
- 19 nominating official or body, as appropriate, that a potential cause
- 20 for removal exists.
- Sec. 3.013. TRUSTEE TRAINING. (a) A person who is
- 22 appointed to or selected for the board and qualifies for office as a
- 23 trustee shall complete a training program that complies with this
- 24 section.
- 25 (b) The training program must provide the person with
- 26 information regarding:
- 27 (1) the law governing the pension system's operations;

- 1 (2) the programs, functions, rules, and budget of the
- 2 pension system;
- 3 (3) the scope of and limitations on the rulemaking
- 4 authority of the board;
- 5 (4) the results of the most recent formal audit of the
- 6 pension system;
- 7 <u>(5)</u> the requirements of:
- 8 (A) laws relating to open meetings, public
- 9 information, administrative procedure, and disclosing conflicts of
- 10 interest; and
- 11 (B) other laws applicable to a trustee in
- 12 performing the trustee's duties, including the board's fiduciary
- 13 duties described under Section 3.01(a) of this article;
- 14 (6) the code or codes of ethics adopted under Section
- 15 3.01(r) of this article and any applicable ethics policies adopted
- 16 by the Texas Ethics Commission; and
- 17 (7) financial training regarding the risks of
- 18 investing in alternative investments.
- 19 (c) The executive director shall create a training manual
- 20 that includes the information required by Subsection (b) of this
- 21 section. The executive director shall distribute a copy of the
- 22 training manual annually to each trustee. On receipt of the
- 23 training manual, each trustee shall sign and submit to the
- 24 executive director a statement acknowledging receipt of the
- 25 training manual.
- SECTION 7. Section 3.02, Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes,
- 27 is amended to read as follows:

- Sec. 3.02. PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANTS. In addition to the 1 authority of the board to employ the services of certain 2 consultants set forth in this article, the board has the authority 3 to employ the services of any professional consultant recommended 4 5 by the executive director, including investment advisors and <u>investment managers</u>, whenever the services of the <u>consultants</u> 6 [consultant] are considered necessary or desirable and in the best 7 interests of the pension system, as determined by the board in 8 consultation with the executive director. A professional 9 10 consultant shall receive such compensation as may be determined by the board in accordance with Section 4.01 of this article. 11
- 12 SECTION 8. Part 3, Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, is 13 amended by adding Section 3.025 to read as follows:
- Sec. 3.025. CHIEF INVESTMENT OFFICER. The executive

 director may hire a chief investment officer, subject to

 confirmation by the board, to assist the pension system regarding

 the investment of assets of the fund. Compensation for a chief

 investment officer hired under this section shall be made in

 accordance with Section 4.01 of this article.
- SECTION 9. Section 3.03, Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, 21 is amended by amending Subsections (b) and (c) and adding 22 Subsection (b-1) to read as follows:
- (b) <u>Subject to Subsection (b-1) of this section, the</u> [The]

 24 city attorney or an assistant city attorney <u>may</u> [shall] attend

 25 <u>board</u> [all] meetings [of the board] and <u>may</u> advise the board on any

 26 matter on which the <u>pension system</u> [board] requests a legal opinion

 27 from the city attorney.

- 1 (b-1) The city attorney or an assistant city attorney is not
 2 required to provide an opinion under Subsection (b) of this section
 3 unless the opinion is requested by the city council on behalf of the
 4 pension system. The city attorney or assistant city attorney may
 5 decline to provide the opinion if the subject matter of the request
 6 is too dependent on disputed facts to permit a generalized opinion,
 7 as determined by the city attorney or assistant city attorney.
- 8 (c) The board may retain other attorneys to <u>serve as legal</u>
 9 <u>advisors to [represent]</u> the board [or to give advice]. The
 10 <u>executive director may hire a chief legal officer, subject to</u>
 11 <u>confirmation by the board, or other attorneys if necessary to carry</u>
 12 <u>out the business of the pension system.</u> Compensation for <u>a chief</u>
 13 <u>legal officer or</u> other attorneys <u>hired under this subsection</u> shall
 14 be made in accordance with Section 4.01 of this article.
- 15 SECTION 10. Section 3.04, Article 6243a-1, Revised 16 Statutes, is amended to read as follows:
- OF 17 Sec. 3.04. APPOINTMENT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR [ADMINISTRATOR]. (a) The board has the authority to appoint an 18 19 executive director [administrator] to assist [carry out the business of] the board with administering the pension system and 20 ensure that records are kept [to keep a record] of the proceedings 21 of the board. Subject to Subsection (a-1) of this section, a person 22 appointed executive director under this section: 23
- 24 <u>(1) must have, to the extent possible, relevant</u> 25 experience in managing a similarly situated business entity; and
- 26 (2) may not be a current or former trustee [The 27 administrator, in carrying out the business of the board within the

- 1 scope of the administrator's responsibility, may not be considered
- 2 a fiduciary with respect to the pension system].
- 3 (a-1) During any period in which the most recent actuarial
- 4 valuation of the pension system indicates that the period needed to
- 5 amortize the unfunded actuarial accrued liability of the pension
- 6 system exceeds 35 years, the board shall, to the extent lapsed
- 7 investments are a significant portion of the pension system's
- 8 assets, ensure that the executive director appointed under
- 9 Subsection (a) of this section has, or hires staff that has,
- 10 appropriate experience in managing a business entity with lapsed
- 11 investments in a manner that resulted in the improved liquidity or
- 12 profitability of the business entity.
- 13 (b) Subject to Subsection (b-1) of this section [the
- 14 approval of the board], the executive director [administrator] may
- 15 select any number of persons the executive director determines
- 16 <u>appropriate</u> to assist the <u>executive director in carrying out the</u>
- 17 executive director's duties under this section. Subject to Section
- 18 4.01 of this article, the titles and salaries of persons selected to
- 19 assist the executive director shall be determined by the executive
- 20 director.
- 21 (b-1) The executive director may not select a person to
- 22 assist the executive director who is an active, former, or retired
- 23 police officer or fire fighter of the city [administrator].
- 24 (b-2) The executive director shall establish the
- 25 organizational structure of pension system employees to optimize
- 26 administration of the pension system.
- 27 (c) The executive director [Both the administrator] and

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- 1 those persons selected to assist the <u>executive director</u>
- 2 [administrator] may be considered employees of the city. Unless
- 3 otherwise delegated to the <u>executive director</u> [administrator], the
- 4 board shall have the ultimate authority to retain, discipline, or
- 5 terminate the engagement of the executive director.
- 6 (d) The executive director owes a fiduciary duty to the
- 7 pension system and shall ensure the sustainability of the pension
- 8 system for the purpose of providing current and future benefits to
- 9 members of the pension system and their beneficiaries [any persons
- 10 selected under this subsection].
- SECTION 11. Sections 4.01(a), (c), and (d), Article
- 12 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, are amended to read as follows:
- 13 (a) The board shall pay for all costs of administration out
- 14 of the income from the fund when in the judgment of the board the
- 15 costs are necessary, including the cost of:
- 16 <u>(1)</u> salaries <u>and benefits for the executive director</u>
- 17 [of the administrator, assistant administrator,] and
- 18 administrative staff;
- 19 (2) $[\tau]$ office expenses;
- 20 (3) expenses associated with securing $[\tau]$ adequate
- 21 office space and associated utilities:
- 22 <u>(4) compensation for</u> [, and] professional
- 23 consultants, professional investment managers, or other persons
- 24 providing professional services; and
- 25 (5) any other expenses approved by the board[out of
- 26 income from the fund when it is actuarially determined that the
- 27 payments will not have an adverse effect on the payment of benefits

- 1 from any of the plans within the pension system and when in the
- 2 judgment of the board the costs are necessary]. [The city shall
- 3 provide for costs of administration if the board determines that
- 4 payment of the costs by the fund will have an adverse effect on the
- 5 payment of benefits from any plan within the pension system.]
- 6 (c) No expenditure for the costs of administration,
- 7 <u>including the</u> [or] payment of any fee for professional consultants,
- 8 professional investment management services, or any other person
- 9 providing professional services, may be made from the fund without
- 10 the approval of the board.
- 11 (d) After the board has developed an annual budget for the
- 12 pension system, the budget shall be presented to the city manager
- 13 [city's budget office] for comment. The city manager [city's budget
- 14 office] may request the board to reconsider the appropriation for
- 15 any expenditure at a board meeting, but the board shall make the
- 16 final determination concerning any appropriation.
- SECTION 12. Sections 4.02(b), (d), and (e), Article
- 18 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, are amended to read as follows:
- 19 (b) Funds contributed by the city as its share of the amount
- 20 required to finance the payment of benefits under the pension
- 21 system may be used for no other purpose. The city is not
- 22 responsible for the payment of any administrative or professional
- 23 <u>service fees of the pension system. Any change to the [The]</u>
- 24 contributions required to be made to the pension system by the city
- 25 [shall be annually appropriated by the city council and
- 26 periodically paid on the basis of a percentage of the total wages
- 27 and salaries of the members of the police and fire departments who

- are members of each of the plans within the pension system. The 1 amount of this percentage and any change in it] may [be determined] 2 3 only be made: 4 (1) by the legislature; [or] 5 (2) by a majority vote of the voters of the city; or 6 (3) in accordance with a written agreement entered into between the pension system and the city, unless the change 7 would increase the period required to amortize the unfunded 8 actuarial accrued liability of the fund. 9 Subject to Section 4.025 of this article, the city shall 10 (d) make contributions to the pension system biweekly in an amount 11 12 equal to the sum of: 13 (1) the greater of: 14 (A) 34.5 percent of the aggregate computation pay 15 paid to members during the period for which the contribution is 16 made; or 17 (B) the applicable amount set forth below: (i) \$5,173,000 for the biweekly pay periods 18 beginning with the first biweekly pay period that begins after 19 September 1, 2017, and ends on the last day of the first biweekly 20 pay period that ends after December 31, 2017; 21 22 (ii) \$5,344,000 for the 26 biweekly pay periods immediately following the last biweekly pay period 23 24 described by Subparagraph (i) of this paragraph;
 - 36

periods immediately following the last biweekly pay period

described by Subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph; and

(iii) \$5,571,000 for the 26 biweekly pay

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1 (iv) an amount equal to the biweekly amount applicable for the prior 26 biweekly pay periods, increased by a 2 2.75 percent compounded rate for each subsequent 26 biweekly pay 3 periods, beginning with the first biweekly pay period following the 4 5 last biweekly pay period described in Subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph; and 6 7 (2) except as provided by Subsection (e) of this 8 section, an amount equal to 1/26th of \$11 million. [The percentage of required contributions from the city shall be in accordance with 9 10 the following schedule and any increase or decrease in city contributions shall occur automatically on any increases 11 12 decreases in the members' contribution percentage: 13 [City Contributions Member Contributions 14 28-1/2% <u>98</u> 15 27-1/2% 8-1/2% 26% 88 16 7-1/2% 24-1/2% 17 23% 7% 18 21-1/2% 6-1/2%] 19 Beginning with the first biweekly pay period following 20 the last biweekly pay period that ends on or after September 1, 21 2019, the [The] city is only required to pay the contribution amount 22 described by Subsection (d)(2) of this section if the board 23 24 determines, based on the most recently completed actuarial valuation, that with the contribution, the total contributions to 25 26 the pension system are sufficient to amortize the unfunded

actuarial accrued liabilities of the fund within 35 years.

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- 1 State Pension Review Board shall review the board's determination
- 2 under this subsection. The board and the State Pension Review Board
- 3 shall annually make the determination and conduct the review
- 4 required under this subsection [may elect to contribute more than
- 5 that required in the schedule provided by Subsection (d) of this
- 6 section, except that the city's contribution percentage may not
- 7 exceed 28-1/2 percent unless approved as provided by Subsection (b)
- 8 of this section. Further, in no event may the city's contribution
- 9 be less than 21-1/2 percent unless approved as provided by
- 10 Subsection (b)].
- 11 SECTION 13. Part 4, Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, is
- 12 amended by adding Section 4.025 to read as follows:
- 13 <u>Sec. 4.025. CITY OR MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS IF NO UNFUNDED</u>
- 14 ACTUARIAL LIABILITIES. Notwithstanding Section 4.02 or 4.03 of
- 15 this article, if the pension system has no unfunded actuarial
- 16 liability according to the most recent actuarial valuation, the
- 17 annual normal costs must be equally divided between the city and the
- 18 members unless equally dividing the costs would increase the member
- 19 contribution rates beyond the rates prescribed by Section 4.03 of
- 20 this article. The board shall adjust the city contribution rates
- 21 under Section 4.02 of this article and the member contribution
- 22 rates under Section 4.03 of this article accordingly, and certify
- 23 the adjusted rates. After the completion of a subsequent actuarial
- 24 valuation showing unfunded actuarial liabilities, the contribution
- 25 rates applicable under Sections 4.02 and 4.03 of this article
- 26 apply.
- 27 SECTION 14. Section 4.03, Article 6243a-1, Revised

- 1 Statutes, is amended by amending Subsections (a), (b), (c), (d),
- 2 and (g) and adding Subsections (a-1), (d-1), (d-2), and (i) to read
- 3 as follows:
- 4 (a) Subject to Subsection (a-1) of this section and except
- 5 as provided by Section 4.025 of this article, each [Each] Group A
- 6 member of the combined pension plan shall have 13.5 [6.5] percent of
- 7 base pay deducted from the member's wages on a biweekly basis [each
- 8 month], and the contributions shall be promptly remitted to the
- 9 fund by the city.
- 10 <u>(a-1)</u> If a Group A member is assigned, for any period, to a
- 11 job-sharing program or any similar work schedule that is considered
- 12 by the member's department to be less than a full-time work
- 13 schedule, the member's contributions are determined by multiplying
- 14 the applicable contribution rate by a fraction, the numerator of
- 15 which is the number of hours the member actually worked during the
- 16 period and the denominator of which is the number of hours the
- 17 member would have worked during the period if the member had been
- 18 working a full-time work schedule.
- (b) Each member shall [continue to] contribute to the fund
- 20 under the applicable terms of this <u>article</u> [section] until the
- 21 member leaves active service with either department. If a member
- 22 leaves active service with a department, [or until the beginning of
- 23 the member's 33rd year of pension service, at which time] the member
- 24 shall cease making contributions.
- 25 (c) Each Group B member shall authorize the city to deduct
- 26 from the member's salary a percentage of the member's computation
- 27 pay. The authorization shall be in writing and filed with the

- 1 executive director [administrator].
- 2 (d) Subject to Subsection (d-1) of this section and except
- 3 as provided by Section 4.025 of this article, for pay periods
- 4 starting on or after September 1, 2017, each [Each] Group B member
- 5 shall have 13.5 [8.5] percent of the member's computation pay
- 6 deducted from the member's wages on a biweekly basis [each month,]
- 7 and the contributions shall be promptly remitted to the fund by the
- 8 city.
- 9 (d-1) If a Group B member is assigned, for any period, to a
- 10 job-sharing program or any similar work schedule that is considered
- 11 by the member's department to be less than a full-time work
- 12 schedule, the member's contributions are determined by multiplying
- 13 the applicable contribution rate by a fraction, the numerator of
- 14 which is the number of hours the member actually worked during the
- 15 period and the denominator of which is the number of hours the
- 16 member would have worked during the period if the member had been
- 17 working a full-time work schedule.
- 18 (d-2) For purposes of Subsection (d) of this section,
- 19 "computation pay" includes computation pay paid to a Group B member
- 20 during any period the member is receiving workers' compensation.
- 21 (g) The percentage of base pay contributed by Group A
- 22 members or computation pay contributed by Group B members may not be
- 23 altered except by an adjustment under Section 4.025 [amendment
- 24 pursuant to the terms of Section 4.02] of this article.
- 25 (i) Member contributions under this article or any payments
- 26 <u>a member is entitled to make under this article to receive</u>
- 27 additional pension service may be picked up by the city under the

- 1 terms of an appropriate resolution of the city council.
- 2 SECTION 15. Section 4.04, Article 6243a-1, Revised
- 3 Statutes, is amended by amending Subsections (a), (c), (d), (e),
- 4 (f), (g), (h), (j), and (k) and adding Subsections (f-1) and (h-1)
- 5 to read as follows:
- 6 (a) Except as provided by Subsection (d) or (e) of this
- 7 section, a [A] Group B member who, either voluntarily or
- 8 involuntarily, leaves active service is entitled to a refund from
- 9 the fund of the total amount of the member's Plan B and Group B
- 10 contributions, without interest, that were paid beginning with the
- 11 effective date of the member's Group B membership or membership in
- 12 Plan B. A refund under this subsection results in a total
- 13 cancellation of pension service credit and the member and any
- 14 person who would otherwise take by, through, or under the member is
- 15 not entitled to any benefits from the pension system [ar
- 16 appropriate reduction of pension service].
- 17 (c) A [former] Group B member who desires [desiring] a
- 18 refund of the Plan B or Group B contributions under Subsection (a)
- 19 of this section [the person made to the fund] must make written
- 20 application for the refund with the executive director
- 21 [administrator]. In no case may any refund be made to \underline{a} [any
- 22 **former**] Group B member before the expiration of 30 days after the
- 23 date the person leaves active service.
- 24 (d) Subject to Subsection (k) of this section, if a Group B
- 25 member with less than five years of pension service either
- 26 voluntarily or involuntarily leaves active service and fails to
- 27 make written application for a refund of contributions within three

1 years after the date of the notice described by Subsection (j) of this section [is] made by the board, the person forfeits the right 2 to withdraw any portion of the contribution, and the total amount of 3 Plan B and Group B contributions the person made will remain in the 4 fund. If the Group B member described by this subsection dies after 5 leaving active service, the [person's heirs or, if there are no 6 heirs, the] deceased member's designee [estate] may apply for the 7 8 refund of the person's contributions, resulting in an appropriate loss of pension service if the application is filed with the 9 executive director [administrator] within three years after the 10 date \underline{of} the notice described by Subsection (j) of this section [\underline{is}] 11 12 made by the board. Subject to Subsection (k) of this section, if a Group B member's designee [heirs or estate] fails to apply for a 13 refund of the Group B member's contributions within the three-year 14 15 period described by this subsection, the <u>designee forfeits</u> [heirs and the estate forfeit] any right to the contributions, and the 16 17 total amount of the Plan B and Group B contributions made by the Group B member will remain in the fund. 18

Subject to Subsection (k) of this section, if a Group B 19 20 member with five or more years of pension service either voluntarily or involuntarily leaves active service and fails to 21 make written application for a refund of the person's Plan B and 22 23 Group B contributions within three years after the date of the 24 notice described by Subsection (j) of this section [is] made by the board, the person forfeits the right to withdraw any portion of the 25 26 contributions, and the total amount of the contributions will remain in the fund. A Group B member described by this subsection 27

may, however, apply for a Group B retirement pension [benefits] 1 under Section 6.02 of this article or, if the Group B member dies 2 3 before the member is eligible to apply for a Group B retirement pension, the member's qualified survivors [benefits, the person's 4 heirs or, if there are no heirs, the deceased member's estate] may 5 apply for Group B death benefits under Sections 6.06, 6.061, 6.062, 6 and 6.063 of this article. If the Group B member dies before the 7 8 member is eligible to apply for a Group B retirement pension and the member has no qualified survivors, the Group B member's designee 9 10 [in accordance with the provisions of this article, or the heirs or the estate] may apply for a refund of the Group B member's Plan B and 11 12 Group B contributions, resulting in a total cancellation [an appropriate loss] of pension service. Subject to Subsection (k) of 13 14 this section, if a Group B member's designee [heirs or estate] fails 15 to apply for a refund of the Group B and Plan B member's contributions within the three-year period described by this 16 17 subsection, the designee forfeits [heirs and the estate forfeit] any right to the contributions, and the total amount of the Plan B 18 19 and Group B contributions made by the Group B member will remain in the fund. 20

21 (f) <u>Subject to Subsections (g) and (h) of this section,</u> [#]

22 a Group B member, other than a Group B member who elects or has

23 elected to receive a Group A benefit or a benefit determined under

24 the old plan or Plan A, who [with five or more years of pension

25 <u>service</u>] either voluntarily or involuntarily leaves active service

26 with five or more years of pension service [, the person] is

27 entitled to:

- 1 (1) subject to Subsection (f-1) of this section, have
- 2 the total amount of the person's Plan B and Group B contributions to
- 3 the fund refunded in accordance with Subsection (a) of this
- 4 section, which results in a loss of all of the person's accrued
- 5 pension service; or
- 6 (2) if the Group B member first entered active service
- 7 before January 1, 1999, elect to take a refund of less than the
- 8 total amount of the person's Plan B and Group B contributions while
- 9 leaving a sufficient amount to retain pension service amounting to
- 10 five or more years.
- 11 (f-1) A Group B member who elects to receive a refund under
- 12 Subsection (f)(1) of this section and any person who would
- 13 otherwise take by, through, or under the member is not entitled to
- 14 any benefits from the pension system.
- 15 (g) If a Group B member elects a refund of a portion of the
- 16 person's contributions under Subsection (f)(2) of this section, the
- 17 amount of the refund shall equal the total amount of the person's
- 18 Plan B and Group B annual contributions, without interest, for each
- 19 full year of pension service canceled [cancelled], computed based
- 20 on the earliest contributions made.
- 21 (h) A [former] Group B member who first entered active
- 22 service on or after January 1, 1999, is entitled to have the total
- 23 <u>amount of the person's Group B contributions refunded under</u>
- 24 Subsection (a) of this section in accordance with Subsection (f)(1)
- 25 of this section, but may not receive a refund of less than the total
- 26 amount in accordance with Subsection (f)(2) of this section.
- 27 (h-1) A Group B member who leaves active service and later

1 returns to active service is permitted to repay to the fund any previously withdrawn employee contributions and receive pension 2 service in accordance with Section 5.07(d) of this article as a 3 Group B member to the extent that $[\frac{if_{r}}{r}]$ before again leaving active 4 5 service, the Group B member repays [completely] to the fund the previously withdrawn contributions with interest, calculated at 6 the interest rate from time to time used in the pension system's 7 8 actuarial rate of return assumptions, compounded annually, on the previously withdrawn contributions [for the period from the date 9 10 the contributions were withdrawn until the date the principal and accrued interest are repaid in full]. 11

On the 58th [50th] anniversary of the birth of a Group B member described by Subsection (d) or (e) of this section, or on the 13 board's receipt of notice of the death of the Group B member, the 15 board shall, by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, attempt to notify the Group B member or designee [the 16 17 member's heirs or estate], as applicable, of the status of the person's [their] entitlement to a refund of contributions from the 18 fund. 19

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A Group B member or designee described by Subsection (d) 20 or (e) of this section [or the heirs or estate of the Group B member] 21 shall have the person's [their] right, title, interest, or claim to 22 a refund of the Group B member's contributions reinstated only on 23 24 the board's grant of their written request for a reinstatement and The board's decision shall be based on a uniform and 25 26 nondiscriminatory basis [policy that it shall, from time to time, adopt]. 27

- 1 SECTION 16. Section 4.06(c), Article 6243a-1, Revised
- 2 Statutes, is amended to read as follows:
- 3 (c) The authority of the board to make a custody account or
- 4 master trust agreement is supplementary to its authority to make an
- 5 investment management contract. Allocation of assets to a custody
- 6 account or master trust shall be coordinated by the executive
- 7 director [administrator], as authorized by the board, and the bank
- 8 designated as custodian or master trustee for the assets.
- 9 SECTION 17. Section 4.07, Article 6243a-1, Revised
- 10 Statutes, is amended by amending Subsections (a), (d), and (g) and
- 11 adding Subsection (h) to read as follows:
- 12 (a) Subject to Section 4.071 of this article, if $[\frac{1}{1}]$ the
- 13 board determines that there is in the fund a surplus exceeding a
- 14 reasonably safe amount to take care of current demands on the
- 15 pension system, the board may invest or direct the investment of the
- 16 surplus for the sole benefit of the pension system.
- 17 (d) The board also has the authority to contract for
- 18 professional investment management services. Any contract that the
- 19 board makes with an investment manager shall set forth the board's
- 20 <u>investment</u> policies and guidelines [of the board for the use of
- 21 standard rating services and shall include specific criteria for
- 22 determining the quality of investments]. A professional investment
- 23 management service shall receive such compensation as may be
- 24 determined by the board in accordance with Section 4.01 of this
- 25 article.
- 26 (g) A [No investment manager, other than a] bank or trust
- 27 company that has custody and trustee powers and a contract with the

- 1 board to provide assistance in making investments $[\tau]$ shall be the custodian or master trustee of any of the securities or other assets 2 3 of the fund. Pursuant to Section 4.06 of this article, the board may designate a bank to serve as custodian or master trustee, or 4 5 subcustodian or submaster trustee, to perform the customary duty of safekeeping as well as duties incident to the execution of 6 transactions. As the demands of the pension system require, the 7 8 board shall withdraw from the custodian or master trustee money previously considered surplus in excess of current cash and 9 10 proceeds from the sale of investments. The money may without distinction be used for the payment of benefits pursuant to each of 11 12 the plans within the pension system and for other uses authorized by 13 this article and approved by the board.
- (h) The board through policy shall establish an investment
 advisory committee composed of trustees and outside investment
 professionals to review investment related matters as prescribed by
 the board and make recommendations to the board. A majority of the
 members of the committee established under this subsection must be
 outside investment professionals.
- 20 SECTION 18. Part 4, Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, is 21 amended by adding Section 4.071 to read as follows:
- Sec. 4.071. BOARD APPROVAL OF CERTAIN ALTERNATIVE

 INVESTMENTS. (a) The executive director, an investment manager, a

 provider of professional investment management services or

 professional advisory services, or any other person delegated

 authority to invest or reinvest pension system assets under this

 article may not invest pension system assets in a single

- 1 alternative investment unless the board votes to approve the
- 2 investment by a two-thirds vote of all the trustees.
- 3 (b) The board may adopt rules necessary to implement this
- 4 section.
- 5 SECTION 19. Section 4.08, Article 6243a-1, Revised
- 6 Statutes, is amended by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:
- 7 (c) On written request by the city, the executive director
- 8 shall make available to the city's actuary or auditor the
- 9 information and documents provided to or used by the pension
- 10 system's actuary or auditor in conducting an actuarial valuation
- 11 under this article or preparing any other document prepared under
- 12 this article.
- 13 SECTION 20. Section 4.09, Article 6243a-1, Revised
- 14 Statutes, is amended to read as follows:
- 15 Sec. 4.09. REWARDS, DONATIONS, AND CONTRIBUTIONS. Any
- 16 reward, donation, or contribution given to any member as payment or
- 17 gratuity for service performed in the line of duty shall be turned
- 18 over to the chief of the member's department, who shall, in turn,
- 19 forward the reward, donation, or contribution to the executive
- 20 director [administrator] of the pension system for deposit in the
- 21 fund.
- SECTION 21. Section 5.01, Article 6243a-1, Revised
- 23 Statutes, is amended to read as follows:
- Sec. 5.01. MEMBERSHIP IN COMBINED PENSION PLAN. (a) Except
- 25 as provided by Subsection (a-1) of this section, the [The]
- 26 membership of the combined pension plan is composed of the
- 27 following persons:

1 (1) Group A members:

- (A) police officers or fire fighters who are on active service and who as of February 28, 1973, had filed a written statement with the pension system of their desire to participate in either the old plan or Plan A;
- (B) police officers and fire fighters who are on active service and [7] who were employed and receiving compensation from the city as a police officer or a fire fighter before March 1, 1973, and who made contributions to either the old plan or Plan A attributable to any period of employment before March 1, 1973; and
- (C) except as provided by Subsection (b) of this section, persons who elect to become Group A members under that subsection; and
- 14 (2) Group B members:
- (A) police officers and fire fighters who are on active service and who $[\tau]$ were formerly members of either the old plan or Plan A $[\tau]$ and who, as of April 30, 1973, had filed a written statement with the pension system of their desire to participate in Plan B;
- (B) police officers and fire fighters who are on active service and who on or after March 1, 1973, and before January 1, 1993, became members of Plan B;
- (C) as a condition of employment, any police officer [office] or fire fighter who is initially employed as a police officer or a fire fighter by the city on or after January 1, 1993;
- (D) as a condition of return to active service

- 1 and except as provided by Subsection (b) of this section, former
- 2 members of the old plan or Plan A who left active service before
- 3 March 1, 1973;
- 4 (E) as a condition of return to active service
- 5 and except as provided by Subsection (c) of this section, former
- 6 Group B members who are no longer on active service, whether or not
- 7 the persons were ever a member of the old plan, Plan A, or the
- 8 combined pension plan;
- 9 (F) Group A members who are on active service and
- 10 meet the requirements and make an election under Subsection (d) of
- 11 this section; and
- 12 (G) persons who are on active service and make an
- 13 election under Subsection (e) of this section.
- 14 (a-1) Group A or Group B members do not include any employee
- 15 of the city who is required by ordinance or who elects, in
- 16 accordance with an ordinance, to participate in an alternative
- 17 benefit plan established under Section 3.01(j-1)(2) of this article
- 18 based on an evaluation under Section 3.01(j-5)(2) of this article.
- 19 (b) A person who has received an old plan, Plan A, or
- 20 combined pension plan retirement or disability pension on or after
- 21 March 1, 1973, may, if the person returns to active service, elect
- 22 to participate as a Group A or Group B member by filing a written
- 23 application for membership with the <u>executive director</u>
- 24 [administrator] not later than 60 days after the date of return to
- 25 active service. [As a condition of either Group A or Group B
- 26 membership, the board may require the person to undergo a physical
- 27 examination and be certified by the health director as being

capable of performing the duties to which the person will be assigned. If the person described by this subsection does not elect to become a Group A or Group B member, the person shall on leaving active service receive a retirement pension in an amount that is unadjusted for the period of return to active service if the

person meets all of the requirements of Group A membership.

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- 7 A Group B pensioner who was never a member of the old 8 plan, Plan A, or the combined pension plan before January 1, 1993, may, if the person returns to active service, elect to become a 9 10 Group B member by filing a written application for membership with the executive director [administrator] not later than 60 days after 11 the date of return to active service. [As a condition of Group B 12 membership, the board may require the pensioner to undergo a 13 14 physical examination and be certified by the health director as 15 being capable of performing the duties to which the person will be assigned.] If the person described by this subsection does not 16 17 elect to again become a Group B member, on leaving active service, if the person meets all applicable requirements of this article, 18 the person shall receive benefits in an amount equal to the amount 19 the person was receiving as of the day before the day the person 20 returned to active service, and the person's base pension shall be 21 the same as the base pension originally computed before the return 22 23 to active service.
- (d) A person who is on active service and is a Group A member may, before the person participates in DROP, irrevocably elect to become a Group B member by filing a written application with the executive director [administrator]. On and after the filing of the

- 1 application, the Group A member shall make contributions to the
- 2 fund at the rate applicable to Group B members. However, the
- 3 contributions do not, by themselves, establish [constitute] Group B
- 4 membership. Group B membership is contingent on the satisfaction
- 5 of the following conditions:
- 6 (1) the [The] person must, before the person elects to
- 7 participate in DROP, pay an amount to the fund equal to the
- 8 difference between the contributions the person would have made to
- 9 the fund had the person been a Group B member for the entire period
- 10 the person could otherwise have been a Group B member before making
- 11 application for membership and the contributions the person
- 12 actually made during that period, plus interest calculated in
- 13 accordance with procedures adopted by the board from time to time;
- 14 and [**→**]
- 15 (2) the [The] payments described by this subsection
- 16 must be completed before the earlier of the date on which the person
- 17 begins participation in DROP or leaves active service in accordance
- 18 with procedures adopted by the board from time to time.
- 19 <u>(d-1)</u> If the fund does not receive payment <u>under Subsection</u>
- 20 (d)(1) of this section by the [that] date prescribed by Subsection
- 21 (d)(2) of this section, all payments made under Subsection (d)(1)
- 22 of this section [of this type], as well as those contribution
- 23 amounts paid by the person after the person's application for Group
- 24 B membership that are in excess of the Group A member contribution
- 25 rate, shall be returned without accrued interest to the person, or
- 26 in the event of the person's death to the person's designee
- 27 [surviving spouse, children, or estate], as applicable.

- 1 (e) A person who is on active service and has never been a
- 2 member of any plan within the pension system may elect to become a
- 3 Group B member on a prospective basis by filing a written
- 4 application for membership with the executive director
- 5 [administrator].
- 6 SECTION 22. Sections 5.02(a), (d), (e), (h), and (i),
- 7 Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, are amended to read as follows:
- 8 (a) The effective date of Group B membership for a person
- 9 who becomes a Group B member under [persons described by] Section
- 10 5.01(a)(2)(A) or (B) of this article is the date the Group B member
- 11 first became a member of Plan B [January 1, 1993].
- 12 (d) The effective date of Group B membership for a person
- 13 [former Group B member] who again becomes a Group B member and is
- 14 described by Section 5.01(a)(2)(E) of this article is the person's
- 15 original effective date of Group B membership, adjusted for any
- 16 period for which [that] the person was not on active service or $[\tau]$
- 17 if the person has [not] withdrawn some, but not all, contributions
- 18 to the fund pursuant to Section 4.04 of this article. If, however,
- 19 the person withdraws [former Group B member has withdrawn] all
- 20 contributions to the fund in accordance with Section 4.04 of this
- 21 article, and the person does not replace the previously withdrawn
- 22 contributions together with interest as provided by Section
- 23 4.04(h-1) [4.04(h)] of this article, the effective date of the
- 24 person's membership is the date of return to active service.
- 25 (e) The effective date of membership for a person who
- 26 becomes a Group B member pursuant to Section 5.01(b) of this article
- 27 is the date on which written application for the membership is filed

- 1 with the <u>executive director</u> [administrator]. The effective date of
- 2 membership for a person who becomes a Group A member pursuant to
- 3 Section 5.01(b) of this article is the person's original effective
- 4 date of membership in the old plan, Plan A, or the combined pension
- 5 plan, whichever is applicable.
- 6 (h) A person described by Subsection (a), (c), (d), (e),
- 7 (f), or (g) of this section shall be given full pension service for
- 8 the time the person was a contributing member of the old plan, Plan
- 9 A, the combined pension plan, and Plan B, and the pension service
- 10 shall be counted as if it had been earned while a Group B member.
- 11 Neither the length of time persons described by Subsection (a),
- 12 (c), (d), (e), (f), or (g) of this section received a retirement or
- 13 disability pension, whether under the old plan, Plan A, the
- 14 combined pension plan or Plan B, nor the amount of any benefits paid
- 15 to the person shall have any effect on the pension service earned by
- 16 the person. No pension service may be earned while on service
- 17 retirement or disability retirement, or when the person was not on
- 18 active service. Except as provided by Sections 5.08 [5.02] and 5.09
- 19 of this article, a person described by Subsection (a), (c), (d),
- 20 (e), (f), or (g) of this section may not be allowed to contribute to
- 21 the fund in order to receive pension service for the time the person
- 22 was not on active service, regardless of whether the person was
- 23 actually receiving a pension.
- (i) The effective date of Group B membership for a person
- 25 who becomes a Group B member pursuant to Section 5.01(e) of this
- 26 article is the date on which written application for Group B
- 27 membership is filed with the executive director [administrator].

- 1 SECTION 23. Section 5.03, Article 6243a-1, Revised
- 2 Statutes, is amended by amending Subsections (c) and (d) and adding
- 3 Subsection (c-1) to read as follows:
- 4 (c) A Group B member who is on active service and [or former
- 5 Group B member who also] was a former contributing member of either
- 6 the old plan or Plan A may elect, when applying for either a
- 7 retirement or disability pension if applicable, to terminate
- 8 membership and receive a Group A retirement or disability pension
- 9 under the applicable provisions of this article, if the Group B
- 10 member's application for retirement or disability pension is
- 11 granted by the board.
- 12 <u>(c-1)</u> A Group B member who is not on active service and was a
- 13 former contributing member of either the old plan or Plan A may
- 14 elect, when applying for a retirement pension, to terminate
- 15 membership and receive a Group A retirement pension under the
- 16 applicable provisions of this article, if the Group B member's
- 17 application for retirement pension is granted by the board.
- 18 (d) If a Group B member [or former Group B member] described
- 19 by Subsection (c) or (c-1) of this section has elected and been
- 20 granted a Group A retirement or disability pension under the
- 21 applicable provisions of this article, the person is entitled to a
- 22 reimbursement from the fund. The reimbursement shall be equal to
- 23 that portion of the person's contributions to the fund, without
- 24 interest, from the person's effective date of Group B membership
- 25 until the time the person left active service $[\tau]$ that is in excess
- 26 of the total amount the person would have contributed as a Group A
- 27 member or as a member of the old plan or Plan A for the same period.

- 1 A Group B member [or former Group B member] desiring a refund of
- 2 excess contributions must make written application for the refund
- 3 with the <u>executive director</u> [administrator] within three years
- 4 after the date the person's Group A retirement or disability
- 5 pension, whichever is applicable, begins, otherwise, the person
- 6 <u>will</u> [or] lose all right, title, interest, or claim to the refund
- 7 until such time as the board grants the refund in response to the
- 8 person's written request. The refund shall be made as soon as
- 9 practicable after written application is filed with the executive
- 10 <u>director</u> [administrator].
- 11 SECTION 24. Section 5.04, Article 6243a-1, Revised
- 12 Statutes, is amended to read as follows:
- 13 Sec. 5.04. GROUP B MEMBERSHIP MAY BE DECLARED INACTIVE. (a)
- 14 Except as provided by Subsection (d)(1) of this section, if $[\frac{1}{1}]$ a
- 15 Group B member with less than five years of pension service either
- 16 voluntarily or involuntarily leaves active service, the person's
- 17 Group B membership remains active as long as the person has not
- 18 withdrawn the person's contributions pursuant to Section 4.04 of
- 19 this article.
- 20 (b) Except as provided by Subsection (d)(2) of this section,
- \underline{if} [\underline{If}] a Group B member with five or more years of pension service
- 22 either voluntarily or involuntarily leaves active service, the
- 23 person's Group B membership remains active as long as the person has
- 24 not withdrawn the person's entire contributions pursuant to Section
- 25 4.04 of this article.
- 26 (c) Except as provided by Subsection (d)(3) of this section,
- 27 if [If] the board receives valid information that a Group B primary

- 1 party has died, [leaving one or more heirs,] the board shall, by
- 2 registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, attempt to
- 3 notify:
- 4 (1) the <u>qualified survivors</u> [heirs] of the primary
- 5 party of the procedures for applying and qualifying for death
- 6 [survivor] benefits under Section 6.06, 6.061, 6.062, or 6.063 of
- 7 this article; or
- 8 (2) if the primary party does not have any qualified
- 9 survivors, the primary party's designee of the procedures for
- 10 applying for [or] a refund of the [Group B] primary party's
- 11 contributions, if applicable, in accordance with Section 4.04 of
- 12 this article.
- (d)(1) Subject to the provisions of Subdivision (5)(A) of
- 14 this subsection, the membership of a Group B member described by
- 15 Subsection (a) of this section shall be declared inactive and all of
- 16 the person's accrued pension service voided if the person does not
- 17 return to active service within three years after the date of
- 18 [receiving] the notice described by Subdivision (4) of this
- 19 subsection.
- 20 (2) Subject to the provisions of Subdivision (5)(B) of
- 21 this subsection, the membership of a Group B member described by
- 22 Subsection (b) of this section shall be declared inactive and all of
- 23 the person's accrued pension service voided if the person does not
- 24 file an application for a Group B retirement pension with the board
- 25 within three years after the date of [receiving] the notice
- 26 described by Subdivision (4) of this subsection.
- 27 (3) Subject to the provisions of Subdivision (5)(C) of

- 1 this subsection, if a primary party described by Subsection (c) of
- 2 this section:
- 3 (A) does not have any qualified survivors, the
- 4 designee has [, the heirs or estate of a deceased primary party
- 5 described by Subsection (c) of this section have] no right, title,
- 6 interest, or claim for [benefits or] a refund of the primary party's
- 7 contributions to the fund[τ] if the <u>designee does not file an</u>
- 8 application for the primary party's contributions within three
- 9 years after the date of the notice described in Subsection (c) of
- 10 this section; or
- 11 (B) has qualified survivors, the qualified
- 12 survivors have no right, title, interest, or claim to [heirs or the
- 13 estate, whichever is applicable, fails to file an application for
- 14 the primary party's death benefits if the qualified survivor does
- 15 <u>not file an application for the benefits</u> [or contributions] within
- 16 three years <u>after the date</u> of [receiving] the notice described <u>in</u>
- 17 Subsection (c) [by Subdivision (4)] of this section [subsection].
- 18 (4) On the 58th [50th] anniversary of the birth of a
- 19 Group B member described by Subsection (a) or (b) of this section
- 20 [or on the board's receipt of notice of the death of a primary party
- 21 described by Subsection (c) of this section], the board shall, by
- 22 registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, attempt to
- 23 notify:
- 24 (A) the [Group B] member [or the heirs or estate
- 25 of a primary party, whichever is applicable, of the status of the
- 26 member's [their] entitlement to benefits or contributions from the
- 27 fund; or

- 1 (B) if the board receives valid information that
- 2 the member has died, the qualified survivors of the deceased person
- 3 or, if none exists, the designee of the deceased person.
- 4 (5)(A) A Group B member described by Subdivision (1)
- 5 of this subsection shall have the person's Group B membership and
- 6 pension service reinstated on the person's return to active
- 7 service.
- 8 (B) A Group B member described by Subdivision (2)
- 9 of this subsection shall have the person's Group B membership and
- 10 pension service reinstated on the person's return to active service
- 11 or on the grant of the person's written request to the board of the
- 12 person's desire to apply for a Group B [service] retirement pension
- 13 under Section 6.02 of this article [benefit].
- 14 (C) A primary party's qualified survivors or
- 15 designee, as appropriate, [The heirs or estate of a primary party]
- 16 described by Subdivision (3) of this subsection shall have their
- 17 right, title, interest, or claim to the primary party's refund of
- 18 the party's contributions reinstated on the board's grant of their
- 19 written request [for the reinstatement and refund]. [The board's
- 20 decision shall be based on a uniform and nondiscriminatory policy
- 21 that it shall, from time to time, adopt.
- 22 SECTION 25. Section 5.05, Article 6243a-1, Revised
- 23 Statutes, is amended to read as follows:
- Sec. 5.05. PENSION SERVICE. (a) Subject to Subsection (d)
- 25 of this section and except as provided by Subsection (e) of this
- 26 section, a [A] member shall receive pension service for the time,
- 27 computed in years and fractional years for months and days,

- 1 completed as a member of the combined pension plan, the old plan,
- 2 Plan A, or Plan B.
- 3 (b) A member who elects to pay contributions for time spent
- 4 on military leave, authorized non-uniformed leave of absence, or
- 5 for an apprenticeship or probationary period, or for any other
- 6 reason provided for by this article may [not] receive [any] pension
- 7 service for [any part of] the time for which the member is
- 8 contributing only to the extent provided under Section 5.07(d),
- 9 5.08, or 5.09 of this article [until the entire amount due the fund
- 10 for the entire period involved has been paid as if the service were
- 11 performed as a member].
- 12 (c) If a member, either voluntarily or involuntarily,
- 13 leaves active service and later returns to active service, the
- 14 person shall receive full pension service for the period of the
- 15 person's original membership, if the person did not withdraw the
- 16 person's contributions pursuant to Section 4.04 of this article.
- 17 If, however, the member had withdrawn the person's contributions
- 18 and did [does] not replace the previously withdrawn contributions
- 19 [with interest] as required by Section 4.04 of this article, the
- 20 member [person] forfeits any pension service attributable to any
- 21 period of time for which the respective contributions were not
- 22 repaid [accrued while a member before the date of the person's
- 23 return to active service].
- 24 (d) If a member is assigned, for any period, to a
- 25 job-sharing program or any similar work schedule that is considered
- 26 by the member's department to be less than a full-time work
- 27 schedule, the member's pension service is determined by multiplying

- 1 the pension service that could have been earned for full-time work
- 2 during the period by a fraction, the numerator of which is the
- 3 number of hours the member actually worked during the period and the
- 4 denominator of which is the number of hours the member would have
- 5 worked during the period if the member had been working a full-time
- 6 work schedule. This proration may not affect the computation of
- 7 pension service for a member during any period the member is on
- 8 leave:
- 9 <u>(1) because of an illness or injury; or</u>
- 10 (2) receiving periodic payments of workers'
- 11 compensation.
- 12 (e) Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, a
- 13 member may not receive pension service attributable to nonqualified
- 14 service to the extent the pension service would result in either
- 15 more than five years of permissive service attributable to
- 16 <u>nonqualified service being taken into account, or any permissive</u>
- 17 service being taken into account before the member has completed at
- 18 least five years of active service. In this subsection,
- 19 "permissive service" and "nonqualified service" have the meanings
- 20 described by Section 415(n)(3) of the code.
- 21 SECTION 26. Sections 5.06, 5.07, 5.08, and 5.09, Article
- 22 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, are amended to read as follows:
- Sec. 5.06. VESTED RIGHTS OF GROUP B MEMBERS. (a) If a Group
- 24 B member accrues five years of pension service, whether the pension
- 25 service is accrued while a Group B member or while a member of the
- 26 old plan, Plan B, Plan A, the combined pension plan, or a
- 27 combination of the plans, the Group B member has vested rights and

- 1 is eligible to apply for a retirement pension in accordance with
- 2 Section 6.02 of this article.
- 3 (b) If a Group B member has vested rights as determined
- 4 under Subsection (a) of this section, and the Group B member either
- 5 voluntarily or involuntarily leaves active service before becoming
- 6 eligible to receive any benefits under Section 6.02 of this
- 7 article, the person shall be provided with a letter approved by the
- 8 board and signed by the executive director [administrator] that,
- 9 barring unrepaid refunds, clerical error, miscalculation, or other
- 10 error, is incontestable and shall state:
- 11 (1) the total amount of pension service the Group B
- 12 member had accrued until the date the person left active service;
- 13 (2) the total amount of contributions the Group B
- 14 member made under the terms of Plan B and the combined pension plan;
- 15 and
- 16 (3) the monthly retirement pension due the Group B
- 17 member at age $58 \left[\frac{50}{5} \right]$.
- 18 Sec. 5.07. PURCHASE OF PENSION SERVICE BY GROUP B MEMBERS.
- 19 (a) A Group B member who is on active service and has previously
- 20 elected not to become a contributing member of the old plan or [and]
- 21 Plan A may purchase pension service from the fund for that period
- 22 during which the member performed active service with either
- 23 department until the effective date of the member's Group B
- 24 membership. No pension service may be given to the Group B member
- 25 <u>except to the extent that</u> [until] payment is made for the [entire
- 26 period described by this subsection, and no] pension service in
- 27 accordance with Subsection (d) of this section [may be purchased

- for any period that is of greater or lesser length]. 1
- 2 Payment for the purchase of pension service under
- Subsection (a) of this section shall be equal to the amount of contributions the Group B member would have made to the old plan and 4
- 5 Plan A had the member been a contributing member of either of the
- plans during the period for which the pension service is being 6
- purchased [described by Subsection (a) of this section], plus 7
- 8 interest calculated in accordance with procedures adopted by the
- board from time to time. 9

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- 10 Subject to Subsection (d) of this section, a [A] Group B member who is on active service may repay the fund all or a portion 11 12 of the employee contributions withdrawn by an alternate payee pursuant to the terms of a qualified domestic relations order [and 13 14 receive pension service as a Group B member attributable to the 15 contributions, if the Group B member repays completely to the fund the withdrawn contributions] with interest, calculated at the 16 17 interest rate from time to time used in the pension system's actuarial rate of return assumptions, compounded annually, on the 18 19 contributions for the period from the date the contributions were withdrawn until the date the principal and accrued interest are 20 repaid, and receive pension service as a Group B member, in 21
 - [No pension service may be given to a Group B member under Subsection (b) or (c) of this section until the entire amount described by Subsection (b) or (c) has been paid to the fund. payment of the entire amount of pension service a member is entitled

accordance with Subsection (d) of this section, for the period for

which the contributions and interest were paid [in full].

- to under Subsection (a) or (c) of this section or under Section 1 4.04(h-1) of this article is not completed by the earlier of the 2 3 date the Group B member begins participation in DROP or the date the member [is not completed by the date the Group B member] leaves 4 5 active service, pension service will be provided only for the number of full years of pension service that the contributions and 6 7 interest paid under those provisions will purchase, computed based on the most recent years for which the member was entitled to 8 purchase pension service. Except for pension service that is 9 picked up by the city under the authority of Section 414(h)(2) of 10 the code, a fractional year of pension service may be purchased only 11 12 if less than a full year of pension service is available for 13 purchase.
- 14 (e) The amounts paid but insufficient to purchase one or
 15 more whole years of pension service that remain available for
 16 purchase, including any interest paid by the Group B member, must be
 17 returned to the Group B member or, if the Group B member has died, to
 18 the Group B member's designee, without any accrued interest on the
 19 returned money.
- 20 (f) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section,
 21 any amounts that have been picked up and paid by the city may not be
 22 paid to a member or designee, and the member shall be given credit
 23 for all years, and fractions of years, of pension service that can
 24 be purchased with the picked-up contributions [all partial payments
 25 shall be returned to the Group B member or, if the Group B member has
 26 died, to the member's heirs or estate, whichever is applicable].
- Sec. 5.08. MEMBERS IN UNIFORMED [ARMED] SERVICES. (a) In

- 1 this section, "service in the uniformed services" has the meaning
- 2 assigned by the federal Uniformed Services Employment and
- 3 Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (38 U.S.C. Section 4301 et seq.), as
- 4 amended.
- 5 (a-1) A member who is reemployed by the city after an absence due to service in the uniformed services shall receive 6 7 contributions, benefits, and pension service that are no less favorable than those required by Section 414(u) of the code in 8 accordance with the procedure described by Subsection (c) of this 9 10 section [may receive pension service for time spent away from either department while on active duty in any of the military 11 services of the United States, including service in any state or 12 National Guard or any reserve component of any military service in 13 accordance with the military leave provided by this section]. 14
- 15 To the extent a provision of this section that was in (b) effect before November 25, 1996, would provide a member who was on 16 17 active service with the pension system before November 25, 1996, with greater rights, the prior provision of this section applies 18 19 [Any member inducted into the armed forces as a draftee must reapply 20 for reinstatement with the member's prior department within 90 days 21 after the date of honorable discharge or separation from military service. On such reinstatement, the member may elect to repay the 2.2 member's contributions at any time under the procedure described by 23 24 Subsection (h) of this section].
- (c) <u>Payment for credit for pension service under this</u>

 26 <u>section</u> [Any member enlisting in the armed forces, other than as a

 27 <u>reservist</u>, whose military service between June 24, 1948, and August

1, 1961, did not exceed four years, or whose military service began after August 1, 1961, and did not exceed five years if the fifth year is at the request and convenience of the federal government, and who was honorably discharged or separated from service is guaranteed, under the provisions of coverage described by this subsection, the right to restore pension service under the procedure described by Subsection (h) of this section. The fourand five-year leaves permitted by this subsection apply to all of a member's employment with the city. An enlistment plus any number of reenlistments may not exceed the four- or five-year limitations stated above.

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[(d) Any member ordered to an initial period of active duty for training in a reserve component of not less than 12 consecutive weeks is entitled to restore pension service for the period absent from the member's department, if the member returns to the member's department within 31 days after the date of honorable discharge or separation from duty in the reserve unit.

[(e) Any member serving in a reserve component, voluntarily or involuntarily, may remain on military leave for four years, which may be extended for periods when the President of the United States calls the reserve unit into active duty. The service extension for members joining a reserve unit voluntarily is available only when the additional service is at the request and for the convenience of the federal government. Any member returning to the member's department under this provision must report back to work within the time specified to the member by the department, giving due regard for travel time and hospitalization, if required.

- 1 Any inquiry into the validity of orders extending terms of
- 2 reservist active duty for training will be referred to the
- 3 Department of Labor's Office of Veterans' Employment and Training.
- 4 [(f) Any member on military leave for short periods of
- 5 authorized training, such as two-week encampments, are treated as
- 6 on leave with pay for up to 15 working days in any one calendar year,
- 7 during which time pension service automatically accrues. Leave in
- 8 excess of 15 days will be treated as described by Subsection (e) of
- 9 this section.
- 10 [(g) With the exception of those circumstances described by
- 11 Subsection (f) of this section, the city is not required to match
- 12 contributions made by members under the terms of this section.
- 13 [(h) Repayment] shall be made in accordance with Section
- 14 5.07 of this article and a [the procedure set forth in any] uniform
- 15 and nondiscriminatory [military leave and payment] procedure
- 16 adopted by the board [and in effect from time to time].
- 17 Sec. 5.09. <u>NON-UNIFORMED</u> [NONMILITARY] LEAVE OF ABSENCE.
- 18 (a) An "authorized non-uniformed leave of absence" means any leave
- 19 of absence that meets one of the following requirements
- 20 [conditions]:
- 21 (1) the leave of absence was unpaid and granted by the
- 22 member's department in accordance with the federal Family and
- 23 Medical Leave Act of 1993 (29 U.S.C. Section 2601 et seq.); or
- 24 (2) the leave of absence was unpaid and was [must be]
- 25 an official leave authorized and certified by the chief of the
- 26 member's [either] department as being beneficial to[; and
- [(2) the leave of absence must be for the purpose of

- 1 benefitting] the department.
- 2 (b) Subject to the requirements of this section and any
- 3 procedures adopted by the board, a [A] member may receive pension
- 4 service for time spent away from the member's [either] department
- 5 on an authorized non-uniformed [nonmilitary] leave of absence. To
- 6 receive pension service <u>under this section</u> [for a nonmilitary leave
- 7 of absence, the following conditions must be met:
- 8 [(1) before the date the member's leave of absence is to
- 9 begin], the member must file with the executive director
- 10 [administrator] a written application to pay to the fund both:
- 11 (1) the member contributions the member would have
- 12 made to the fund had the member remained on active service and had
- 13 there been no change in the member's position or hours of work
- 14 <u>during the period of the authorized non-uniformed leave of absence;</u>
- 15 and
- 16 (2) the contributions the city would have made to the
- 17 fund on the member's behalf [any contributions that will accrue
- 18 during the member's leave as set forth in Subdivisions (2) and (3)
- 19 of this subsection;
- 20 [(2) the member must agree to pay into the fund the
- 21 amount the member would have contributed had the member remained on
- 22 active service, the amount to be based on the computation pay the
- 23 member would have normally received had there been no change in the
- 24 member's position during the period of leave;
- [(3) the member must agree to pay into the fund an
- 26 amount equal to the amount the city would have contributed computed
- 27 on the basis of total wages and salary the member would normally

- 1 have received] had the member remained on active service and had
- 2 there been no change in the member's position or hours of work
- 3 during the period of the authorized non-uniformed leave of absence.
- 4 (b-1) Contributions made under Subsection (b)(2) of this
- 5 section may not be refunded to the member.
- 6 (b-2) The written application described by Subsection (b)
- 7 of this section must be filed before the member's authorized
- 8 non-uniformed leave of absence begins, unless the pension system
- 9 determines that it would not be reasonable to expect the member to
- 10 file the application before the authorized non-uniformed leave of
- 11 absence begins, in which case the application must be filed as soon
- 12 as circumstances permit, as determined by the pension system.
- 13 [leave, the payment to represent the total amount that would have
- 14 been contributed by the city on the member's behalf had the member
- 15 remained on active service and paid in addition to the amount the
- 16 member must contribute as set forth in Subdivision (2) of this
- 17 subsection;
- 18 <u>(b-3)</u> To receive pension service under this section, the
- 19 <u>following additional conditions must also be met:</u>
- 20 $\underline{\text{(1)}}$ [$\frac{\text{(4)}}{\text{)}}$] if the member's contribution rate, the
- 21 city's contribution rate, or both the member's and city's
- 22 contribution rates change before the end of the member's authorized
- 23 non-uniformed leave of absence [changes as provided by Section 4.02
- 24 of this article], the percentage [of total wages and salary]
- 25 required to be paid by the member also changes, so that the amount
- 26 paid by the member in accordance with this section always equals the
- 27 amount that would have been contributed by the member, and by the

- 1 city on the member's behalf had the member remained on active
- 2 service[, and in no event is the city required to pay into the fund
- 3 any contributions that would have been made on behalf of a member
- 4 had the member remained on active service during the period of an
- 5 authorized leave of absence];
- 6 (2) [(5)] payment of contributions as set forth in
- 7 Subsection (b) of this section [Subdivisions (3) and (4) of this
- 8 subsection] shall begin coincident with the beginning of the
- 9 applicable <u>authorized non-uniformed</u> leave of absence and shall be
- 10 made monthly to the <u>executive director</u> [administrator] for deposit
- 11 in the fund, unless the board authorizes the deferment of the
- 12 payments, in which case the payments must include interest
- 13 calculated in accordance with Subsection (b-4) of this section
- 14 [until the member has returned to active service];
- 15 <u>(3)</u> no pension service will be granted to the member
- 16 until the member returns to active service, and if the member does
- 17 not return to active service, the contributions paid, including any
- 18 interest paid, will be returned to the member except as provided by
- 19 Subsection (c) of this section;
- 20 (4) if the board authorizes the deferment of the
- 21 payments <u>under Subdivision (2) of this subsection</u>, the payment <u>must</u>
- 22 [may] be made either by authorizing the deduction of pro rata
- 23 portions of the total amount due from the member's salary over a
- 24 one-year period, or by cash payment made to the executive director
- 25 [administrator] within one year after the date of the member's
- 26 return to active service, except that the board may approve a longer
- 27 period for making the payment if it finds that the one-year limit

- 1 would work a financial hardship on the member;
- (5) [(6)] the member must return to active service
- 3 within 90 days after the date the member's authorized non-uniformed
- 4 leave of absence expires, or if the member's authorized
- 5 non-uniformed leave of absence does not have a fixed expiration
- 6 date, within a reasonable time to be determined by the board, or the
- 7 member forfeits the right to pay for the leave time; and
- 8 (6) $\left[\frac{(7)}{(7)}\right]$ no member may ever be allowed to pay leave of
- 9 absence contributions under this section for any time in excess of
- 10 the time actually spent on an authorized non-uniformed leave of
- 11 absence.
- 12 (b-4) For purposes of Subsection (b-3)(2) of this section,
- 13 interest is calculated from the date the member's payment was first
- 14 due, at the interest rate from time to time used in the pension
- 15 system's actuarial rate of return assumptions, compounded annually
- 16 until the date the principal and accrued interest are repaid in
- 17 full.
- (c)(1) If a member of the combined pension plan is disabled
- 19 or dies while on an authorized non-uniformed leave of absence, the
- 20 member or the member's <u>designee is</u> [<u>heirs are</u>] entitled to [<u>either</u>]
- 21 a refund of contributions pursuant to Section 4.04 of this article
- 22 or the member or the member's qualified survivors are entitled to
- 23 benefits under the provisions of this article, to the extent
- 24 applicable.
- 25 (2) A member who is disabled or dies while on an
- 26 authorized non-uniformed leave of absence pursuant to this section
- 27 may receive no pension service for any portion of the period of the

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- 1 leave, [+] except that if the member had, before the member's
- 2 disability or death, paid for contributions while on an authorized
- 3 <u>non-uniformed</u> leave of absence in accordance with [Subsection (a)
- 4 of] this section, the member shall receive pension service for the
- 5 leave time actually paid for at the time of the member's disability
- 6 or death. The [, but the] member may receive no pension service for
- 7 any portion of the period of leave for which contributions were
- 8 [have] not [been] paid to the $\underline{\text{executive director}}$ [administrator]
- 9 for deposit in the fund.
- 10 SECTION 27. Section 6.01, Article 6243a-1, Revised
- 11 Statutes, is amended by amending Subsections (a), (b), (d), (e),
- 12 (f), (g), and (h) and adding Subsections (a-1) and (a-2) to read as
- 13 follows:
- 14 (a) A Group A member [or former Group A member] must have 20
- 15 years of pension service to be eligible for a Group A retirement
- 16 pension under this section. A member's <u>benefit election</u>
- 17 [application] under this section, once approved [made], is
- 18 irrevocable.
- 19 (a-1) If a Group A pensioner returns to active service as a
- 20 police officer or fire fighter with the city, the person's Group A
- 21 retirement pension ceases until [the time] that [the] person again
- 22 leaves active service with the city.
- 23 <u>(a-2)</u> If a Group A pensioner resumes employment with the
- 24 city in a capacity other than as a police officer or fire fighter,
- 25 the pensioner's Group A retirement pension continues during the
- 26 period of employment, except the pensioner may not accrue
- 27 additional credit for pension service during this period.

- 1 Additional credit for pension service does not accrue during any
- 2 period in which a Group A pensioner becomes employed by the city
- 3 unless the additional credit is attributable to active service as a
- 4 police officer or fire fighter with the city.
- 5 (b) At age 50 a Group A member [or former Group A member] is
- 6 eligible to begin drawing a monthly Group A retirement pension. A
- 7 monthly Group A retirement pension equals 50 percent of the base pay
- 8 per month, plus 50 percent of any longevity pay the Group A member
- 9 was receiving at the time the member left active service. Although
- 10 the number of years used in the computation of longevity pay remains
- 11 fixed at the <u>earlier of the</u> time a Group A member [or former Group A
- 12 member] leaves active service or begins participation in DROP, the
- 13 monthly rate of longevity pay used in this computation is subject to
- 14 change in the event of an amendment to the state law governing
- 15 longevity pay. The monthly Group A retirement pension benefits of
- 16 Group A pensioners shall be adjusted from time to time in a like
- 17 manner.
- 18 (d) The element of annual retirement pension computed under
- 19 Subsection (c)(1) of this section is subject to the following
- 20 limitations:
- 21 (1) it shall be prorated for the year in which the
- 22 pensioner begins receiving a retirement pension;
- 23 (2) it shall be payable only to those Group A
- 24 pensioners who, as [a] Group A members [member] on active service,
- 25 received city service incentive pay and who receive a monthly Group
- 26 A retirement pension as determined under Subsection (b) of this
- 27 section on the last day of September of each year; and

- 1 (3) it shall be paid to Group A pensioners as long as
- 2 the city continues to pay city service incentive pay to Group A
- 3 members on active service.
- 4 (4) Notwithstanding Subsections (b) and (c) of this
- 5 section, a Group A member with a minimum of 20 years of pension
- 6 service may apply for an actuarially reduced retirement pension to
- 7 begin no earlier than when the member attains age 45 but before the
- 8 member attains age 50. The Group A member [or a former Group A
- 9 member] who has made an application may receive a retirement
- 10 pension calculated under Subsections (b) and (c) of this section
- 11 reduced by two-thirds of one percent per month for each whole
- 12 calendar month the benefit is payable before the month in which the
- 13 Group A member [or former Group A member] attains age 50.
- (e) At age 55 a Group A member [or former Group A member] is
- 15 eligible to begin drawing a monthly retirement pension computed as
- 16 follows:
- 17 (1)(A) at the rate of three percent of base pay for
- 18 each year, prorated for fractional years, of pension service, with
- 19 a maximum of 32 years of pension service, or 96 percent of base pay;
- 20 or
- 21 (B) if the Group A member [or former Group A
- 22 member] had 34 or more years of pension service as of April 30,
- 23 1990, then the member's retirement pension is calculated at the
- 24 rate calculated under the terms of the combined pension plan in
- 25 effect on April 30, 1990, if the resulting amount would be greater
- 26 than the amount calculated under Paragraph (A) of this subdivision;
- 27 plus

- 1 (2) one-half of the longevity pay the Group A member
- 2 [or former Group A member] was receiving at the time the person left
- 3 active service; plus
- 4 (3) 1/24th, without subsequent adjustment, of the
- 5 annualized amount of the city service incentive pay the Group A
- 6 member [or former Group A member] received at the time the person
- 7 left active service.
- 8 (f) [Notwithstanding Subsection (e) of this section, Group
- 9 A pensioners payments under Subsection (e)(3) of this section are
- 10 contingent on the city's continuing payment of city service
- 11 incentive pay to Group A members on active service.] For purposes
- 12 of Subsection (e) of this section, base pay and longevity pay are
- 13 the amounts in effect on the earlier of the date the member begins
- 14 participation in DROP or the date benefits are to begin, without
- 15 subsequent adjustment.
- 16 (g) Notwithstanding Subsection (e) of this section, a Group
- 17 A member [or former Group A member] with 20 or more years of pension
- 18 service may apply for an actuarially reduced Group A retirement
- 19 pension beginning on or after the date the Group A member [or former
- 20 Group A member] attains age 50 but before the person attains age 55.
- 21 The Group A member [or former Croup A member] may receive a
- 22 retirement pension calculated under Subsection (e) of this section
- 23 reduced by two-thirds of one percent per month for each whole
- 24 calendar month the benefit is payable before the month in which the
- 25 Group A member [or former Group A member] attains age 55.
- 26 (h) Entitlement to the Group A retirement pension described
- 27 by this section is subject to the following conditions:

- 1 (1) \underline{a} written application must be filed with the
- 2 executive director [administrator];
- 3 (2) the grant of a Group A retirement pension by the
- 4 board must be made at a meeting of the board held during the month
- 5 the [Group A] retirement pension is to become effective, or as soon
- 6 after that as <u>administratively</u> possible; and
- 7 (3) the Group A member must no longer be on active
- 8 service.
- 9 SECTION 28. Section 6.02, Article 6243a-1, Revised
- 10 Statutes, is amended to read as follows:
- 11 Sec. 6.02. GROUP B RETIREMENT PENSION. (a) If a [A] Group B
- 12 member [or former Group B member who] has accrued five or more years
- 13 of pension service, is no longer on active service with the
- 14 department, has not withdrawn the member's contributions, and
- 15 otherwise meets the age and pension service requirements under the
- 16 applicable provision of this section, the member may apply [may
- 17 make application] for a Group B retirement pension under this
- 18 section. A member's benefit election application under a provision
- 19 of this section, once approved, is irrevocable.
- 20 <u>(a-1)</u> If a Group B pensioner returns to active service as a
- 21 police officer or fire fighter with the city, the person's [on
- 22 reaching 50 years of age, or for an actuarially reduced | Group B
- 23 retirement pension ceases until that person again leaves active
- 24 service with the city.
- 25 <u>(a-2) If a Group B pensioner resumes employment with the</u>
- 26 city in a capacity other than as a police officer or fire fighter,
- 27 the pensioner's Group B retirement pension continues during the

- 1 period of employment except the pensioner may not accrue additional
- 2 credit for pension service during this period. Additional credit
- 3 for pension service does not accrue during any period in which a
- 4 Group B pensioner becomes employed by the city unless the
- 5 additional credit is attributable to active service as a police
- 6 officer or fire fighter with the city [on reaching 45 years of age].
- 7 (b) A [former] Group B member who began active service
- 8 before March 1, 2011, and who has attained at least 50 years of age,
- 9 or who began active service on or after March 1, 2011, and has
- 10 attained at least 58 years of age, and who otherwise meets the
- 11 requirements of Subsection (a) of this section may elect to receive
- 12 a Group B retirement pension that shall be calculated as follows:
- 13 (1) for a member who began active service before March
- 14 1, 2011, the member's retirement pension shall be the sum of:
- 15 (A) the number of years of pension service before
- 16 September 1, 2017, prorated for fractional years, times three
- 17 percent of the average computation pay determined over the 36
- 18 consecutive months of pension service in which the Group B member
- 19 received the highest computation pay; plus
- 20 (B) the number of years of pension service on or
- 21 after September 1, 2017, prorated for fractional years, times the
- 22 applicable percentage prescribed by Subsection (b-1) of this
- 23 section of the average computation pay determined over the 60
- 24 consecutive months of pension service in which the Group B member
- 25 received the highest computation pay; or
- 26 (2) for a member who began active service on or after
- 27 March 1, 2011, the member's retirement pension shall be the number

- 1 of years of pension service, prorated for fractional years, times
- 2 2.5 percent of the average computation pay determined over the 60
- 3 consecutive months of pension service in which the member received
- 4 the highest computation pay.
- 5 (b-1) For purposes of Subsection (b)(1)(B) of this section,
- 6 the applicable percentage is based on the age of the Group B member
- 7 when the member's retirement pension begins as set forth below:

8	Age of Member When Retirement Pension Begins	Percent
9	58 and older	2.5%
10	<u>57</u>	2.4%
11	<u>56</u>	2.3%
12	<u>55</u>	2.2%
13	<u>54</u>	2.1%
14	53 and younger	2.0%

- 15 (b-2) Days during which the member earned no pension service
- 16 <u>due to a termination of active service or otherwise must be</u>
- 17 disregarded in determining the 36 or 60 consecutive months of
- 18 highest computation pay under Subsection (b)(1) or (2) of this
- 19 section, as appropriate. The pension benefit calculated under
- 20 Subsection (b) of this section may not exceed the greater of:
- 21 (1) 90 percent of the member's average computation pay
- 22 <u>determined under the applicable subsection; or</u>
- 23 (2) the vested and accrued benefit of a member as
- 24 determined on August 31, 2017. [or Group B pensioner who withdrew
- 25 any of the person's Plan B or Group B contributions and who on again
- 26 becoming a Group B member does not replace such previously
- 27 withdrawn contributions with interest thereon as provided by

- 1 Section 4.04 of this article must earn at least five years of
- 2 pension service after the time the person returns to active service
- 3 to be eligible for a Group B retirement pension.
- 4 (c) Except as provided by Subsection (c-2) of this section,
- 5 [Entitlement to] a Group B member who has either attained at least
- 6 45 years of age on September 1, 2017, or who attains at least 53
- 7 years of age after September 1, 2017, and who otherwise meets the
- 8 requirements of Subsection (a) of this section may elect to receive
- 9 an actuarially reduced Group B retirement pension calculated in
- 10 accordance with Subsection (c-1) of this section:
- 11 (1) not earlier than the member's 45th or 53rd
- 12 birthday, as applicable; and
- 13 (2) not later than the member's 50th or 58th birthday,
- 14 <u>as applicable.</u>
- 15 (c-1) Except as provided by Subsection (c-2) of this section
- 16 and subject to Section 6.021 of this article, a Group B member who
- 17 applies for an actuarially reduced Group B retirement pension under
- 18 Subsection (c) of this section shall receive a pension calculated
- 19 under Subsection (b) of this section, reduced by two-thirds of one
- 20 percent per month, for each whole calendar month the benefit is
- 21 payable before the month in which the member attains:
- 22 (1) for members who attained at least 45 years of age
- 23 on September 1, 2017, 50 years of age; or
- 24 (2) for members not described by Subdivision (1) of
- 25 this subsection who attain at least 53 years of age after September
- 26 1, 2017, 58 years of age.
- (c-2) If, for purposes of Subsection (c-1) of this section,

- 1 a Group B member's pension benefit calculated under Subsection (b)
- 2 of this section is equal to 90 percent of the member's average
- 3 computation pay, the member is entitled to a Group B retirement
- 4 pension under Subsection (c) of this section at 45 or 53 years of
- 5 age, as applicable, that is not actuarially reduced as provided
- 6 under Subsection (c-1) of this section [retirement pension as
- 7 described by Subsection (a) or (b) of this section is subject to the
- 8 following conditions:
- 9 [(1) written application must be filed with the
- 10 administrator;
- 11 [(2) the grant of the Group B retirement pension by the
- 12 board must be made at a meeting of the board held during the month
- 13 the Group B retirement pension is to become effective, or as soon
- 14 after that as possible; and
- 15 [(3) the Group B member may no longer be on active
- 16 service].
- 17 (d) Except as provided by Subsection (d-2) of this section,
- 18 a [A] Group B member who has accrued 20 or more years of pension
- 19 service and has been on active service at any time on or after
- 20 January 1, 1999, may elect to apply for a Group B retirement pension
- 21 beginning at any time after the Group B member leaves active
- 22 service, regardless of age. A Group B member may elect a Group B
- 23 <u>retirement pension under this subsection as follows:</u>
- 24 (1) if the member accrued 20 or more years of pension
- 25 <u>service on or before September 1, 2017, the member may elect a</u>
- 26 pension under this subsection that is computed in the same manner as
- 27 the Group B retirement pension under Subsection (b)(1) of this

- 1 section except that the percentage set forth below must be used 2 instead of the three percent multiplier prescribed by Subsection 3 (b)(1)(A) of this section: Age of Member When Retirement Pension Begins 4 Percent 48 a<u>nd 49</u> 5 2.75% 6 47 2.5% 7 46 2.25% 8 45 and younger 2%; and (2) except as provided by Subsection (d-2) of this 9 section and subject to Section 6.021 of this article, if the member 10 accrued 20 or more years of pension service after September 1, 2017, 11 12 the member may elect a pension under this subsection computed in the same manner as the Group B retirement pension under Subsection 13 14 (b)(2) of this section except that the percentage set forth below must be used instead of the 2.5 percent multiplier prescribed by 15 Subsection (b)(2) of this section: 16 17 Age of Member When Retirement Pension Begins Percent 2.4% 18 57 19 56 2.3% 55 20 2.2% 21 54 2.1% 22 53 and younger 2.0%
- 23 (d-1) A member who elects a pension under Subsection (d) of
- 24 this section is not entitled to:
- 25 (1) minimum benefits under either Section 6.10A or
- 26 6.11 of this article; or
- 27 (2) benefits under Subsection (g) of this section.

(d-2) If, for purposes of Subsection (d) of this section, a Group B member's pension benefit calculated under Subsection (b) of this section is equal to 90 percent of the member's average computation pay, the member is entitled to a Group B retirement pension under Subsection (d) of this section that is not reduced as provided under Subsection (d)(1) or (2) of this section [retirement pension shall be computed at the rate of three percent of the average computation pay determined over the 60 consecutive months in which the Group B member received the highest computation pay, multiplied by the number of years, prorated for fractional years, of pension service to a maximum of 32 years of pension service or 96 percent of the computation pay as determined under this subsection].

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(e) A [However, a] Group B member or former Group B member with 34 or more years of pension service as of April 30, 1990, is entitled to [shall] receive the greater of a Group B retirement pension calculated under the terms of Plan B as in effect on that date or a Group B retirement pension calculated pursuant to 18 19 Subsection (b) $[\frac{d}{d}]$ of this section.

[(f) A Croup B member, or any former Group B member who was a Group B member as of any date after April 30, 1990, may apply for an actuarially reduced Group B retirement pension beginning no earlier than the person's 45th birthday but before the person's 50th birthday. A Group B member or former Group B member who applies for an actuarially reduced Group B retirement pension beginning on or after the person's 45th birthday shall receive a pension calculated under Subsection (d) of this section, reduced by two-thirds of

- 1 percent per month for each whole calendar month the pension would be
- 2 payable before the month in which the Group B member or former Group
- 3 B member attains age 50.
- 4 (g) In no event may any Group B member [or former Group B
- 5 member] who was at any time a Group A member or a contributing
- 6 member of the old plan or Plan A, and who satisfied the applicable
- 7 age and length-of-service requirements of the applicable plan at
- 8 the time the person left active service, receive a retirement
- 9 pension in an amount less than the amount the person would be
- 10 entitled to receive as a Group A member.
- 11 (h) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a
- 12 [A former] Group B member who was not a Group B member on or after
- 13 January 1, 1993 [May 1, 1990], shall receive a retirement pension
- 14 calculated under the applicable provisions of Plan B [this plan] as
- 15 that plan existed [in effect] on the date the member terminated
- 16 [person left] active service.
- 17 (i) Entitlement to a Group B retirement pension under
- 18 Subsection (b), (c), (d), or (e) of this section is subject to the
- 19 following conditions:
- 20 (1) a written application must be filed with the
- 21 <u>executive director;</u>
- 22 (2) the grant of the Group B retirement pension by the
- 23 board must be made at a meeting of the board held during the month
- 24 the retirement pension is to become effective, or as soon after as
- 25 administratively possible; and
- 26 (3) the Group B member may no longer be on active
- 27 service [A former Group B member who was not a Group B member after

- 1 April 30, 1990, may request an actuarially reduced retirement
- 2 pension beginning no earlier than the person's 45th birthday but
- 3 before the person's 50th birthday]. [A former Group B member
- 4 described by this subsection shall receive a retirement pension
- 5 under the applicable provisions of Plan B as in effect on the date
- 6 the person left active service, reduced by two-thirds of one
- 7 percent per month for each whole calendar month the pension would be
- 8 payable before the month in which the former Group B member attains
- 9 age 50.]
- 10 SECTION 29. Part 6, Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, is
- 11 amended by adding Sections 6.021 and 6.022 to read as follows:
- 12 Sec. 6.021. AUTHORITY TO ADOPT ALTERNATIVE MULTIPLIERS FOR
- 13 COMPUTATION OF CERTAIN GROUP B BENEFITS. (a) For purposes of
- 14 Section 6.02(c-1) or (d)(2) of this article, the board by rule may
- 15 <u>adopt alternative multipliers</u>, including an alternative table
- 16 prescribing actuarially appropriate multipliers. In adopting
- 17 rules under this subsection, the board shall designate the date on
- 18 which the alternative multiplier shall take effect.
- (b) Copies of any alternative multipliers adopted under
- 20 this section must be maintained at the principal office of the
- 21 pension system and published on the pension system's publicly
- 22 <u>available Internet website.</u>
- 23 Sec. 6.022. AUTHORITY TO REDUCE RETIREMENT AGE.
- 24 Notwithstanding any other law, the board may reduce the age at which
- 25 <u>a Group B member is eligible to begin receiving a retirement</u>
- 26 pension, including an actuarially reduced retirement pension,
- 27 under Section 6.02 of this article if the board determines that the

- 1 reduction will not cause the amortization period of the unfunded
- 2 actuarial accrued liability of the pension system to exceed 25
- 3 years, after taking into account the impact of the reduction. A
- 4 board action under this section may not take effect until the State
- 5 Pension Review Board reviews the board's determination described by
- 6 this section.
- 7 SECTION 30. Section 6.03, Article 6243a-1, Revised
- 8 Statutes, is amended by amending Subsections (a), (d), (f), and (g)
- 9 and adding Subsections (k) and (l) to read as follows:
- 10 (a) If a member who is on active service, other than a member
- 11 participating in DROP, becomes disabled to the extent that the
- 12 member cannot perform the member's duties with the member's
- 13 department, the member may apply for a disability pension, subject
- 14 to [in accordance with] any uniform and nondiscriminatory
- 15 disability application procedure and recall and review procedure
- 16 adopted by the board and in effect from time to time.
- 17 (d) No disability pension may be paid to a member for any
- 18 disability if the disability was a result of an intentionally
- 19 self-inflicted injury or a chronic illness resulting from an
- 20 addiction by the member through a protracted course of [noncoerced]
- 21 indulgence in alcohol, narcotics, or other substance abuse $\underline{\text{that was}}$
- 22 <u>not coerced</u>.
- 23 (f) No disability pension may be paid if the chief of the
- 24 member's department is able to provide the member with duties that
- 25 are within the member's physical or mental capabilities, [as long
- 26 as the board agrees that the duties are within the member's
- 27 capabilities, even though the duties are different from the duties

- 1 the member performed before the disability.
- 2 (g) Written application for a disability pension must be
- 3 filed with the <u>executive director not later than the 180th day after</u>
- 4 the date the member leaves active service [administrator]. The
- 5 application must be accompanied by a recommendation from the health
- 6 director. This recommendation shall contain a statement indicating
- 7 whether the member became disabled while the member was on duty or
- 8 off duty and whether the disability was service-connected or was
- 9 not service-connected [nonservice-connected].
- 10 (k) For purposes of Sections 6.04 and 6.05 of this article
- 11 and this section:
- 12 (1) longevity pay and incentive pay are the amounts in
- 13 <u>effect on the date the benefits are to begin, without subsequent</u>
- 14 adjustment; and
- 15 (2) except as provided by Section 6.05(b-1) of this
- 16 article, base pay is the amount in effect on the date benefits are
- 17 to begin, without subsequent adjustment.
- (1) Notwithstanding any other law, Subchapter B, Chapter
- 19 607, Government Code, applies to all members without regard to the
- 20 employing department or job assignment.
- 21 SECTION 31. Part 6, Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, is
- 22 amended by adding Section 6.035 to read as follows:
- 23 <u>Sec. 6.035. DISABILITY BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN PERSONS IN</u>
- 24 UNIFORMED SERVICES. (a) In this section, "uniformed services" has
- 25 the meaning assigned by the federal Uniformed Services Employment
- 26 and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (38 U.S.C. Section 4301 et
- 27 seq.).

- 1 (b) This section applies to a person who was released from
- 2 the uniformed services after December 17, 2001, under conditions
- 3 that would have made the person eligible for benefits under Section
- 4 414(u) of the code if the person could have returned to active
- 5 service.
- 6 (c) If a person subject to this section was unable to return
- 7 to active service by reason of disability incurred while on a leave
- 8 of absence due to service in the uniformed services, that person is
- 9 <u>entitled to a regular disability pension in accordance with Section</u>
- 10 6.03 of this article, calculated in accordance with Section 6.04 of
- 11 this article.
- 12 (d) Notwithstanding Section 6.03(g) of this article, a
- 13 written application for a disability pension must be filed not
- 14 later than the 180th day after the date of the person's release from
- 15 <u>the uniformed services.</u>
- 16 (e) A person subject to this section is entitled to receive
- 17 pension service for the period of service with the uniformed
- 18 services only to the extent that contributions are made for that
- 19 period in accordance with this article.
- 20 SECTION 32. Section 6.04, Article 6243a-1, Revised
- 21 Statutes, is amended to read as follows:
- Sec. 6.04. CALCULATION OF REGULAR [GROUP A] DISABILITY
- 23 BENEFITS [PENSION]. (a) Subject to Subsection (g) of this section,
- 24 if [#] a Group A member's application for a Group A disability
- 25 pension has been approved by the board pursuant to Section 6.03 of
- 26 this article, including any procedures adopted under that section,
- 27 the Group A member may elect to receive a Group A disability pension

- 1 calculated:
- 2 (1) in the same manner as the benefit under Sections
- 3 6.01(b) and (c) of this article; or
- 4 (2) under Subsection (c) [(b)] of this section.
- 5 <u>(b)</u> An election under <u>Subsection (a) of</u> this section, once
- 6 approved by the board [made], is irrevocable.
- 7 [(b) When a Group A member elects to accept a Group A
- 8 disability pension under this section, it shall be calculated as
- 9 provided by Subsections (c), (d), and (e) of this section.
- 10 (c) <u>Subject to Subsection (g) of this section</u>, [If] a Group
- 11 A [member's disability results during the performance of duties
- 12 with either department, the] member who elects to have benefits
- 13 <u>determined under this subsection</u> is entitled to a monthly
- 14 disability pension calculated as follows:
- 15 (1) at a rate of three percent of base pay for each
- 16 year, prorated for fractional years, of pension service, with a
- 17 [minimum of 20 years of pension service being deemed credited and a]
- 18 maximum of 32 years of pension service being credited, or 96 percent
- 19 of base pay [except that if the Group A member had 34 or more
- 20 years of pension service as of April 30, 1990 [May 1, 1990], the
- 21 member $\underline{\text{is entitled to}}$ [shall] receive the greater of a disability
- 22 pension calculated under the terms of the combined pension plan in
- 23 effect on that date or as calculated under this subdivision; plus
- 24 (2) one-half of the longevity pay the Group A member
- 25 was receiving at the time the member left active service; plus
- 26 (3) subject to Subsection (d) of this section,
- 27 1/24th[, without subsequent adjustment,] of the annualized amount

- 1 of city service incentive pay the Group A member received at the
- 2 time the member left active service.
- 3 (c-1) The disability pension calculated under Subsection
- 4 (c) of this section may not exceed the greater of:
- 5 (1) 90 percent of the member's average base pay
- 6 determined under the applicable subsection; or
- 7 (2) the vested and accrued disability pension of the
- 8 member as determined on August 31, 2017.
- 9 (d) Payments of the amounts described by [Notwithstanding
- 10 Subsection (c) of this section, the amount of a disability
- 11 retirement benefit of a Group A pensioner who is on disability
- 12 retirement under Subsection (c)(3) of this section are [is]
- 13 contingent on the city's continuing payment of city service
- 14 incentive pay to Group A members on active service. [For purposes
- 15 of this subsection, base pay and longevity pay are the amounts in
- 16 effect on the date the benefits are to begin, without subsequent
- 17 adjustment.
- 18 (e) If a Group B [A] member's application for a Group B
- 19 disability pension has been approved by the board under Section
- 20 <u>6.03</u> of this article, including any procedures adopted under that
- 21 section, the Group B member may elect to receive a Group B
- 22 disability pension calculated in the manner described by Subsection
- 23 (f) or (f-1) of this section, subject to Subsection (g) of this
- 24 section [disability does not result during the performance of the
- 25 member's duties with either department, the member is entitled to a
- 26 monthly disability pension calculated:
- [(1) at a rate of three percent of base pay for each

year, prorated for fractional years, of pension service, with a 1 maximum of 32 years of pension service, or 96 percent of base pay, 2 except that if the Group A member had 34 or more years of pension service as of April 30, 1990, the member shall receive the greater 4 5 of a disability pension calculated under the combined pension plan in effect on that date or as calculated under this subdivision; plus 6 7 [(2) one-half of the longevity pay the Group A member 8 was receiving at the time the member left active service; plus 9 [(3) 1/24th of the annualized amount of city service 10 incentive pay the Group A member received at the time the member left active service, without regard to any subsequent adjustment]. 11 Subject to Subsections (f-1), (f-3), and (g) of this 12 section, the disability pension of a Group B member shall be 13 14 calculated as follows: 15 (1) for a member who began active service before March 1, 2011, the member's disability pension shall be the sum of: 16 17 (A) the member's number of years of pension service earned before September 1, 2017, prorated for fractional 18 years, times three percent of the average computation pay 19 determined over the 36 consecutive months of pension service in 20 which the member received the highest computation pay; plus 21 22 (B) the number of years of pension service, including pension service credit imputed under Section 6.05(c) of 23 24 this article, earned on or after September 1, 2017, prorated for fractional years, times the applicable percentage prescribed by 25 26 Section 6.02(b-1) of this article of the average computation pay

determined over the 60 consecutive months of pension service in

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- 1 which the member received the highest computation pay; or
- 2 (2) for a member who began active service on or after
- 3 March 1, 2011, the member's disability pension shall be the number
- 4 of years of pension service, including pension service credit
- 5 imputed under Section 6.05(c) of this article, prorated for
- 6 fractional years, times 2.5 percent of the average computation pay
- 7 determined over the 60 consecutive months of pension service in
- 8 which the member received the highest computation pay.
- 9 (f-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (f) of this section, for a
- 10 Group B member who had 34 or more years of pension service as of
- 11 April 30, 1990, the member is entitled to receive the greater of a
- 12 disability pension calculated under the terms of Plan B in effect on
- 13 April 30, 1990, or calculated under Subsection (f) of this section.
- 14 (f-2) For purposes of Subsections (f) and (f-1) of this
- 15 section:
- 16 (1) any partial year of pension service for a Group B
- 17 member's first 20 years of pension service is counted as a full year
- 18 of pension service, if the member was considered by the member's
- 19 department to have worked a normal full-time schedule at the time of
- 20 the disability;
- 21 (2) if the member has less than 36 or 60 consecutive
- 22 months of pension service, as applicable, the member's average
- 23 computation pay will be computed based on the member's entire
- 24 pension service; and
- 25 (3) days during which the member earned no pension
- 26 service due to a termination of active service or otherwise must be
- 27 disregarded in determining the 36 or 60 consecutive months of

- 1 highest computation pay.
- 2 (f-3) The disability pension calculated under Subsection
- 3 (f) or (f-1) of this section may not exceed the greater of:
- 4 (1) 90 percent of the member's average computation pay
- 5 determined under the applicable subsection; or
- 6 (2) the vested and accrued disability pension of the
- 7 member as determined on August 31, 2017 [Payments of the amounts
- 8 described by Subsection (e)(3) of this section are contingent on
- 9 the city's continuing payment of city service incentive pay to
- 10 Group A members on active service].
- 11 (g) The disability pension calculated in accordance with
- 12 this section, including both a Group A benefit described by
- 13 Subsection (a) of this section and a Group B benefit described by
- 14 Subsection (f) of this section, shall be reduced dollar-for-dollar
- 15 by any monthly disability compensation benefit received under
- 16 <u>Section 6.05 of this article.</u> If the monthly disability
- 17 compensation benefit provided to a member under Section 6.05 of
- 18 this article equals or exceeds any benefit the member is entitled to
- 19 under this section or Section 6.01(b) or (c) of this article, the
- 20 member may not receive the benefit under this section [For purposes
- 21 of Subsection (e)(3) of this section, base pay and longevity pay are
- 22 the amounts in effect on the date the benefits are to begin, without
- 23 subsequent adjustment].
- SECTION 33. The heading to Section 6.05, Article 6243a-1,
- 25 Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:
- Sec. 6.05. COMPENSATION BENEFITS FOR SERVICE-CONNECTED
- 27 [CALCULATION OF GROUP B] DISABILITY [BENEFITS].

- 1 SECTION 34. Section 6.05, Article 6243a-1, Revised
- 2 Statutes, is amended by amending Subsections (a), (b), and (c) and
- 3 adding Subsection (b-1) to read as follows:
- 4 (a) If a <u>member leaves active service at any time due to</u>
- 5 disability and the board determines that the member with the
- 6 disability became unable to perform the member's duties with the
- 7 member's department due to an injury or sickness incurred in the
- 8 performance of the member's duties, the member is entitled to
- 9 periodic disability compensation benefits in accordance with this
- 10 <u>section</u> [Group B member's application for a Group B disability
- 11 pension has been approved by the board pursuant to Section 6.03 of
- 12 this article, including any procedures adopted under that section,
- 13 the Group B member may, depending on the circumstances, elect to
- 14 receive a Group B disability pension calculated in the manner
- 15 described by Subsection (b) or (c) of this section].
- (b) <u>Subject to Subsection (b-1)</u>, [<u>If</u>] a Group <u>A</u> [B] member
- 17 whose disability, as determined by the board, was caused by an
- 18 injury or sickness incurred in the performance of the member's duty
- 19 shall receive a monthly benefit equal to 60 percent of the member's
- 20 base pay. For purposes of this subsection, "base pay" is the amount
- 21 <u>in effect on the date compensation benefits under this section are</u>
- 22 to begin, without subsequent adjustment.
- 23 (b-1) Instead of receiving a periodic disability
- 24 compensation benefit under Subsection (b) of this section, a Group
- 25 A member who is entitled to periodic disability compensation
- 26 benefits under this section may elect, before the benefits begin,
- 27 to receive those benefits as a monthly benefit equal to 50 percent

1 of the member's base pay adjusted from time to time to reflect changes in base pay that occur after the member began receiving a monthly compensation benefit under this section [becomes disabled 3 during the performance of the member's duties with either department, the member is entitled to a monthly disability pension calculated at a rate of three percent of the average computation pay 6 determined over the 60 consecutive months in which the Group B member received the member's highest computation pay multiplied by the number of years, prorated for fractional years, of the member's 9 10 pension service with a minimum of 20 years of pension service being deemed credited, or 60 percent of average computation pay 11 determined over the 60 consecutive months in which the Group B member received the member's highest computation pay, except that if the Group B member has less than five years of pension service, the Group B member's average computation pay will be computed based on the member's entire pension service. If a Group B member had 34 16 more years of pension service as of April 30, 1990, the Group B member is entitled to receive the greater of a Group B disability 18 19 pension calculated under the terms of Plan B in effect on that date or calculated pursuant to this subsection]. 20

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- 21 (c) A [The Group B disability pension for any] Group B 22 member whose disability, as determined by the board, was caused by an injury or sickness incurred in the performance of the member's 23 24 duty shall receive a monthly benefit equal to the disability pension under Sections 6.04(f), (f-1), (f-2), and (f-3) of this 25 26 article except that if the member:
- 27 (1) does not have 20 years of pension service, the

1 member is considered to have 20 years of pension service for the

2 purposes of calculating the disability pension under that section;

3 and

4 (2) has less than 36 or 60 consecutive months, as applicable, of employment with the department, the member's average 5 computation pay will be computed based on all the member's 6 7 computation pay, and days during which the member earned no pension 8 service due to a termination of active service or otherwise must be disregarded in determining either the 36 or 60 consecutive months 9 10 of highest computation pay [does not result during the performance of the member's duties with either department shall be computed at a 11 12 rate of three percent of the average computation pay determined over the 60 consecutive months in which the Group B member received 13 the member's highest computation pay multiplied by the number 14 years, prorated for fractional years, of the member's pension 15 service, except that any partial year of pension service 16 17 rst 20 years of pension service shall be counted as a full year pension service. If the Group B member has less than five years of 18 19 pension service, the Group B member's average computation pay will be computed based on the member's entire pension service, and if a 20 Group B member had 34 or more years of pension service as of April 21 30, 1990, the Group B member is entitled to receive the greater 22 disability pension calculated under the terms of Plan B in effect on 23 24 that date or calculated pursuant to this subsection].

SECTION 35. Section 6.05(d), Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, is redesignated as Section 6.055, Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, and amended to read as follows:

1 Sec. 6.055. REDUCTION IN DISABILITY OR COMPENSATION BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN PERSONS. (a) In this section, "earned income" 2 3 means income earned by a Group B pensioner in the form of wages, salaries, commissions, fees, tips, unemployment benefits, and 4 other amounts received by virtue of employment or self-employment 5 but paid before any deduction for taxes or insurance. In addition, 6 earned income also includes those amounts contributed on a 7 8 before-tax basis to any retirement plan or employee health and welfare benefit plan. 9 (b) [(d)] The board shall require any Group B pensioner who

10 became a member of Plan B or the combined pension plan on or after 11 12 May 1, 1990, and who is receiving a Group B disability pension under Section 6.04 of this article or a periodic disability compensation 13 under Section 6.05 of this article [in accordance with Subsection 14 15 (b) or (c) of this section] to provide the board annually, on or before $\underline{\text{July 1}}$ [May 1] of each year, with a true and complete copy of 16 those portions of the person's federal and, if applicable, state 17 tax return, including appropriate schedules, for the previous 18 19 calendar year that indicate the person's occupations, if any, and 20 earned income for the previous calendar year. If the pensioner did not file a tax return for the previous calendar year, the board may 21 22 require other documentation reflecting the pensioner's occupation or earned income that the board determines appropriate. 23

24 <u>(c) The pension system [However, the board</u>] may waive the 25 <u>July 1</u> [May 1] date <u>under Subsection (b) of this section</u> in lieu of 26 one later in the same calendar year if the Group B pensioner 27 provides the board with a true and complete copy of a grant of an

- 1 extension of time for the filing of the person's tax return from the
- 2 appropriate governmental agency or a true and complete copy of an
- 3 extension request that results in any automatic extension.
- 4 (d) If, after evaluating the information received under
- 5 Subsection (b) of this section, the board finds the Group B
- 6 pensioner is or has been receiving earned income from one or more
- 7 employments, including self-employment, during the preceding year,
- 8 the board shall reduce future disability retirement [pension]
- 9 payments to the Group B pensioner in accordance with the following
- 10 formula: \$1 for each \$1 that the sum of "a" + "b" is greater than
- 11 "c," where "a" is the earned income of the Group B pensioner
- 12 attributable to the previous calendar year from the person's
- 13 employments, "b" is the total amount of Group B disability
- 14 retirement payments [pension] received by the Group B pensioner the
- 15 previous calendar year, and "c" is the annualized amount of the
- 16 average computation pay the Group B pensioner received as of the
- 17 date the person left active service.
- (e) For purposes of the [this] computation under Subsection
- 19 (d) of this section, the average computation pay shall be deemed
- 20 increased at a rate of 2.75 percent [of four percent simple
- 21 interest], without compounding during the year, as of each January
- 22 1 that the Group B pensioner receives a Group B disability
- 23 <u>retirement payment</u> [pension].
- SECTION 36. Section 6.06, Article 6243a-1, Revised
- 25 Statutes, is amended by amending Subsections (b), (e), (f), (g),
- 26 (h), (j), (k), (l), (m), (n), (o), (p), (q), (r), and (t) and adding
- 27 Subsections (e-1), (e-2), (j-1), (o-1), (o-2), (u), and (v) to read

- 1 as follows:
- 2 (b) A written application for benefits must be filed with
- 3 the executive director [administrator].
- 4 (e) If [the qualified] surviving children of a primary party
- 5 are not qualified survivors entitled to death benefits, the
- 6 [qualified surviving] spouse of the primary party who is a
- 7 qualified survivor is entitled only to receive a share of the death
- 8 benefits in the amount calculated under Section 6.07(a) [or (b)] or
- 9 Section 6.08(b)(1), (c)(1), (d)(1), or (e)(1) of this article,
- 10 whichever is applicable, and is not entitled to what otherwise
- 11 would be the [qualified] surviving children's share.
- 12 <u>(e-1)</u> If <u>a primary party had</u> [there is] no [qualifying]
- 13 surviving spouse, any [qualified] surviving child who is a
- 14 qualified survivor [children] shall receive only the amount
- 15 calculated under Section 6.07(a) $[\frac{or}{(b)}]$ or Section 6.08(b)(2),
- 16 (c)(2), (d)(2), or (e)(2) of this article, whichever is applicable,
- 17 and is [are] not entitled to what otherwise would be the [qualified]
- 18 surviving spouse's share.
- 19 <u>(e-2)</u> If a primary party does not have a [there is no
- 20 qualified surviving] spouse or [qualified surviving] children who
- 21 <u>are qualified survivors</u>, any [qualified] dependent parent <u>of the</u>
- 22 primary party who is a qualified survivor shall receive only the
- 23 amount calculated under Section 6.07(c) or Section 6.08(b)(3),
- 24 (d)(3), or (e)(3) of this article, whichever is applicable, and is
- 25 not entitled to what otherwise would be the [qualified] surviving
- 26 spouse's or [qualified] surviving children's share.
- 27 (f) The total monthly death benefits [benefit] received by

- 1 the qualified survivors of a primary party under this article,
- 2 <u>including</u> the primary party's [surviving] spouse, [qualified
- 3 surviving children, or [qualified] dependent parents, [parent]
- 4 may not exceed the pension to which the deceased primary party was
- 5 entitled per month.
- 6 (g) If there is no surviving spouse or legal guardian for
- 7 the [qualified] surviving children of a primary party who are
- 8 qualified survivors and if the board determines that the
- 9 [qualified] surviving children lack the discretion to handle money,
- 10 or in other appropriate circumstances, notwithstanding any other
- 11 provision of this section, the board may request a court of
- 12 competent jurisdiction to appoint a suitable person to receive and
- 13 administer the [qualified] surviving children's money or in those
- 14 circumstances described in Subsection (n) of this section, appoint
- 15 a new trustee to administer the [qualified] surviving children's
- 16 [support] trust.
- (h) With the exception of a [support] trust described in
- 18 Subsection (n) of this section, no death benefits awarded to
- 19 [qualified] surviving children may be used for any purpose other
- 20 than to benefit the [qualified] surviving children. [The board may
- 21 withhold payment of benefits if it has reason to believe the
- 22 benefits are not being properly applied.
- 23 (j) With the exception of those circumstances described in
- 24 Subsection (n) of this section, death benefits payable [paid] to
- 25 [qualified] surviving children [living with a person other than the
- 26 surviving spouse] shall be delivered to the legal guardian of the
- 27 estate of the surviving children if one has been appointed and the

- 1 pension system has been provided proof of the appointment. If no
- 2 legal guardian has been appointed, death benefits shall be
- 3 delivered to one of the following persons, provided there is
- 4 evidence that the person is [person with whom the qualified
- 5 surviving children are living, if the board has designated the
- 6 person as being] a suitable person to receive and administer the
- 7 benefits:
- 8 (1) the surviving spouse with whom the child resides;
- 9 or
- 10 (2) the adult head of the household with whom the child
- 11 resides, if the child does not reside with the surviving spouse.
- 12 (j-1) In accordance with Subsection (h) of this section, the
- 13 recipient of a surviving child's death benefits under Subsection
- 14 (j) of this section must use the death benefits to benefit the
- 15 $\underline{\text{child}}$. The board may $[\frac{1}{7}, \frac{1}{1}]$ withhold payment of benefits to
- 16 anyone, if presented with evidence that the death benefits are not
- 17 being used to benefit the surviving child [but the legal guardian of
- 18 the qualified surviving children and may require proof that a
- 19 person has been appointed legal guardian of the qualified surviving
- 20 children before authorizing any benefits to be delivered to that
- 21 person].
- 22 (k) Dependent [The qualified surviving dependent] parents
- 23 of a <u>primary party</u> [<u>member</u>] <u>who</u> are entitled to receive <u>death</u> [any
- 24 survivor] benefits provided by this article may only receive the
- 25 benefits for the remainder of the dependent parents' [their] lives.
- 26 (1) The pension system [board] may require all qualified
- 27 survivors [persons] receiving death benefits[, including qualified

surviving spouses, qualified surviving children or their 1 guardians, and qualified surviving dependent parents, to file 2 [with the administrator, at least once every two years,] a sworn 3 statement with the executive director concerning the qualified 4 survivor's [their] eligibility to continue to receive death 5 benefits at least once every two years, or at any other time the 6 executive director considers a sworn statement to be appropriate to 7 8 evidence the continued eligibility of the qualified survivor. [The board may also require a sworn statement from any person receiving 9 10 death benefits at any time.] The board may withhold death benefits from any person who fails or refuses to file a statement when 11 12 requested to do so.

- When the last qualified survivor of any primary party 13 14 becomes ineligible to continue to receive death benefits, [that survivor shall be paid in a lump sum] an amount equal to the excess 15 [difference], if any, of [between] the total amount of all 16 17 contributions made to the fund by the primary party while a member over [, and] the sum of all benefits paid to the primary party and 18 all of the primary party's [his] qualified survivors shall be paid 19 in a lump sum to the last person to receive benefits as a qualified 20 survivor or, if none exists, to the member's designee. The total 21 amount to be paid in benefits to the primary party and all qualified 22 survivors shall never be less than the total amount 23 of 24 contributions the primary party made to the fund while a member.
- (n) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section:
- 26 <u>(1)</u> [7] death benefits awarded to an unmarried <u>child</u>
 27 <u>who is a qualified survivor</u> [surviving child of a primary party] who

- 1 is determined by the board to be <u>disabled</u> [handicapped] under the
- 2 terms of Subsection (o-2) [(o)] of this section may be paid to the
- 3 trustee of a management trust, supplemental needs or special needs
- 4 trust, or comparable trust [support trust] established for the
- 5 benefit of the child, if the trust meets the requirements set forth
- 6 in a procedure adopted from time to time by the board [qualified
- 7 surviving child if:
- 8 [(1) an opinion of counsel of the trustee of the
- 9 support trust is furnished to the board indicating that payments
- 10 made to the support trust will not, under existing law, be
- 11 considered a resource of the qualified surviving child under Title
- 12 42, Section 1396(a)(17), of the United States Code or any successor
- 13 statute, as well as applicable state law or regulations governing
- 14 the situation]; and
- 15 (2) <u>as soon as practicable after the pension system</u>
- 16 has knowledge of an event listed in this subdivision, the pension
- 17 system shall terminate payment of death benefits to a [coincident
- 18 with the furnishing of the opinion of counsel, the board is provided
- 19 with an executed original of the support trust document for the
- 20 records of the pension system;
- 21 [(3) the terms of the trust provide that the board will
- 22 receive an annual accounting of the support trust from its trustee,
- 23 although the board has no legal responsibility to oversee the
- 24 support trust; and
- [(4) the support] trust described by Subdivision (1) of
- 26 this subsection effective [will terminate as soon as practicable]
- 27 on the earlier occurrence of the following events:

- 1 (A) the date <u>as of</u> [on] which the [qualified
- 2 surviving | child is determined by the board to no longer be disabled
- 3 [handicapped] under the terms of this section;
- 4 (B) the date on which the [qualified surviving]
- 5 child is lawfully married;
- 6 (C) the date on which the [qualified surviving]
- 7 child is deceased;
- 8 (D) the date on which the pension system becomes
- 9 aware that the assets of the [support] trust are deemed to be the
- 10 resources of the child under applicable federal or state laws or
- 11 regulations; or
- 12 (E) if [unless otherwise excused by the board,
- 13 the trustee of the child's [support] trust fails to provide a court
- 14 of competent jurisdiction [the board] with an annual accounting of
- 15 the child's trust, the date occurring [within] six months after the
- 16 <u>date of the</u> close of the [support] trust's fiscal year.
- 17 (o) When a <u>child who</u>, as a qualified <u>survivor</u>, [surviving
- 18 child who] is entitled to receive death benefits under this article
- 19 reaches the age of 19, the [qualified surviving] child may no longer
- 20 participate in the division of the benefits, but the same
- 21 undiminished [qualified surviving] child's share as determined by
- 22 this section shall be paid to any remaining [qualified surviving]
- 23 children who are qualified survivors who remain eligible to
- 24 continue to receive death benefits.
- 25 <u>(o-1) If benefits are no longer payable to the trust</u>
- 26 described in Subsection (n)(1) of this section in accordance with
- 27 Subsection (n)(2) of this section, the benefits are divisible and

- 1 payable to any remaining children who are qualified survivors who
- 2 remain eligible to receive death benefits.
- 3 (o-2) If an unmarried child [under 19 years of age.
- 4 However, a handicapped qualified surviving child may not be removed
- 5 from participation in the division of benefits on reaching the age
- 6 of 19 nor may the child be barred from original participation at any
- 7 time after reaching the age of 19, and the payments shall continue
- 8 for the duration of the handicap. If a qualified surviving child is
- 9 not married and], after cessation of entitlement to death benefits
- 10 [+] because of attainment of age 19[+ but before age 23], becomes
- 11 <u>disabled before age 23</u> [handicapped], the child is entitled to
- 12 participate in the division of death benefits under this article.
- 13 Notwithstanding the preceding, all death benefits granted under
- 14 this subsection are conditioned on the board finding that:
- 15 (1) the [qualified surviving] child is so physically
- 16 or mentally <u>disabled</u> [handicapped], either congenitally or through
- 17 injury suffered or disease contracted, as to be unable to be
- 18 self-supporting or to secure and hold gainful employment or pursue
- 19 an occupation;
- 20 (2) the [qualified surviving] child is not married;
- 21 (3) the <u>disability</u> [handicap] was not the result of an
- 22 occupational injury for which the [qualified surviving] child
- 23 received compensation equal to or greater than that provided under
- 24 this article;
- 25 (4) the disability [handicap] was not the result of an
- 26 intentional self-inflicted injury or a chronic illness itself
- 27 resulting from an addiction of the [qualified surviving] child

- 1 through a protracted course of [noncoerced] indulgence in alcohol,
- 2 narcotics, or other substance abuse that was not coerced; and
- 3 (5) the $\underline{\text{disability}}$ [$\underline{\text{handicap}}$] did not occur as a
- 4 result of the [qualified surviving] child's participation in the
- 5 commission of a felony.
- 6 (p) If a [handicapped qualified surviving] child with a
- 7 <u>disability</u> received or is receiving <u>workers'</u> compensation
- 8 resulting from an occupational injury equal to an amount less than
- 9 the death benefit to be provided under this section, the difference
- 10 shall be paid out of the assets of the fund in the form otherwise
- 11 payable as monthly benefits. For purposes of <u>Subsections</u>
- 12 [Subsection] (o), (o-1), and (o-2) of this section, if a lump sum is
- 13 awarded for an injury, the fund's actuary may compute a
- 14 corresponding monthly equivalent. A finding relating to a
- 15 [qualified surviving] child's <u>disability</u> [handicap] is subject to
- 16 periodic review and modification by the board.
- 17 (q) On the death or marriage of a [qualified surviving]
- 18 child granted death benefits under this article, the death benefits
- 19 shall cease being paid to that child; however, the same
- 20 undiminished [qualified surviving] child's share as determined by
- 21 this section shall be uniformly distributed among any remaining
- 22 unmarried [qualified surviving] children who are:
- 23 <u>(1)</u> under 19 years of age; or
- 24 (2) disabled [and any unmarried qualified surviving
- 25 children who are handicapped] as described by Subsection (o-2)
- 26 $[\frac{(o)}{(o)}]$ of this section and entitled to death benefits as qualified
- 27 survivors.

- 1 (r) A spouse of a primary party who married the primary
- 2 party [resulting from any marriage to a former member or pensioner]
- 3 after the date the primary party terminated [member or pensioner
- 4 leaves] active service is not a qualified survivor [surviving
- 5 spouse] and is [not] entitled only to those death benefits, if
- 6 applicable, provided under <u>Section 6.063 of</u> this article.
- 7 (t) A [qualified] surviving spouse who first remarried on or
- 8 after April 21, 1988, is eligible to receive death benefits for the
- 9 remainder of the [qualified surviving] spouse's life provided the
- 10 surviving spouse is a qualified survivor. This subsection may not
- 11 be applied retroactively.
- 12 (u) The eligibility of a surviving spouse who first
- 13 remarried before April 21, 1988, is governed by Section 6.061 of
- 14 this article.
- 15 <u>(v)</u> The qualified survivors of a member who dies while
- 16 performing qualified military service are entitled to any
- 17 additional benefits, other than benefits relating to the qualified
- 18 military service, that qualified survivors would have received if
- 19 the member had returned from qualified military service the day
- 20 before death, resumed employment, and then died.
- 21 SECTION 37. Part 6, Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, is
- 22 amended by adding Sections 6.061, 6.062, 6.063, and 6.064 to read as
- 23 follows:
- Sec. 6.061. PROSPECTIVE REINSTATEMENT OF CERTAIN DEATH
- 25 BENEFITS. (a) Subject to Subsection (c) of this section, the
- 26 surviving spouse of a primary party who was a member of the old
- 27 plan, Plan A, or Plan B whose death benefits, also referred to as

- 1 "survivor benefits" or "widow benefits," terminated because of a
- 2 remarriage of the surviving spouse that occurred before April 21,
- 3 1988, is entitled to receive death benefits, on a prospective basis
- 4 only, as of the first day of the month following the month in which
- 5 the executive director receives the application.
- 6 (b) The board shall make reasonable efforts to notify all
- 7 known living surviving spouses who may be entitled to a
- 8 reinstatement of benefits under this section.
- 9 (c) A surviving spouse's properly completed, board-approved
- 10 application for reinstatement of death benefits under this section
- 11 must be received by the executive director not later than the 180th
- 12 day after the date the board completes, as determined by the board,
- 13 the reasonable efforts required by Subsection (b) of this section.
- 14 (d) A surviving spouse's application for reinstatement of
- 15 <u>death benefits under this section constitutes the spouse's waiver</u>
- 16 of any claims against the pension system, the board, the executive
- 17 director, or any other employee of the board or the pension system
- 18 arising out of any claim for death benefits.
- (e) This section may not be applied retroactively.
- 20 surviving spouse may not receive death benefits attributable to
- 21 periods before the executive director's receipt of a properly
- 22 completed and board-approved application, and any benefit provided
- 23 to a surviving spouse described in this section must be calculated
- 24 as if the benefits had not terminated on the surviving spouse's
- 25 remarriage notwithstanding the fact the reinstatement of benefits
- 26 is not retroactive.
- Sec. 6.062. LUMP-SUM PAYMENT ON DEATH OF CERTAIN MEMBERS.

- 1 (a) If an unmarried member dies while on active service and before
- 2 beginning participation in DROP, the last person to receive
- 3 benefits as the member's qualified survivor or, if the member does
- 4 not have a qualified survivor living, the member's designee, shall
- 5 be paid a lump-sum payment determined in accordance with this
- 6 section if, at the time of the member's death, the member:
- 7 (1) had no qualified survivors; or
- 8 (2) only had qualified survivors who are children who
- 9 become ineligible to receive death benefits before the benefits
- 10 were paid for at least 120 consecutive months.
- 11 (b) The amount of the lump-sum payment under this section is
- 12 the greater of:
- 13 (1) the payment that could have been provided under
- 14 Section 6.06(m) of this article; or
- 15 (2) an amount equal to the actuarial equivalent of the
- 16 remainder of the monthly benefits that would have been paid for the
- 17 period from the last monthly benefit payment to the end of the 120
- 18 months, starting with the date of the first monthly benefit
- 19 payment, if any.
- 20 (c) If no death benefit payments have been made with respect
- 21 to the member, the amount of a monthly death benefit payment shall
- 22 be considered to be the monthly death benefit that would have been
- 23 paid if the member had died leaving only one dependent parent who
- 24 was a qualified survivor.
- 25 (d) If a qualified survivor or designee is entitled to
- 26 payment under both this section and Section 6.06(m) of this
- 27 article, payments shall be made only under this section.

- 1 (e) The payment required under this section shall be made as
- 2 soon as practicable after the later of the date:
- 3 (1) of the death of the member; or
- 4 (2) the last qualified survivor becomes ineligible to
- 5 receive monthly death benefit payments.
- 6 Sec. 6.063. AUTHORITY TO ELECT CERTAIN ACTUARIALLY REDUCED
- 7 BENEFITS. (a) The board shall adopt policies under which a member
- 8 who is leaving active service or a pensioner may elect to accept
- 9 actuarially reduced benefits to provide the following optional
- 10 benefits:
- 11 (1) a 100 percent joint and survivor annuity with the
- 12 member's or pensioner's spouse;
- 13 (2) a 50 percent joint and survivor annuity with a
- 14 spouse who is not a qualified survivor because the marriage to the
- 15 pensioner occurred after the pensioner terminated active service,
- 16 provided the election is made not later than one year after the date
- 17 of the marriage; or
- 18 (3) a death benefit for a child who is not a qualified
- 19 survivor because the child was born or adopted after the member left
- 20 active service, but only if the child:
- 21 (A) is a dependent of the pensioner, within the
- 22 meaning of Section 152(a)(1) of the code; and
- (B) has not attained 18 years of age at the time
- 24 of the election.
- 25 (b) An election under this section may not be revoked by the
- 26 member or pensioner after it is filed with the pension system.
- (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this article, an

- 1 election under this section shall result in benefits being paid as
- 2 prescribed by this section instead of as prescribed by Section
- 3 <u>6.01</u>, <u>6.02</u>, <u>6.04</u>, <u>6.05</u>, <u>6.07</u>, <u>or 6.</u>08 of this article, as
- 4 applicable.
- 5 (d) A pensioner who desires to make an election under
- 6 Subsection (a)(1) of this section after having made an election
- 7 under Subsection (a)(2) of this section shall incur a second
- 8 actuarial reduction in benefits to pay for the increased survivor
- 9 annuity.
- 10 (e) Except as provided by Subsection (f) of this section, a
- 11 person is not entitled to the payment of benefits under this section
- 12 with respect to a pensioner who makes an election after termination
- 13 of active service and dies within one year after making the
- 14 election, except the amount by which the pensioner's benefits were
- 15 reduced are paid to the person who is entitled to receive payments
- 16 under Section 6.064 of this article.
- 17 (f) Subsection (e) of this section does not apply to a
- 18 person who makes an election under Subsection (a)(1) of this
- 19 section to receive a 100 percent joint and survivor annuity with a
- 20 spouse who is a qualified survivor at the time:
- 21 (1) the board grants a retirement pension; or
- (2) a retirement pension would have been granted but
- 23 for the fact that the person elected to participate in DROP after
- 24 retirement.
- 25 (g) The actuarially reduced benefits being paid to the
- 26 pensioner under this section will not be increased if the spouse
- 27 dies before the pensioner, or if the child attains 19 years of age

- 1 before the pensioner dies.
- 2 (h) The joint and survivor annuity or the pensioner's
- 3 pension and child's death benefit payable under this section is the
- 4 actuarial equivalent of the pension and death benefits, if any,
- 5 that would have been payable, at the time of the election, if the
- 6 election had not been made. On the death of the pensioner:
- 7 (1) the surviving spouse of a pensioner who made an
- 8 election under Subsection (a)(1) of this section receives a pension
- 9 that is equal to the reduced pension being received by the pensioner
- 10 at the time of death; and
- 11 (2) a surviving spouse who is not a qualified survivor
- 12 of a pensioner who made an election under Subsection (a)(2) of this
- 13 section receives a pension that is 50 percent of the reduced pension
- 14 being received by the pensioner at the time of death.
- 15 <u>(i)</u> A pensioner and surviving spouse receiving a death
- 16 benefit payable under this section are eligible for adjustments
- 17 under Sections 6.12 and 6.13 of this article, if the pensioner or
- 18 surviving spouse, as applicable, is otherwise entitled to those
- 19 adjustments, except that in each case the adjustment shall be
- 20 calculated so that the total pension or death benefit paid is
- 21 reduced by the same percentage the pensioner's pension is otherwise
- 22 <u>reduced under this section.</u>
- 23 (j) A pensioner and surviving spouse receiving a death
- 24 benefit payable under this section are not entitled to the minimum
- 25 benefits provided under Section 6.10A, 6.10B, or 6.11 of this
- 26 article.
- 27 (k) A surviving spouse receiving a death benefit payable

- 1 under this section is not entitled to the special death benefit
- 2 provided under Section 6.09 of this article.
- 3 (1) During a period in which there are two or more qualified
- 4 survivors of a member who has made a joint and survivor annuity
- 5 election under this section, the spousal benefit will be divided
- 6 among the eligible survivors under Section 6.07 or 6.08 of this
- 7 article, as applicable.
- 8 (m) A child's death benefit elected under Subsection (a)(3)
- 9 of this section is treated the same way as a death benefit to a child
- 10 who is a qualified survivor, except that it is based on the
- 11 actuarially reduced pension.
- 12 Sec. 6.064. DESIGNEES. (a) A member, pensioner, or
- 13 qualified survivor may at any time designate, in writing, one or
- 14 more persons as a designee to receive any lump-sum payment due from
- 15 the pension system on the death of the member, pensioner, or
- 16 qualified survivor, as applicable.
- 17 (b) A designation under this section of a person other than
- 18 the spouse of the member, pensioner, or qualified survivor, as
- 19 appropriate, must be made with the written consent of the spouse, if
- 20 the individual has a spouse.
- 21 <u>(c)</u> A designation made under this section:
- (1) may be revoked or changed at any time; and
- 23 (2) is void if the person designated dies or goes out
- 24 of existence before the payment is made.
- 25 <u>(d) If a member, pensioner, or qualified survivor</u>
- 26 designates a spouse to receive a payment and the parties are later
- 27 divorced, the designation is void at the time of the divorce unless

- 1 ratified in writing at the time of the divorce or after that time.
- 2 (e) A designation by a member under this section is void at
- 3 the time the member becomes a pensioner unless ratified in writing
- 4 at the time the member becomes a pensioner or after that time.
- 5 (f) If a member, pensioner, or qualified survivor does not
- 6 have a valid designee on file with the pension system at the time of
- 7 <u>death</u>, the designee is:
- 8 (1) the spouse;
- 9 (2) the qualified survivors, if any, if there is no
- 10 spouse;
- 11 (3) the estate of the person, if there is no spouse or
- 12 qualified survivors; or
- 13 (4) the heirs of the person, if there is no spouse,
- 14 qualified survivors, or estate.
- 15 SECTION 38. Sections 6.07, 6.08, 6.09, and 6.10A, Article
- 16 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, are amended to read as follows:
- Sec. 6.07. GROUP A DEATH BENEFITS. (a)(1) If a Group A
- 18 member dies before leaving active service [retirement] and before
- 19 the Group A member had [has] 20 years of pension service, the Group
- 20 <u>A member's</u> [leaving both a qualified surviving] spouse and
- 21 [qualified surviving] children who are [, the] qualified [surviving
- 22 spouse shall make an election for all] survivors shall, in the
- 23 aggregate, [to] receive a Group A death benefit [consisting in the
- 24 aggregate of an amount] equal to a Group A retirement pension
- 25 computed under the terms of Section 6.01 of this article as if the
- 26 Group A member had completed 20 years of pension service. [An
- 27 election under this subdivision, once made, is irrevocable. This

Group A death benefit shall be divided one-half to the qualified 1 surviving spouse and one-half to the qualified surviving children. 2 If a Group A [pensioner dies during disability 3 retirement and before the Group A pensioner had 20 years of pension 4 service, leaving both a qualified surviving spouse and qualified 5 children, the survivors in the aggregate shall receive a Group A 6 death benefit calculated either under Sections 6.01(b) and (c) of 7 8 this article if the Group A pensioner's Group A disability pension was calculated under Section 6.04(a) of this article, or under 9 10 Section 6.01(e) of this article if the Group A pensioner's Group A disability pension was calculated under Section 6.04(b) of this 11 article. This Group A death benefit shall be divided one-half to 12 the qualified surviving spouse and one-half to the qualified 13 14 surviving children. 15 [(b)(1) If a Group A member or former Group A] member dies before service retirement and after the Group A member has [or 16 17 former Group A member has] 20 years of pension service, the Group A member's [leaving both a qualified surviving] spouse and [qualified 18 19 surviving children[7] who are [the] qualified [surviving spouse shall make an election for all survivors shall, in the aggregate, 20 [to] receive a Group A death benefit calculated under Section 6.01 21 of this article as if the Group A member [of an amount equal to a 22 Group A retirement pension the Group A member or former Group A 23 24 member would have received] had [the person] left active service on the date of the [death, computed under the terms of Section 6.01 of 25 26 this article. An election under this subdivision, once made,

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This] Group A member's death [benefit shall

- 1 divided one-half to the qualified surviving spouse and one-half to
- 2 the qualified surviving children].
- 3 (3) If a Group A pensioner dies during service
- 4 retirement, the Group A pensioner's spouse and children who are
- 5 qualified survivors shall, in the aggregate, receive a Group A
- 6 death benefit in an amount equal to the Group A retirement pension
- 7 being received by the Group A pensioner on the date of the
- 8 pensioner's death.
- 9 (4) If a Group A pensioner dies after November 25,
- 10 1996, while receiving periodic disability compensation under
- 11 Section 6.05 of this article or a disability pension under Section
- 12 <u>6.04 of this article</u>, and before the Group A pensioner has 20 years
- of pension service, the Group A pensioner's spouse and children who
- 14 are qualified survivors shall, in the aggregate, receive a Group A
- 15 death benefit calculated under Section 6.04 or 6.05 of this
- 16 article, as applicable, in the same manner as the Group A
- 17 pensioner's periodic disability compensation or disability
- 18 pension, but as if the Group A pensioner had completed 20 years of
- 19 pension service.
- 20 $\underline{\text{(5)}}$ [$\frac{\text{(2)}(A)}{\text{)}}$] If a Group A pensioner who has 20 or more
- 21 years of pension service dies during disability retirement, the
- 22 Group A pensioner's spouse and children who are qualified survivors
- 23 shall, in the aggregate, [dies leaving both a qualified surviving
- 24 spouse and qualified surviving children, the qualified surviving
- 25 spouse shall make an election for all survivors to] receive a Group
- 26 A death benefit in an [the] amount equal to [ef] the Group A
- 27 disability [retirement] pension being received by the Group A

- 1 pensioner on the date of the pensioner's death.
- 2 <u>(b)</u> [before the person's death. This] Group A death
- 3 benefits under Subsection (a) of this section [benefit] shall:
- 4 (1) be divided one-half to the [qualified surviving]
- 5 spouse and one-half to the [qualified surviving] children who are
- 6 qualified survivors; and [-]
- 7 (2) subject to [(B) With] the terms of Sections
- 8 [exception of those circumstances described by Section] 6.06(n),
- 9 (o), (o-1), and (o-2) of this article, be distributed in an equal
- 10 and uniform manner to the children described by Subdivision (1) of
- 11 this subsection [the Group A death benefits awarded to the
- 12 qualified survivors under this subsection shall be paid entirely to
- 13 the qualified surviving spouse and the qualified surviving
- 14 children. The qualified surviving children's one-half share shall
- 15 be equally and uniformly distributed by the qualified surviving
- 16 spouse to them].
- (c) $[\frac{(c)(1)}{1}]$ If a Group A member or pensioner $[\frac{\text{former Group}}{1}]$
- 18 A member] dies leaving no [qualified surviving] spouse or
- 19 [qualified surviving] children who are qualified survivors, the
- 20 [but leaves surviving one or both qualified surviving dependent
- 21 parents, the qualified surviving] dependent parents who are
- 22 qualified survivors shall [may elect to] receive a Group A death
- 23 benefit equal to the <u>death</u> benefit otherwise payable under
- 24 Subsection (a) of this section. The death benefit payable to the
- 25 dependent parents under this subsection shall be divided equally
- 26 between the parents regardless of whether the parents are married
- 27 or living at the same residence. [Group A retirement pension the

Group A member or former Group A member would have been entitled to under Section 6.01 of this article after leaving active service. If there are two qualified dependent parents, the election must be mutual. An election under this subdivision, once made, is irrevocable. The qualified surviving dependent parents of a Group A pensioner shall receive a Group A death benefit equal to the amount of the actual Group A retirement pension being received at the time of the pensioner's death, divided equally between the qualified surviving dependent parents.

[(2) If a Group A pensioner dies during disability retirement and before the Group A pensioner had 20 years of pension service, leaving no qualified surviving spouse or qualified surviving children, but leaves surviving one or both qualified surviving dependent parents, the qualified surviving dependent parents may elect to receive a Group A death benefit calculated either: under Sections 6.01(b) and (c) of this article if the Group A pensioner's Group A disability pension was calculated under Section 6.04(a) of this article, or under Section 6.01(e) of this article if the Group A pensioner's Group A disability pension was calculated under section 6.04(b) of this article. An election under this subdivision, once made, is irrevocable.

[(d)] If there is only one [qualified surviving] dependent parent, that [the] parent is entitled to one-half of the death benefit described in [amount determined under Subsection (c)(1) or (c)(2) of] this subsection [section].

Sec. 6.08. GROUP B DEATH BENEFITS. (a) If a Group B member dies while on active service, a [former] Group B member who left

- 1 active service and is vested under Section 5.06 of this article dies, or a Group B pensioner dies while receiving [on] service or 2 disability retirement or while receiving periodic disability 3 compensation under Section 6.05 of this article, the person's 4 5 qualified survivors, or the person described in Section 6.06(g) or (j) of this article as the recipient of the children's benefits 6 [quardian of the qualified surviving children if no qualified 7 8 surviving spouse exists], may make application for Group B death If the deceased [The qualified surviving spouse of a 9 benefits. 10 Group B member or former Group B member described by this subsection, the guardian of the qualified surviving children of the 11 12 person if no qualified surviving spouse exists, or the qualified dependent parents if no qualified surviving spouse or qualified 13 surviving children exist, have the option to select whether Group A 14 15 or Group B death benefits are received, if the Group B member or 16 former] Group B member was previously eligible to elect whether to receive either a Group A or Group B retirement pension, the option 17 to elect whether Group A or Group B death benefits are received 18 19 shall be exercised by one of the following:
- 20 <u>(1) a qualified survivor who is the spouse of the</u>
 21 deceased Group B member described by this subsection;
- (2) the person described in Section 6.06(g) or (j) of
 this article as the recipient of benefits on behalf of the deceased
 member's children who are qualified survivors, if no spouse is a
 qualified survivor; or
- 26 (3) the qualified survivors who are dependent parents 27 of the deceased member, if there is neither a spouse nor children

1 who are qualified survivors.

- (a-1) A qualified survivor who receives Group A death 2 3 benefits under <u>Subsection</u> (a) of this <u>section</u> [subsection] is entitled to a ratable portion of a reimbursement from the fund in 4 5 the same amount and manner determined under Section 5.03(d) of this article. A qualified survivor or guardian desiring a refund of 6 excess contributions must make application for the refund with the 7 8 executive director [administrator] within three years after the date the qualified survivor or guardian makes application for Group 9 10 A death benefits. The option contained in this subsection is not available to qualified survivors of a Group B member [or former 11 12 Group B member] who had, at the time of death, already applied for a retirement pension and selected a Group A retirement pension as 13 provided by Section 5.03(c) or (c-1) of this article, but the 14 15 qualified survivors are entitled to receive a Group A death benefit. 16
- 17 (b) <u>Subject to Subsection (b-2) of this section</u>, <u>death</u>
 18 [Death] benefits shall be computed as follows for the qualified
 19 survivors of Group B members who die while on active service:
- 20 (1) the [A qualified surviving spouse's Group B] death
 21 benefit of a qualified survivor who is the spouse of a member who
 22 began active service:
- (A) before March 1, 2011, shall be the sum of:
- (i) the number of years of pension service
- 25 <u>earned before September 1, 2017, prorated for fractional years,</u>
- 26 times 1.5 percent of the [computed at the rate of 1.5 percent of the
- 27 Croup B member's] average computation pay determined over the 36

C.S.H.B. No. 3158 1 [60] consecutive months of pension service in which the Group B member received the highest computation pay; plus 2 3 (ii) the number of [, for each year, and prorated for fractional years, of pension service with a minimum of 4 20] years of pension service, including pension service credit 5 imputed under Section 6.05(c) of this article, after September 1, 6 2017, prorated for fractional years, times the applicable 7 8 percentage rate set forth below [assumed, or 30 percent] of the average computation pay determined over the 60 consecutive months 9 10 of pension service in which the Group B member received the highest computation pay: 11 12 Age of Member When Retirement Pension Begins Percent 13 58 and older 1.25% 14 57 1.2% 56 15 1.15% 55 16 1.10% 54 1.05% 17 18 53 and younger 1.0%; or 19 (B) on or after March 1, 2011, shall be the number of years of pension service, including pension service imputed 20 under Section 6.05(c) of this article, prorated for fractional 21 years, times 1.25 percent of the average computation pay determined 22

over the 60 consecutive months of pension service in which the Group

member's children shall be computed in the same manner as a spouse's

benefit is computed under Subdivision (1)(A) or (B) of this

(2) the death benefit of qualified survivors who are a

B member received the highest computation pay;

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- 1 subsection, as applicable, and shall be divided equally among all
- 2 of the children who are qualified survivors; and
- 3 (3) the death benefit of each qualified survivor who
- 4 is a member's dependent parent shall be computed in the same manner
- 5 as a spouse's Group B benefit is computed under Subdivision (1)(A)
- 6 or (B) of this subsection, as applicable.
- 7 (b-1) Pension service for purposes of the calculation under
- 8 Subsection (b) of this section may not be less than 20 years. Any
- 9 partial year of pension service for the first 20 years of pension
- 10 service is counted as a full year of pension service, if the member
- 11 was considered by the member's department to have worked a normal
- 12 full-time schedule at the time of the member's death.
- 13 (b-2) The <u>death</u> benefit <u>calculated under Subsection</u> (b) of
- 14 this section may not exceed the greater of:
- 15 <u>(1) 45</u> [a computation for 32 years of pension service,
- 16 or 48] percent of the member's average computation pay determined
- 17 over the 36 or 60 consecutive months, as applicable, in which the
- 18 Group B member received the highest computation pay; or
- 19 (2) the vested and accrued death benefit as determined
- 20 on August 31, 2017.
- 21 (b-3) For purposes of Subsections (b) through (b-2) of this
- 22 <u>section:</u>
- (1) if [If] the Group B member had less than 36 or 60
- 24 consecutive months, as applicable, [five years] of pension service,
- 25 the average computation pay will be computed based on the person's
- 26 entire pension service; and
- 27 (2) days during which the member earned no pension

- 1 service due to a termination of active service or otherwise must be
- 2 disregarded in determining the 36 or 60 consecutive months of
- 3 highest computation pay.
- 4 [(2) A qualified surviving child's Group B death
- 5 benefit shall be computed in the same manner as a qualified
- 6 surviving spouse's benefit is computed under Subdivision (1) of
- 7 this subsection and shall be divided equally among all of the
- 8 qualified surviving children.
- 9 [(3) Each qualified surviving dependent parent's Group
- 10 B death benefit shall be computed in the same manner as a qualified
- 11 surviving spouse's Group B benefit is computed under Subdivision
- 12 (1) of this subsection.
- 13 (c) Group B death benefits shall be computed as follows for
- 14 the qualified survivors of any [former] Group B member who died
- 15 after leaving active service and who had vested rights under
- 16 Section 5.06 of this article but who had not received [Group B]
- 17 retirement benefits [under Section 6.02 of this article] at the
- 18 time of death:
- 19 (1) the death benefit of a [The] qualified survivor
- 20 who is the member's [surviving] spouse [of the former Group B
- 21 member] is [entitled to a Group B death benefit] equal to 50 percent
- 22 of any $[\frac{\text{Group B}}{\text{B}}]$ retirement pension the $[\frac{\text{Former Group B}}{\text{B}}]$ member
- 23 would have been entitled to [under Section 6.02 of this article] as
- of the date the [former Group B] member left active service; [-]
- 25 (2) the death benefits of [The] qualified survivors
- 26 who are the member's [surviving] children [of the former Group B
- 27 member] are [entitled to a Group B benefit] calculated in the same

- 1 manner as the spouse's benefit is computed under Subdivision (1) of
- 2 this subsection [Group B death benefit of a qualified surviving
- 3 spouse], to be divided equally between the [qualified surviving]
- 4 children; and[←]
- 5 (3) the death benefit of each [Each of the] qualified
- 6 <u>survivor who is the member's [surviving</u>] dependent <u>parent</u> [<u>parents</u>
- 7 of the former Group B member] is [entitled to a Group B death
- 8 benefit equal to 50 percent of any [Group B] retirement pension the
- 9 [former Group B] member would have been entitled to [under the
- 10 provisions of Section 6.02 of this article] as of the date the
- 11 [former Group B] member left active service.
- 12 (d) Group B death benefits shall be computed as follows for
- 13 the qualified survivors of any Group B pensioner [of this plan] who
- 14 dies while receiving service [a Group B] retirement [pension]:
- 15 (1) the death benefit of a [The] qualified [surviving]
- 16 <u>survivor who is the pensioner's</u> spouse [of a Group B pensioner] is
- 17 [entitled to Group B death benefits] equal to 50 percent of any
- 18 retirement pension the Group B pensioner was receiving at the time
- 19 of death; [-
- 20 (2) the death benefits of qualified survivors who are
- 21 the pensioner's [The qualified surviving] children [of a Group B
- 22 pensioner] are [entitled to a Group B death benefit] calculated in
- 23 the same manner as the spouse's benefit is computed under
- 24 <u>Subdivision (1) of this subsection</u> [Group B death benefit of a
- 25 qualified surviving spouse], to be divided equally between the
- 26 [qualified surviving] children; and[+]
- 27 (3) the death benefit of each [Each of the] qualified

- 1 <u>survivor</u> who is the pensioner's [surviving] dependent <u>parent</u>
- 2 [parents of a Group B pensioner] is [entitled to a Group B death
- 3 benefit] equal to 50 percent of any retirement pension the Group B
- 4 pensioner was receiving at the time of death.
- 5 (e) Group B death benefits shall be computed as follows for
- 6 the qualified survivors of any Group B pensioner who dies while
- 7 receiving <u>disability retirement or while receiving periodic</u> [a
- 8 Croup B disability compensation under Section 6.05 of this article
- 9 [pension due to either a service-connected or nonservice-connected
- 10 disability]:
- 11 (1) the death benefit of a [The] qualified survivor
- 12 who is the pensioner's [surviving] spouse [of the Group B
- 13 pensioner] is [entitled to the greater of a Group B death benefit]
- 14 equal to 50 percent of any Group B periodic disability compensation
- 15 <u>or</u> disability pension the Group B pensioner would have been
- 16 entitled to [under Section 6.05 of this article] as of the date the
- 17 Group B pensioner left active service because of disability, or a
- 18 Group B death benefit equal to 50 percent of any periodic disability
- 19 <u>compensation or [Group B</u>] disability pension the Group B pensioner
- 20 was receiving at the time of death; [-]
- 21 (2) the death benefits of [The] qualified survivors
- 22 who are the pensioner's [surviving] children [of the Group B
- 23 pensioner] are [entitled to a Group B death benefit] calculated in
- 24 the same manner as the spouse's [Group B death] benefit is computed
- 25 under Subdivision (1) of this subsection [of a qualified surviving
- 26 spouse], to be divided equally between the [qualified surviving]
- 27 children; and [-

- 1 (3) the death benefit of each [Each of the] qualified survivor who is the pensioner's [surviving] dependent parent 2 [parents of the Group B pensioner] is [entitled to the greater of a 3 Group B death benefit | equal to 50 percent of any periodic 4 disability compensation or disability pension the Group B pensioner 5 would have been entitled to [under Section 6.05 of this article] as 6 of the date the Group B pensioner left active service because of 7 8 disability, or a Group B death benefit equal to 50 percent of any periodic disability compensation or [Group B] disability pension 9 10 the Group B pensioner was receiving at the time of death.
- Sec. 6.09. QUALIFIED SURVIVING SPOUSE SPECIAL 11 DEATH 12 BENEFIT. (a) A person who is the [Notwithstanding Sections 6.06 and 6.07 of this article, the qualified surviving | spouse of a Group 13 A primary party, who is a qualified survivor, and who is entitled to 14 death benefits under Sections 6.06, 6.061, 6.062, 6.063, and 6.07 15 of this article is also entitled to a special death benefit under 16 17 this section if:
- 18 (1) the Group A primary party:
- (A) [elected to receive a Group A retirement pension and later died, was receiving a disability or retirement pension either under the terms of Plan A before the original enactment of this article or elected to receive a Group A retirement pension under Sections 6.01(e), (f), and (g) of this article and later died, or was receiving a Group A disability pension under Section 6.04(c) of this article and later died;
- 26 [(2) the Group A primary party (i)] had at least 20 27 years of pension service, [and] left active service after October

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- 1 1, 1985, and was at least 55 years of age on the earlier of the date
- 2 the primary party:
- 3 (i) left active service; or
- 4 <u>(ii) began participation in DROP</u> [or
- 5 older]; or
- 6 (B) had [(ii) on or after May 1, 1990, the Group A
- 7 primary party, after accruing] at least 20 years of pension
- 8 service, left active service on or after May 31, 2000, and on the
- 9 earlier of the date the primary party left active service or began
- 10 participation in DROP, [and] had a total of at least 78 [80]
- 11 credits, with each year of pension service, prorated for fractional
- 12 years, equal to one credit and with each year of age, prorated for
- 13 fractional years, equal to one credit; or [and]
- 14 (2) the [(3) the qualified surviving] spouse has
- 15 attained 55 years of age and there are no [qualified surviving]
- 16 children who are qualified survivors eligible for death benefits.
- 17 (b) Until the requirements of Subsection (a) of this section
- 18 are satisfied, a qualified survivor who is the spouse of a Group A
- 19 primary party [surviving spouse] shall receive a Group A death
- 20 benefit in accordance with Section 6.07 of this article.
- 21 (c) The special Group A death benefit under <u>Subsection (a)</u>
- 22 of this section is calculated based on the following formula:
- $(P \times P \times A) + (P \times C) + D, \text{ where}$
- A = base pay at the time the Group A primary party \underline{began}
- 25 participation in DROP, begins service retirement, dies, or becomes
- 26 disabled, plus longevity pay, plus one-twelfth of last-received
- 27 city service incentive pay;

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- B = Group A primary party's benefit calculated at the time the
- 2 Group A primary party began participation in DROP, begins service
- 3 retirement, dies, or becomes disabled;
- 4 P = B/A (expressed as a percentage or a decimal);
- 5 C = the number of adjustments made to a Group A primary
- 6 party's [Group A] retirement pension, disability pension, or
- 7 periodic [Group A] disability compensation, [pension under Section
- 8 6.04 of this article] multiplied by the amount of the adjustments;
- 9 and
- D = the number of adjustments made <u>under this article</u> to <u>the</u>
- 11 [a qualified surviving spouse's] Group A death benefit of a spouse
- 12 who is a qualified survivor under Section 6.07 of this article,
- 13 multiplied by the amount of the adjustments.
- 14 (d) A person who is the [Notwithstanding Sections 6.03 and
- 15 6.05 of this article, a qualified surviving] spouse of a Group B
- 16 primary party, who is a qualified survivor, and who is entitled to
- 17 any death benefits under Sections 6.06, 6.061, 6.062, 6.063, and
- 18 [or] 6.08 of this article is also entitled to a special benefit
- 19 under this section if:
- 20 (1) the Group B primary party [elected to receive a
- 21 Group B retirement pension and later died, or was receiving a Group
- 22 B disability or retirement pension under this article and died;
- [(2) the Group B primary party]:
- 24 (A) had at least 20 years of pension service,
- 25 left active service after October 1, 1985, and was at least 55 years
- 26 of age at the earlier of the date the primary party left [time of
- 27 leaving active service or began participation in DROP; or

- (B) on or after May 31, 2000 [1, 1990], [the Group B primary party] left active service or began participation in DROP, whichever was earlier, having a total of at least 78 [80] credits, with each year of pension service, prorated for fractional years, equal to one credit and with each year of age, determined at the time the Group B primary party left active service or began participation in DROP, prorated for fractional years, equal to one
- 9 (2) [(3)] the [qualified surviving] spouse has
 10 attained 55 years of age, and there are no [qualified surviving]
 11 children of the primary party who are qualified survivors.
- 12 (d-1) Until the requirements of Subsection (d) [(c)] of this
 13 section are satisfied, a spouse who is a qualified survivor
 14 [surviving spouse] may only receive a Group B death benefit in
 15 accordance with Sections 6.06, 6.061, 6.062, 6.063, [6.03] and 6.08
 16 [6.05] of this article.
- (e) <u>The</u> [This] special <u>Group B death</u> [survivor] benefit under <u>Subsection (d) of</u> this section is calculated based on the following formula:
- $(P \times P \times A) + (P \times C) + D, \text{ where}$

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credit; or [and]

- A = average monthly computation pay at the time the Group B primary party begins service retirement, dies, [ex] becomes disabled, or begins participation in DROP;
- B = the Group B primary party's <u>benefit</u> [Group B retirement or
 Croup B disability pension] calculated at the time the Group B
 primary party <u>begins participation in DROP</u>, begins <u>to receive</u>
 service [or disability] retirement, [or] dies, or becomes disabled;

1 P = B/A (expressed as a percentage or a decimal); of 2 the number post-retirement [postretirement] 3 adjustments made to a Group B primary party's [Group B] retirement pension, disability pension, or periodic [Group B] disability 4 compensation [pension under Section 6.05 of this article] 5 multiplied by the amount of the adjustments; and 6 7 D =the number of adjustments made to the [a qualified 8 surviving spouse's] Group B death benefit of a qualified survivor who is the primary party's spouse under Section 6.08 of this article 9 10 multiplied by the amount of the adjustments. Sec. 6.10A. MINIMUM BENEFITS TO CERTAIN GROUP A PRIMARY 11 PARTIES WHO WERE GROUP A, OLD PLAN, OR COMBINED PENSION PLAN MEMBERS 12 [ELECT TO RECEIVE RETIREMENT PENSION UNDER SECTIONS 6.01(B) AND 13 14 (C) AND THEIR QUALIFIED SURVIVORS. (a) Except as provided by Section 6.063 of this article or Subsections (b) and (h) of this 15 notwithstanding any benefit computation 16 section and 17 determination to the contrary contained in this article, the minimum Group A benefits provided by this section shall be paid to 18 19 any Group A primary party who elects to receive a Group A retirement pension under Sections 6.01(b) and (c) of this article, the old 20 plan, or former Section 14(a) of this article, or to the primary 21 party's qualified survivors [. The benefits under this section 22 shall be distributed in accordance with Sections 6.01(b) and (c), 23 24 6.04(a), or 6.07 of this article, as applicable], except that a Group A primary party who elects to receive an actuarially reduced 25 26 [Group A retirement pension because of the primary party's request

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receive a Group A] retirement pension before 50 years of age and

- 1 the primary party's qualified survivors are not entitled to the
- $2 \quad [Croup \quad A]$ minimum benefits specified under this section. An
- 3 alternate payee is not entitled to the Group A minimum benefits
- 4 specified in this section.
- 5 A Group A primary party who elects to receive a Group A (b) retirement pension under Sections 6.01(b) and (c) of this article, 6 the old plan, or former Section 14(a) of this article and who left 7 8 active service with 20 or more years of pension service is entitled to receive a minimum Group A retirement pension of \$2,200 [\$1,500] a 9 10 month. [If the Group A primary party's Group A retirement pension is subject to a qualified domestic relations order and the sum of 11 12 the actuarial equivalents of the monthly benefits payable to the Group A primary party and the alternate payee is less than the 13 actuarial equivalent of the minimum monthly Group A retirement 14 15 pension described by this subsection, the Group A primary party's monthly Group A retirement pension will be increased so that the sum 16 17 of the actuarial equivalents of the alternate payee's and the Group A primary party's monthly Group A retirement pension equals the 18 19 actuarial equivalent of the minimum monthly Group A retirement pension calculated under this subsection. 20
- (c) <u>In the absence of children who are</u> [A] qualified survivors, a [surviving] spouse who is a qualified survivor of a Group A primary party who elected to receive a Group A retirement pension under Sections 6.01(b) and (c) of this article, the old plan, or former Section 14(a) of this article will receive a minimum monthly Group A death benefit of \$1,200 [\$750].
- 27 (d) A spouse who is a qualified survivor [surviving spouse]

- 1 of a Group A primary party who elected to receive a Group A
- 2 retirement pension under Sections 6.01(b) and (c) of this article,
- 3 the old plan, or former Section 14(a) of this article will receive,
- 4 if there are children who are qualified survivors [surviving
- 5 children], a minimum Group A death benefit of \$1,100 [\$750] a month.
- 6 [The qualified surviving children, as a group, will receive a
- 7 minimum Group A death benefit of \$750 a month, to be divided equally
- 8 among them.
- 9 (e) In the absence of a spouse who is a qualified survivor
- 10 [surviving spouse] of a Group A primary party who elected to receive
- 11 a Group A retirement pension under <u>Section</u> [Sections] 6.01(b),
- 12 [and] (c), or (e) of this article, the old plan, or former Section
- 13 <u>14(a) of this article, the</u> primary party's <u>children who are</u>
- 14 qualified survivors [surviving children], as a group, will receive
- 15 a minimum Group A death benefit of \$1,100 [\$750] a month, to be
- 16 divided equally among them.
- 17 (f) If there is neither a [In the absence of both a qualified
- 18 surviving] spouse nor a child who is a [and] qualified survivor
- 19 [surviving children] of a Group A primary party who elected to
- 20 receive a Group A retirement pension under Sections 6.01(b) and (c)
- 21 of this article, the old plan, or former Section 14(a) of this
- 22 article, each [qualified surviving] dependent parent who is a
- 23 <u>qualified survivor</u> will receive a minimum Group A death benefit of
- 24 \$1,100 [\$750] a month. If only one of them is surviving, that [the
- 25 qualified surviving dependent parent will receive a minimum Group
- 26 A death benefit equal to $$1,100 \ [\$750]$ a month.
- 27 (g) Notwithstanding the minimum monthly benefit described

- 1 in other subsections of this section, a Group A primary party who
- 2 receives periodic disability compensation under Section 6.05(b) of
- 3 this article or a Group A disability pension under Section 6.04(a)
- 4 of this article, the old plan, or former Section 17(a) of this
- 5 article, [calculated in the same manner as a Group A retirement
- 6 pension under Sections 6.01(b) and (c) of this article, shall
- 7 receive a minimum Group A disability pension equal to \$2,200
- 8 [\$1,500] a month.

17

18

- 9 (h) If a Group A <u>pensioner who received a monthly benefit</u>
 10 <u>under Section 6.05(b-1) of this article or a disability pension</u>
 11 <u>under Section 6.04(a) of this article, calculated in the same</u>
 12 <u>manner as a Group A retirement pension under Sections 6.01(b) and</u>
- 13 (c) of this article, the old plan, or former Section 17(a) of this
- 14 <u>article</u> [primary party's disability pension is subject to a
- 15 qualified domestic relations order and the sum of the actuarial
- 16 equivalents of the monthly benefits payable to the Group A primary

party and the alternate payee is less than the actuarial equivalent

of the minimum monthly Group A disability pension determined under

- 19 Subsection (g) of this section, the Group A primary party's minimum
- 20 monthly Group A disability pension will be increased so that the sum
- 21 of the actuarial equivalents of the alternate payee's and the Group
- 22 A primary party's minimum monthly Group A disability pension equals
- 23 the amount determined under Subsection (g) of this section.
- 24 [(i) If a Group A pensioner who received a disability under
- 25 Section 6.04(a) of this article, calculated in the same manner as a
- 26 Croup A retirement pension under Sections 6.01(b) and (c) of this
- 27 article] before the completion of 20 years of pension service dies,

- 1 the qualified survivors will receive a minimum Group A death
- 2 benefit as provided under Subsection (c), (d), (e), or (f) of this
- 3 section, as applicable, whichever is greatest.
- 4 SECTION 39. The heading to Section 6.10B, Article 6243a-1,
- 5 Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:
- 6 Sec. 6.10B. MINIMUM BENEFITS TO CERTAIN GROUP A PRIMARY
- 7 PARTIES WHO WERE GROUP A, PLAN A, OR COMBINED PLAN MEMBERS [ELECT TO
- 8 RECEIVE RETIREMENT PENSION UNDER SECTION 6.01(E) AND THEIR
- 9 QUALIFIED SURVIVORS.
- 10 SECTION 40. Sections 6.10B(a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f),
- 11 (g), and (i), Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, are amended to
- 12 read as follows:

17

- 13 (a) Except as provided by Section 6.063 of this article and
- 14 <u>Subsection</u> [Subsections] (b) [and (h)] of this section and
- 15 notwithstanding any benefit computation and determination to the
- 16 contrary contained in this article, the minimum Group A benefits

provided by this section shall be paid to any Group A primary party

- 18 who elects to receive a Group A retirement pension under Section
- 19 6.01(e) of this article, Plan A, or former Section 14(b) of this
- 20 <u>article</u> or <u>to</u> the primary party's qualified survivors[$\overline{\cdot}$ The
- 21 benefits under this section shall be distributed in accordance with
- 22 Section 6.01(e), 6.04(b), or 6.07 of this article, as applicable],
- 23 except that a Group A primary party who elects to receive an
- 24 actuarially reduced Group A retirement pension [because of the
- 25 primary party's request to receive a Group A retirement pension]
- 26 before 55 years of age and the primary party's qualified survivors
- 27 are not entitled to the [Group A] minimum benefits specified in

- 1 [under] this section. An alternate payee is not entitled to the
- 2 Group A minimum benefits specified in this section.
- 3 A Group A primary party who <u>elects</u> [<u>elected</u>] to receive a Group A retirement pension under Section 6.01(e) of this article, 4 Plan A, or former Section 14(b) of this article and who left active 5 service with 20 or more years of pension service is entitled to 6 receive a minimum [Group A] retirement pension equal to the greater 7 8 of \$2,200 $[\frac{(i)}{3},\frac{500}{500}]$ a month or $[\frac{(ii)}{3}]$ \$1,000 a month adjusted, if applicable, in the manner described by Section 6.12 [6.12(a)] of 9 10 this article. [If the Group A primary party's Group A retirement pension is subject to a qualified domestic relations order and the 11 12 sum of the actuarial equivalents of the monthly benefits payable to the Group A primary party and the alternate payee is less than the 13 actuarial equivalent of the minimum monthly Group A retirement 14 15 pension described by this subsection, the Group A primary party's monthly Group A retirement pension will be increased so that the sum 16 17 of the actuarial equivalents of the alternate payee's and the Group A primary party's monthly Group A retirement pension equals the 18 19 actuarial equivalent of the minimum monthly Group A retirement pension calculated under this subsection. 20
- (c) <u>In the absence of children who are [A]</u> qualified survivors, a [surviving] spouse who is a qualified survivor of a Group A primary party who elects [elected] to receive a Group A retirement pension under Section 6.01(e) of this article, Plan A, or former Section 14(b) of this article will receive a minimum monthly [Group A] death benefit equal to the greater of \$1,200 [(i) \$750] a month or [(ii)] \$500 a month adjusted, if applicable,

1 in the manner described by Section 6.12 [6.12(a)] of this article.

- A <u>spouse who is a qualified survivor</u> [surviving spouse] 2 a Group A primary party who elects to receive a Group A 3 retirement pension under Section 6.01(e) of this article, Plan A, 4 or former Section 14(b) of this article will receive, if there are 5 children who are qualified survivors [surviving children], a 6 minimum Group A death benefit equal to the greater of \$1,100 [(i) 7 \$750] a month or [(ii)] \$500 a month adjusted, if applicable, in the 8 manner described by Section 6.12 $\left[\frac{6.12(a)}{a}\right]$ of this article. The 9 children who are qualified survivors [surviving children], as a 10 group, will receive a minimum $[\frac{Group - A}{I}]$ death benefit equal to the 11 greater of \$1,100 [$\frac{(iii)}{5750}$] a month or [$\frac{(iv)}{100}$] \$500 a month 12 adjusted, if applicable, in the manner described by Section <u>6.12</u> 13 [6.12(a)] of this article, to be divided equally among them. 14
- 15 (e) In the absence of a spouse who is a qualified survivor [surviving spouse] of a Group A primary party who elected to receive 16 17 a Group A retirement pension under Section 6.01(e) of this article, Plan A, or former Section 14(b) of this article, the [the qualified 18 19 surviving children of a Group A] primary party's children who are qualified survivors [party], as a group, will receive a minimum 20 Group A death benefit equal to the greater of $\frac{$1,100}{}$ [(i) $\frac{$750}{}$] a 21 month or [(ii)] \$500 a month adjusted, if applicable, in the manner 22 described by Section 6.12 [6.12(a)] of this article, to be divided 23 24 equally among them.
- 25 (f) <u>If there is neither a [In the absence of both a qualified</u>
 26 <u>surviving</u>] spouse <u>nor child who is a [and]</u> qualified <u>survivor</u>
 27 [<u>surviving children</u>] of a Group A primary party who elected to

1 receive a Group A retirement pension under Section 6.01(e) of this article, Plan A, or the former Section 14(b) of this article, each 2 3 [qualified surviving] dependent parent who is a qualified survivor will receive a minimum Group A death benefit equal to the greater of 4 $$1,100 \left[\frac{(i)}{5750}\right]$ a month or $\left[\frac{(ii)}{500}\right]$ \$500 a month adjusted, if 5 applicable, in the manner described by Section 6.12 [6.12(a)] of 6 this article. If only one of them is surviving, that [the qualified 7 8 surviving] dependent parent will receive a minimum Group A death benefit equal to the greater of \$1,100 [(iii) \$750] a month or 9 [(iv)] \$500 a month adjusted, if applicable, in the manner 10

described by Section 6.12 [6.12(a)] of this article.

11

- 12 (q) Notwithstanding the minimum monthly benefit as described in other subsections of this section, a Group A primary 13 party who leaves active service on a non-service-connected 14 15 [nonservice-connected] disability under Section 6.04(a) [6.04(b)(2)] of this article, Plan A, or former Section 17(b)(2) of 16 this article with less than 20 years of pension service shall 17 receive a minimum monthly Group A disability pension equal to the 18 19 greater of \$110 $[\frac{(i)}{575}]$ multiplied by the number of years of the primary party's pension service or [(ii)] \$50 multiplied by the 20 number of years of the primary party's pension service, the product 21 adjusted, if applicable, in the manner described by Section 6.12 22 [6.12(a)] of this article. 23
- (i) If a Group A pensioner who received a non-service-connected [nonservice-connected] disability pension under Section 6.04(a) [6.04(b)(2)] of this article, Plan A, or former Section 17(b)(2) of this article before the completion of 20

- 1 years of pension service dies, the qualified survivors will each
- 2 receive the amount specified in Section 6.07 of this article or the
- 3 minimum [monthly] Group A death benefit as provided under
- 4 Subsection (c), (d), (e), or (f) of this section, as applicable,
- 5 whichever is greatest.
- 6 SECTION 41. Sections 6.11, 6.12, and 6.13, Article 6243a-1,
- 7 Revised Statutes, are amended to read as follows:
- 8 Sec. 6.11. MINIMUM BENEFITS TO GROUP B PRIMARY PARTIES AND
- 9 THEIR QUALIFIED SURVIVORS. (a) Except as provided by Section 6.063
- 10 of this article or Subsections (b), (c), and (h) of this section and
- 11 notwithstanding any benefit computation and determination to the
- 12 contrary contained in this article, the minimum Group B benefits
- 13 provided by this section shall be paid to any Group B primary party
- 14 or the primary party's qualified survivors, except further that a
- 15 Group B primary party who elects to receive an actuarially reduced
- 16 [Group B] retirement pension, including a request for a benefit
- 17 under Sections 6.02(c) and (d) of this article, [because of the
- 18 primary party's request to receive the pension at or after age 45,
- 19 but before age 50] and the primary party's qualified survivors $[\tau]$
- 20 or [an] alternate payee [of the primary party], are not entitled to
- 21 the Group B minimum benefits specified by this section.
- 22 (b) If a Group B primary party leaves active service with 20
- 23 or more years of pension service, the Group B primary party is
- 24 entitled to receive a Group B minimum retirement pension equal to
- 25 the greater of \$2,200 [$\frac{(i)}{(i)}$ \$1,500] a month or [$\frac{(ii)}{(ii)}$] \$925 a month,
- 26 which sum may (A) increase at the rate of \$5 a month for each year of
- 27 pension service beyond 20 years, but the increase may not exceed \$75

- and (B) be adjusted, if applicable, in the manner described by 1 Section 6.12 [6.12(a)] of this article. [If a Group B primary 2 3 party's Group B retirement pension is or becomes subject to a qualified domestic relations order and the sum of the actuarial 4 equivalents of the monthly Group B retirement pension payable to 5 the Group B primary party and the alternate payee is less than the 6 actuarial equivalent of the minimum monthly Group B retirement 7 pension as calculated under this subsection, the Group B primary 8 party's monthly Group B retirement pension will be increased so 9 10 that the sum of the actuarial equivalents of both the alternate payee's and the Group B primary party's Group B retirement pensions 11 12 equals the actuarial equivalent of the minimum monthly Group B retirement pension as calculated under this subsection. 13
- (c) If a Group B primary party leaves active service with less than 20 years of pension service, the primary party is entitled to receive a minimum monthly Group B retirement pension equal to the greater of:
- (1) \$2,200 [(i) \$1,500] a month divided by 20 and multiplied by the Group B primary party's number of years of pension service; or
- 21 (2) [(ii)] \$925 a month divided by 20 and multiplied
 22 by the Group B primary party's number of years of pension service,
 23 which amount is then adjusted, if applicable, in the manner
 24 described by Section 6.12 [6.12(a)] of this article. [If a Group B
 25 primary party's retirement pension is or becomes subject to a
 26 qualified domestic relations order and the sum of the actuarial
 27 equivalents of the monthly Group B retirement pension payable to

- the Group B primary party and the alternate payee is less than the
 actuarial equivalent of the monthly retirement pension as
 calculated under this subsection, the Group B primary party's
 monthly Group B retirement pension will be increased so that the sum
 of the actuarial equivalents of the alternate payee's and the Group
 B primary party's monthly Group B retirement pensions equals the
 actuarial equivalent of the minimum monthly Group B retirement
 pension as calculated under this subsection.
- 9 (d) In the absence of <u>children who are</u> qualified <u>survivors</u>,

 10 <u>a spouse who is a [surviving children, the]</u> qualified <u>survivor</u>

 11 [<u>surviving spouse</u>] of a Group B primary party will receive a minimum

 12 Group B death benefit equal to the greater of:
- 13 (1) $\$1,200 \ [\frac{(i)}{\$750}]$ a month; or

27

- 14 (2) $(\frac{1}{2})$ \$600 a month adjusted, if applicable, in the manner described by Section 6.12 $(\frac{6.12(a)}{a})$ of this article.
- (e) A spouse who is a qualified survivor [surviving spouse] 16 17 of a Group B primary party [will receive], if there are children who are qualified survivors [surviving children], will receive [the 18 greater of a minimum Group B death benefit of 50 percent of the 19 primary party's minimum monthly Group B retirement pension 20 described by Subsection (b) or (c) of this section, whichever is 21 applicable. The qualified surviving children, as a group, will 22 23 receive the greater of] a minimum [monthly] Group B death benefit of 24 \$1,100 a month [50 percent of the minimum monthly Group B retirement pension described by Subsection (b) or (c) of this section, 25 26 whichever is applicable, to be divided equally among them].
 - (f) The [In the absence of a qualified surviving spouse, the

- 1 qualified surviving | children who are qualified survivors of a
- 2 Group B primary party, as a group, will receive a minimum Group B
- 3 death benefit equal to the greater of \$1,100 [(i) \$750] a month or
- 4 [(ii)] \$600 a month adjusted, if applicable, in the manner
- 5 described by Section 6.12 $\left[\frac{6.12(a)}{a}\right]$ of this article, to be divided
- 6 equally between them.

whichever is applicable].

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- 7 If there is neither a [In the absence of either a 8 qualified surviving] spouse nor a child who is a [or] qualified [surviving children], each [qualified surviving] 9 survivor 10 dependent parent who is a qualified survivor of the deceased Group B primary party will receive a minimum death benefit of \$1,100 a month 11 12 [Group B minimum death benefit equal to the greater of 50 percent of the Group B primary party's minimum monthly Group B retirement 13 pension described by Subsection (b) or (c) of this section, 14 whichever is applicable. If only one qualified surviving dependent 15 parent is surviving, the parent will receive a Group B minimum death 16 benefit of 50 percent of the minimum monthly Group B retirement 17 pension described by Subsection (b) or (c) of this section, 18
- 20 (h) Notwithstanding the minimum monthly $[\frac{Group}{B}]$ retirement pension otherwise described by this section, a Group B 21 primary party who left active service on a non-service-connected 22 $[{\color{red} {nonservice-connected}}]$ disability with less than 20 years of 23 24 pension service will receive a minimum monthly [Group B] disability pension equal to the greater of \$110 [(i) \$75] multiplied by the 25 26 number of years of the primary party's pension service or [(ii)] \$46.25 multiplied by the number of years of the primary party's 27

- pension service, the product adjusted in the manner, if applicable, 1 described by Section 6.12 [6.12(a)] of this article. [If the Group 2 B primary party's Group B disability pension is or becomes subject 3 to a qualified domestic relations order and the sum of the actuarial 4 equivalents of the monthly Group B disability pension payable to 5 the Group B primary party and the alternate payee is less than the 6 actuarial equivalent of the monthly disability pension as 7 8 calculated under this subsection, the Group B primary party's monthly Group B disability pension will be increased so that the sum 9 10 of the actuarial equivalents of the alternate payee's and the Group B primary party's monthly Group B disability pensions equals the 11 actuarial equivalents of the minimum monthly Group B disability 12 pension as calculated under this subsection.] If a Group B primary 13 receiving non-service-connected 14 party who was а 15 [nonservice-connected Group B] disability pension before the completion of 20 years pension service dies, the qualified 16 survivors will receive the amount specified in Section 6.08 of this 17 article, or the [Group B] minimum monthly death benefits granted to 18 19 qualified survivors as provided by Subsections (d), (e), (f), and 20 (g) of this section, as applicable, whichever is greater. Sec. 6.12. ADJUSTMENTS TO RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY PENSION 21
- 22 BENEFITS. (a) This section applies to the following benefits
- 23 provided under this article:
- 24 <u>(1)</u> [Annually on the first day of October,] a
 25 retirement pension calculated under Section 6.01(e) [Section 6.01]
 26 or 6.02 of this article;
- (2) $[\tau]$ a disability pension calculated under Section

- 1 6.04 of this article, other than under Section 6.04(a) of this
- 2 article;
- 3 (3) periodic disability compensation benefit under
- 4 <u>Section</u> [er] 6.05 of this article, other than Section 6.05(b-1) of
- 5 this article; $[\tau]$ or
- 6 (4) a death benefit calculated under:
- 7 (A) Section 6.07 of this article, if calculated
- 8 <u>in the manner of a retirement pension under Section 6.01(e) of this</u>
- 9 article or in the manner of a disability compensation benefit under
- 10 Section 6.05(b) of this article; or
- 11 (B) Section 6.08 of this article currently in pay
- 12 status, or pending board approval on the last day of September [au
- 13 will be increased by an amount equal to four percent, not
- 14 compounded, of the original amount of the retirement or disability
- 15 pension or death benefit].
- 16 (b) Except as provided by Subsection (d) of this section,
- 17 annually on the first day of October, the pension system shall
- 18 increase the base pension of a benefit described by Subsection (a)
- 19 of this section by a percentage equal to the average annual rate of
- 20 actual investment return of the pension system for the five-year
- 21 period ending on the December 31 preceding the effective date of the
- 22 <u>adjustment less five percent.</u>
- 23 <u>(c) An adjustment under this section may not be less than</u>
- 24 zero percent or exceed four percent of the applicable base pension
- 25 benefit.
- 26 (d) The pension system may only make an adjustment to
- 27 benefits under this section if the ratio of the amount of the

- 1 pension system's market value of assets divided by the amount of the
- 2 pension system's actuarial accrued liabilities, after giving
- 3 <u>effect to the adjustment, is not less than .70.</u>
- 4 (e) For purposes of Subsection (d) of this section, the
- 5 amount of the pension system's market value of assets and the amount
- 6 of the pension system's actuarial accrued liabilities shall be
- 7 based on and determined as of the date of the most recently
- 8 completed actuarial valuation.
- 9 (f) The following persons may not receive an adjustment
- 10 under this section:
- 11 (1) a member on active service, including a DROP
- 12 participant;
- 13 (2) a pensioner until the first October 1 occurring
- 14 after both the pensioner's retirement and the earlier of:
- 15 (A) the date the pensioner reaches 62 years of
- 16 <u>age; or</u>
- 17 (B) the third anniversary of the date the
- 18 pensioner retired; or
- 19 (3) a qualified survivor until the first October 1
- 20 occurring after the earlier of:
- 21 (A) the date the qualified survivor reaches 62
- 22 years of age;
- 23 (B) the third anniversary of the date the primary
- 24 party retired; or
- (C) the third anniversary of the date of the
- 26 member's or pensioner's death.
- 27 (g) [(b)] A [Group B] retirement or [Group B] disability

1 pension $\underline{\text{or periodic disability compensation}}$ paid to any Group B

2 pensioner may not be less than the Group B pensioner's base pension.

3 (h) The death benefit of the qualified survivors who are the

4 [a Croup B qualified surviving] spouse, [Group B qualified

5 surviving dependent parent, or child of a Group B pensioner

6 [parents, as a group, or Group B qualified surviving children], as a

group, may not be less than 50 percent of the [a Group B]

8 pensioner's base pension.

7

Sec. 6.13. SUPPLEMENT TO CERTAIN RECIPIENTS 55 YEARS OF AGE 9 10 OR OLDER. (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b) of this section, if [If] a pensioner had at least 20 years of pension 11 service under any plan adopted pursuant to Article 6243a or this 12 if a pensioner is receiving the periodic 13 article, or 14 service-connected] disability compensation benefit under Section 6.05 of this article [pension], the pensioner, the pensioner's 15 [qualified surviving] spouse who is a qualified survivor eligible 16 to receive benefits under this article, or the pensioner's 17 [qualified surviving] children who are qualified survivors, as a 18 19 group, under Section 6.06 [6.06(0)] of this article are entitled to receive, when the pensioner or spouse who is a qualified survivor 20 [surviving spouse] attains 55 years of age, provided the pensioner 21 or spouse attains 55 years of age before September 1, 2017, [the 22 23 greater of a monthly supplement equal to the greater of \$50 or 24 three percent of their total monthly benefit $[\tau]$ and for months [years] beginning on and after January 1, 1991, a [the] monthly 25 26 supplement [will be] equal to the greater of \$75 or three percent of their total monthly benefit. For purposes only of calculating this 27

- 1 supplement, the phrase "their total monthly benefit" means the
- 2 amount payable to a pensioner or qualified survivors under the
- 3 terms of the plans described by this section under which the
- 4 pensioner or qualified survivor elected to receive benefits but
- 5 does not include the supplement authorized by this section or any
- 6 adjustments under Section 6.12 of this article made after September
- 7 1, 2017.
- 8 (b) A person described by Subsection (a) of this section
- 9 who, on September 1, 2017, is not receiving or has not received a
- 10 supplemental benefit under this section is not entitled to receive
- 11 a supplemental benefit under this section.
- 12 SECTION 42. Section 6.14, Article 6243a-1, Revised
- 13 Statutes, is amended by amending Subsections (a), (b), (c), (d),
- 14 (e), (f), (g), (h), and (j) and adding Subsections (e-1), (e-2),
- 15 (e-3), (e-4), (f-1), (g-1), (1), (m), (n), and (o) to read as
- 16 follows:
- 17 (a) A [In lieu of either leaving active service and
- 18 commencing a retirement pension as provided for under Section 6.01
- 19 or 6.02 of this article, whichever is applicable, or remaining in
- 20 active service and continuing to accrue additional pension benefits
- 21 as provided under Section 6.01 or 6.02, a] member who remains on
- 22 active service after becoming [is] eligible to receive a [an]
- 23 unreduced] retirement pension under either Section 6.01 or 6.02 of
- 24 <u>this article</u> may [remain in active service,] become a participant
- 25 in the deferred retirement option plan [Deferred Retirement Option
- 26 Plan ("DROP") in accordance with Subsections (b) and (c) of this
- 27 section, and defer the beginning of the person's retirement

- 1 pension. Once an election to participate in the DROP has been made,
- 2 the election continues in effect at least as long as the member
- 3 remains in active service. On leaving active service, the member
- 4 may<u>:</u>
- 5 (1) apply for a retirement pension under Sections
- 6 6.01(b) and (c), Section 6.01(e), or <u>Sections 6.02(b)</u>, (c), (d), or
- 7 (e) [Section 6.02] of this article, whichever is applicable,
- 8 together with any DROP benefit provided under this section; or
- 9 (2) continue to participate in DROP except the member
- 10 <u>is ineligible for disability benefits described by Subsection (g-1)</u>
- 11 of this section.
- 12 (b) The election to participate in the DROP shall be made in
- 13 accordance with procedures set forth in any uniform and
- 14 nondiscriminatory election form adopted by the board and in effect
- 15 from time to time. To determine the proper amount to be credited to
- 16 a member's DROP account, the election shall indicate whether the
- 17 member desires to receive a retirement pension under Sections
- 18 6.01(b) and (c), Section 6.01(e), or Section 6.02(b), (c), (d), or
- 19 (e) [6.02] of this article, whichever is applicable. The election
- 20 may be made at any time on or after the date the member becomes
- 21 eligible for a [an unreduced] retirement pension as provided by
- 22 this subsection. The election [under Sections 6.01(b) and (c),
- 23 Section 6.01(e), or Section 6.02 of this article, whichever is
- 24 applicable, and] becomes effective on the first day of the first
- 25 month on or after the date on which the member makes the election,
- 26 except that an election that would otherwise have been effective on
- 27 October 1, 1993, and every October 1 after that date, is considered,

1 for purposes of this section and Section 6.12 of this article, to be effective on September 30 of the year in which it would otherwise 2 have been effective. On and after the effective date of the 3 election, the member will no longer be eligible for any refund of 4 5 [make member] contributions [to the fund, notwithstanding Section 4.03(b) or (f) of this article, whichever is applicable]. 6 election by one or more members to participate in the DROP has no 7 8 effect on the amount of city contributions to the fund under Section

4.02 of this article.

9

(c) Each month after a member has made an election to 10 participate in the DROP and indicated a desire to receive a 11 12 retirement pension under Sections 6.01(b) and (c), Section 6.01(e), or Section 6.02(b), (c), (d), or (e) [Section 6.02] of this article, 13 whichever is applicable, and through the month before the month in 14 which [until] the member leaves active service, an amount equal to 15 the retirement pension the member would have received under the 16 17 [Sections 6.01(b) and (c), Section 6.01(e), or Section 6.02, whichever is] applicable subsection[$_{\tau}$] for that month if the member 18 19 had left active service and been granted a retirement pension by the 20 board on the effective date of DROP participation shall be credited [transferred] to a separate DROP account maintained within the fund 21 for the benefit of the member. Amounts held in the DROP account of a 22 23 member [member's DROP account] shall be credited at the end of each 24 calendar month [with interest at a rate that will approximately equal one-twelfth of the annual rate assumed by the pension 25 26 system's qualified actuary and approved by the board as the assumed rate of return for the fund]. Notwithstanding this 27

- 1 section, effective January 1, 2018, a member on active service who
- 2 has 10 years or more of participation in DROP shall no longer have
- 3 the amount of the member's retirement pension credited to the
- 4 member's DROP account while the member is on active service.
- 5 (d) \underline{A} [On leaving active service and on the board's grant of
- 6 a retirement pension, a member may not [who participates in DROP
- 7 shall begin to] receive a [the balance in the person's DROP account
- 8 under one of the following methods of] distribution from the
- 9 member's DROP account while the member is on active service
- 10 [elected by the member:
- 11 [(1) a single-sum distribution made at a time selected
- 12 by the member but not later than April 1 of the year after the member
- 13 attains 70-1/2 years of age;
- 14 [(2) an annuity to be paid in equal monthly payments
- 15 for the life of the member, or for the life of the member and a
- 16 designated beneficiary in the same manner as a retirement pension
- 17 computed under Sections 6.01(b) and (c), Section 6.01(e), or
- 18 Section 6.02 of this article, whichever is applicable, determined
- 19 as of the date the member leaves active service based on the
- 20 person's account balance and age and the age of the designated
- 21 beneficiary, if applicable, on that date and using the mortality
- 22 and earnings assumptions being used on that date by the pension
- 23 system's qualified actuary and approved by the board as the assumed
- 24 actuarial rate of return for the fund; or
- 25 [(3) substantially equal monthly or annual payments of
- 26 the person's account balance beginning at a time selected by the
- 27 member that is on or before April 1st of the year after the member

- 1 attains 70-1/2 years of age and extending over a fixed period that
- 2 does not exceed the life expectancy of the member, or the life
- 3 expectancy of the member and the member's designated beneficiary,
- 4 if applicable].
- 5 (e) Except as provided by Subsections (e-1) and (1) of this
- 6 <u>section, the balance in the [The]</u> DROP account [balance] of a member
- 7 who terminated from active service on or before September 1, 2017,
- 8 or who terminates from active service shall be distributed to the
- 9 member in the form of an annuity by annuitizing the amount credited
- 10 to the DROP account over the life expectancy of the member as of the
- 11 date of the annuitization using mortality tables recommended by the
- 12 pension system's qualified actuary. The annuity shall be
- 13 distributed beginning as promptly as administratively feasible
- 14 <u>after the later of, as applicable:</u>
- 15 (1) the date the member retires and is granted a
- 16 <u>retirement pension; or</u>
- 17 (2) September 1, 2017 [elects the method of
- 18 distribution described by Subsection (d)(3) of this section shall
- 19 be credited with interest on the unpaid balance at the end of each
- 20 calendar month in the same manner as is prescribed by Subsection (c)
- 21 of this section].
- 22 (e-1) The board may adopt a shorter period for annuitizing
- 23 DROP account balances under Subsection (e) of this section if the
- 24 pension system's qualified actuary determines that the shorter
- 25 period will not cause the pension system's amortization period to
- 26 exceed 25 years [A member may change a distribution election at any
- 27 time before the member attains 70-1/2 years of age to receive one or

1 more additional payments or to accelerate or delay any payment not then due, if the change is communicated to the plan administrator, 2 accordance with procedures then in effect, not less than 30 days before the day it is to take effect and if the change does not 4 a failure of the distributions to satisfy the requirements of 5 Section 401(a)(9) of the code]. 6 7 (e-2) The annuitization of a DROP account under Subsection 8 (e) of this section must reflect the accrual of interest on the amount in the DROP account as of September 1, 2017, over the 9 annuitization period applied to the account under this section. 10 The interest rate applied under this subsection must be a rate as 11 12 reasonably equivalent as practicable to the interest rate on a note issued by the United States Department of the Treasury or other 13 14 federal treasury note with a duration that is reasonably comparable 15 to the annuitization period applied to the account, as determined by the board. The portion of an annuity attributable to amounts 16 17 credited to a member's DROP account on or after September 1, 2017, may not reflect the accrual of this interest on annuitization. 18 19 (e-3) The board may by rule allow a DROP participant who has terminated active service and who is eligible for a retirement 20 21 pension to: (1) assign the distribution from the participant's 22 annuitized DROP account to a third party provided the pension 23

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system receives a favorable private letter ruling from the Internal

Revenue Service ruling that such an assignment will not negatively

(2) subject to Subsection (e-4) of this section, in

impact the pension system's qualified plan status; and

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- 1 the event of an unforeseeable emergency or hardship obtain a
- 2 lump-sum distribution from the participant's DROP account
- 3 resulting in a corresponding reduction in the total number or in the
- 4 amount of annuity payments.
- 5 (e-4) The board shall adopt rules necessary to implement
- 6 Subsection (e-3)(2) of this section, including rules regarding what
- 7 constitutes an unforeseeable emergency or hardship.
- 8 (f) The board may adopt rules and policies relating to the
- 9 administration of Subsections (e), (e-1), and (e-2) of this section
- 10 if the rules and policies are:
- 11 (1) consistent with the qualification of the plan
- 12 under Section 401 of the code; and
- 13 (2) in the best interest of the pension system [Any
- 14 election made in accordance with Subsection (d) of this section may
- 15 be changed at any time before leaving active service to any other
- 16 election permitted by that subsection, subject to the requirements
- 17 for spousal consent, in Section 6.14(d)(1), if applicable].
- 18 (f-1) The DROP account of a member who begins participating
- 19 in DROP on or after September 1, 2017, does not accrue interest.
- 20 (g) The provisions of Sections 6.06, <u>6.061</u>, <u>6.062</u>, <u>6.063</u>,
- 21 6.07, and 6.08 of this article pertaining to death benefits of a
- 22 qualified survivor do not apply to amounts held in a member's or
- 23 pensioner's DROP account [, and the class of persons eligible to
- 24 become qualified survivors of a member closes on the effective date
- 25 of the member's participation in DROP]. Instead, a member or
- 26 pensioner who participates in DROP may designate a beneficiary to
- 27 receive the annuity payments under this section over the remaining

annuitization period [balance of the member's DROP account] in the 1 event of the member's or pensioner's death subject to any rights 2 provided under Subsection (e-3) of this section and in the 3 [following] manner allowed by Section 401(a)(9) of the code and any 4 policy adopted by the board. A member or pensioner who is or 5 becomes married is considered to have designated the member's or 6 pensioner's spouse as the member's or pensioner's beneficiary, 7 notwithstanding any prior beneficiary designation, unless the 8 member or pensioner has made a different designation in accordance 9 with a policy adopted by the board. If a member or pensioner does 10 not have a spouse or the spouse predeceases the member or pensioner, 11 12 the member's or pensioner's, as applicable, DROP account will be distributed to the member's or pensioner's, as applicable, 13 designee. Notwithstanding anything in this section to the 14 contrary, if a member or pensioner has previously designated the 15 member's or pensioner's spouse as the beneficiary or co-beneficiary 16 17 of the DROP account and the member or pensioner and spouse are subsequently divorced, the divorce automatically results in the 18 19 invalidation of the designation of the spouse as a beneficiary and, if there is no additional beneficiary designated, the member's or 20 pensioner's DROP account shall be distributed as provided by 21 22 Subsection (e) of this section. If there are beneficiaries who survive the deceased member or pensioner, the surviving 23 24 beneficiaries share equally in that portion that would have otherwise been payable to the former spouse. [+ 25 26 [(1) The beneficiary designation must be made

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ection form adopted by the board and in effect

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and in accordance with the conditions on the form, except that if
the member is married, the designation of a beneficiary other than
the member's spouse is valid only if the spouse consents to the
designation at the time, in the manner, and on the consent form as

is adopted by the board and in effect from time to time.

expectancy, of the designated beneficiary.

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- [(2) If a member who participates in DROP dies while in active service or before the beginning of the member's DROP account, distributions will begin no more than one year after the date of the member's death under a method described by Subsection (d) of this section and shall be completed within the life, or life
 - [(3) If a member who participates in DROP dies after having begun to receive distributions in accordance with Subsection (d) of this section, the balance in the member's DROP account shall continue to be distributed to the member's designated beneficiary or other person described by Subdivision (4) of this subsection in accordance with any elections that had been made under Subsection (d) of this section.
- [(4) If the deceased member has not designated a beneficiary or has designated a beneficiary but not a method of distribution, the member's DROP account shall be distributed in a single-sum payment as soon as administratively feasible after the member's death to the beneficiary if one was designated and otherwise to the spouse if the member was married at the time of death or, if the member was not married, to the member's estate.]
- 26 $\underline{(g-1)}$ [(5)] A member who [participates in DROP] becomes \underline{a} 27 \underline{DROP} participant is ineligible for any disability benefits

- 1 described by <u>Section</u> [Sections] 6.03, 6.04, or [and] 6.05 of this
- 2 article, but is entitled to [instead, on the board's acknowledgment
- 3 of a disability that would otherwise qualify the member for
- 4 disability benefits, the board shall grant] a retirement pension in
- 5 accordance with Sections 6.01(b) and (c), Section 6.01(e), or
- 6 Section 6.02 of this article, whichever is applicable, on
- 7 termination from active service, and [the member] is also entitled
- 8 to receive <u>annuity payments</u> [both a retirement pension and a
- 9 distribution of the DROP account] in accordance with Subsection (e)
- 10 $\left[\frac{\text{(d)}}{\text{)}}\right]$ of this section.
- 11 (h) The base pay or computation pay, whichever is
- 12 applicable, in effect as of the effective date of a [Group A]
- 13 member's participation in DROP shall be used in calculating the
- 14 member's [$\frac{\text{Group A}}{\text{I}}$] retirement pension under Section 6.01 or 6.02 of
- 15 this article. A $[\frac{Croup}{A}]$ member who elects to participate in DROP
- 16 does not accrue additional pension service for purposes of
- 17 computing a [the Group A] retirement pension [provided under
- 18 Section 6.01(e) of this article for any period after the effective
- 19 date of the election.
- 20 (j) Except as provided by Subsection (l) of this section, if
- 21 [If] a pensioner who has been a [participated in] DROP participant
- 22 returns to active service, the person must [ence again] become a
- 23 participant in DROP under the terms and conditions in effect at the
- 24 time of [the person's] return to active service.
- 25 (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section and
- 26 <u>except as provided by Subsection (o) of this section, a member who</u>
- 27 has entered DROP before June 1, 2017, may revoke the DROP election

- 1 at any time on or after September 1, 2017, and before the earlier
- 2 of:
- 3 <u>(1)</u> February 28, 2018; or
- 4 (2) the member's termination of active service.
- 5 (m) If a member revokes participation in DROP under
- 6 Subsection (1) of this section:
- 7 (1) the member's DROP account balance is eliminated;
- 8 and
- 9 (2) the member shall receive pension service credited
- 10 for all or a portion of the period of the revoked DROP participation
- 11 on payment of the required contributions for the period of the
- 12 revoked DROP participation in accordance with a uniform and
- 13 nondiscriminatory procedure adopted by the board that results in
- 14 the payment of the amount of member contributions that would have
- 15 been made if the member had never participated in DROP.
- 16 (n) A member who revokes the member's DROP election under
- 17 Subsection (1) of this section is entitled to only a monthly pension
- 18 computed on the basis of the member's pension service, including
- 19 pension service purchased under Subsection (m) of this section:
- 20 (1) that is based on the member's average computation
- 21 pay at the time of leaving active service, if the member is a Group B
- 22 member; or
- 23 (2) as provided by Section 6.01(b) of this article, if
- 24 the member is a Group A member.
- 25 (o) A member may not revoke DROP participation under
- 26 Subsection (1) of this section if any money has been transferred out
- 27 of the member's DROP account.

- 1 SECTION 43. Sections 6.15(a), (b), and (e), Article
- 2 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, are amended to read as follows:
- 3 (a) The board may require the following pensioners
- 4 receiving a disability pension or a periodic disability
- 5 compensation benefit to appear and undergo a medical examination by
- 6 the health director or, if the health director approves, by any
- 7 licensed medical practitioner, to determine if the pensioner's
- 8 disability continues or has been removed to the extent that the
- 9 pensioner is able to resume duties with the department:
- 10 (1) any Group A pensioner who has served less than 20
- 11 years;
- 12 (2) any Group A pensioner who elected a Group A $[\frac{B}{2}]$
- 13 disability pension under Section 6.04 [6.04(e)] of this article,
- 14 periodic disability compensation under Section 6.05 of this
- 15 article, or a non-service-connected disability pension under Plan A
- or former Section 17(b)(2) of this article, and who had [has served]
- 17 more than 20 years of pension service, but is less than 55 years of
- 18 age; and
- 19 (3) any Group B pensioner who was granted [elected] a
- 20 Group B disability pension under Section 6.04 of this article or
- 21 periodic disability compensation under Section 6.05 of this article
- 22 or a disability pension under the terms of Plan B and is less than 50
- 23 years of age.
- 24 (b) Any medical examination under this section is subject to
- 25 the following conditions:
- 26 (1) Except as otherwise provided by this section, the
- 27 board has complete discretion to require a pensioner to appear and

- 1 undergo a medical examination as well as the time that may pass
- 2 between examinations. When it becomes clear to the board from
- 3 reliable medical evidence that the disability is unequivocally
- 4 permanent and is not expected to diminish, the board may waive [not
- 5 require] subsequent examinations.
- 6 (2) A pensioner may not be required to undergo a
- 7 medical examination more often than once in a six-month period,
- 8 except that the board may order the pensioner to undergo an
- 9 examination at any time if the board has reason to believe the
- 10 pensioner's disability has been removed and that the pensioner may
- 11 be able to resume duties with the pensioner's former department or
- 12 if the pensioner requests to be allowed to return to duty.
- 13 (3) If a pensioner fails to undergo an examination
- 14 after being notified by the board that the examination is required,
- 15 the board may discontinue disability benefits until the pensioner
- 16 has undergone the examination and the results of the examination
- 17 have been sent to the board.
- 18 (4) If the pensioner is examined by an approved
- 19 outside medical practitioner other than the health director, the
- 20 reasonable and customary cost of the examination, if any, is
- 21 payable from the assets of the fund.
- (e) Pursuant to its authority under Section 6.06(o-2)
- 23 [6.06(o)] of this article to review and modify any funding relating
- 24 to the disability of a child who is a qualified survivor [surviving
- 25 child's handicap], the board may require the [a handicapped]
- 26 qualified survivor with a disability [surviving child] receiving
- 27 death benefits to appear and undergo medical examination by the

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- 1 health director or, if the health director approves, by any
- 2 licensed medical practitioner, to determine if the disability
- 3 [handicap] continues or if the disability [handicap] has been
- 4 removed.
- 5 SECTION 44. Sections 6.16, 6.18, and 6.19, Article 6243a-1,
- 6 Revised Statutes, are amended to read as follows:
- 7 Sec. 6.16. WAIVER OF BENEFITS. (a) A primary party
- 8 [pensioner who is on either service or disability retirement], [a]
- 9 qualified <u>survivor</u> [surviving spouse, a handicapped qualified
- 10 surviving child, a member who may be a participant in DROP], or [a]
- 11 beneficiary of a $\underline{member's}$ [$\frac{deceased former}{deceased}$] DROP account
- 12 [participant, or a qualified surviving dependent parent] may, on a
- 13 form prescribed by the board and filed with the executive director
- 14 [administrator], [irrevocably] waive all or a portion of the
- 15 benefits $[\tau]$ to which the person $[\frac{\text{who waives the benefit}}]$ is or may
- 16 <u>be</u> entitled. The waiver may state whether it is revocable or
- 17 irrevocable, and is irrevocable unless the waiver clearly states it
- 18 is revocable.
- 19 (b) The [irrevocable] waiver described by Subsection (a) of
- 20 this section applies only to [retirement, disability, or DROP
- 21 survivor] benefits that become payable on or after the date the
- 22 waiver is filed.
- 23 (b-1) Benefits waived by a revocable waiver are forfeited
- 24 and the person making the waiver has no right, title, claim, or
- 25 interest in the benefits.
- 26 (c) If two or more persons are or may be entitled to benefits
- 27 under this article [there are two qualified surviving dependent

parents receiving death benefits], the waiver described by Subsection (a) of this section must be executed by each person to 2 3 become effective. The living parent or parents or legal guardian or guardians of a child must sign the waiver described by Subsection 4 (a) of this section on behalf of the child [both of the parents]. 5 Sec. 6.18. INVESTIGATION. (a) The board shall consider all 6 7 applications for retirement and disability pensions [of members], 8 all applications for death benefits [by qualified survivors], and all elections to participate [for participation by a member] in 9 10 DROP. The board shall give notice to [those] persons applying for benefits, advising them of their right to appear before the board 11 and offer such sworn evidence as they may desire. Any [primary 12 party, survivor, or other] person claiming retirement, disability, 13 or DROP benefits may appear before the board [in person] and offer 14 15 testimony that is relevant to a contested application for a retirement pension, <u>a</u> disability pension, 16 death benefits 17 [benefit], or DROP benefits [benefit]. The chairman of the board may issue process for witnesses, administer oaths to witnesses, and 18 19 examine any witness as to any matter affecting benefits under any 20 plan within the pension system. Process for witnesses shall be served by any [member of the police or fire department or by any 21 other] method of serving process [or person] permitted by the state 22 law in any civil judicial proceeding. A witness who fails or 23 24 refuses to attend and testify may be compelled to attend and testify, as in any judicial proceeding. The board may seek 25 26 assistance from any court of competent jurisdiction to further

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compel or sanction a witness who fails or refuses to attend and

1 testify.

- 2 Any [primary party, spouse, child, dependent parent, or other] person [claiming DROP benefits] who is aggrieved by a 3 determination of the board regarding [on the person's application 4 5 for or continuation of] a retirement pension, a disability pension, [or] death benefits [benefit], or [an election for] DROP benefits 6 may appeal the board determination to a state district court in the 7 8 city [county] where the pension system is located by giving written notice of appeal. The notice shall contain a statement of the 9 10 grounds and reasons why the party feels aggrieved. The notice shall be served personally on the executive director [secretary of the 11 board] within 20 days after the date of the board's determination. 12 After service of the notice, the party appealing shall file with the 13 14 state district court a copy of the notice of intention to appeal, together with an affidavit of the party making service showing how, 15 when, and on whom the notice was served. 16
- 17 (c) Within 30 days after the date of service of the notice of appeal on the board, the executive director [secretary of the 18 board] shall make up and file with the state district court a 19 transcript of all <u>nonprivileged</u> papers and proceedings in the case 20 21 before the board. When the copy of the notice of appeal and the transcript has been filed with the court, the appeal is perfected, 22 and the court shall docket the appeal, assign the appeal a number, 23 24 fix a date for hearing the appeal, and notify both the appellant and the board of the date fixed for the hearing. 25
- 26 (d) At any time before <u>the</u> rendering <u>of</u> its decision on 27 [the] appeal, the court may require further or additional proof or

- 1 information, either documentary or under oath. On rendition of a
- 2 decision on appeal, the court shall give to each party to the appeal
- 3 a copy of the decision of the case. The decision [or order] of the
- 4 court is appealable in the same manner as are civil cases generally.
- 5 (e) As provided by Section 4.01 of this article, the [The]
- 6 board shall approve all money used for investigations [as provided
- 7 under Section 4.01 of this article]. The board may request the
- 8 investigative services of either the police or fire departments in
- 9 connection with any matter arising under this section.
- 10 Sec. 6.19. CERTIFICATE OF MEMBER PENSION BENEFIT
- 11 ELIGIBILITY [RETIREMENT]. When a member has earned $\underline{\text{five}}$ [20] years
- 12 of pension service, the member shall be issued an [a certificate of
- 13 retirement that, barring administrative error, miscalculation, or
- 14 other error, after issuance is] incontestable five-year
- 15 <u>certificate</u> indicating that the member is entitled to pension
- 16 benefits subject to the effect of any withdrawals as permitted
- 17 under Article 6243a or this article. The certificate shall state
- 18 that the calculation of the retirement pension to which the member
- 19 is entitled, or any disability benefits to which the member may
- 20 become entitled, shall be determined solely under the actual terms
- 21 of the combined pension plan as in effect at the time the member
- 22 leaves active service. The certificate shall further state that in
- 23 the case of the member's death, the member's qualified survivors, if
- 24 any, may become [shall be] entitled to death [survivor] benefits as
- 25 determined solely under the actual terms of the combined pension
- 26 plan as in effect at the time of the member's death. The
- 27 certificate shall bear a seal and be signed by the executive

- 1 director [mayor, or the mayor pro tem, or the city manager] and [by
- 2 the] chairman of the board [and attested under the seal of the city
- 3 by the city secretary].
- 4 SECTION 45. Part 6, Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, is
- 5 amended by adding Section 6.20 to read as follows:
- 6 Sec. 6.20. ERRONEOUS PAYMENTS OR OVERPAYMENTS. (a) If the
- 7 pension system pays money to any person not entitled to the payment,
- 8 whether by reason of an error of the pension system as to
- 9 entitlement to or the amount of a benefit or otherwise, or an act or
- 10 error of some other person, including the recipient of the payment,
- 11 the recipient of the payment holds the funds to which the recipient
- 12 was not entitled in constructive trust for the pension system and
- 13 those funds are subject to demand by the pension system at any time.
- (b) The recipient of an erroneous payment from the pension
- 15 system shall repay to the pension system all funds associated with
- 16 the erroneous payment.
- 17 (c) Subject to Subsection (e) of this section, the board may
- 18 by rule adopt a procedure to enable the pension system to offset the
- 19 <u>future benefit or other payments of a recipient described by this</u>
- 20 section. In addition, the board may take any additional action,
- 21 <u>including the bringing of a lawsuit, the board considers necessary</u>
- 22 to recover an erroneous payment the pension system is entitled to
- 23 <u>under this section.</u>
- 24 (d) If the pension system determines that a person is
- 25 <u>entitled to additional benefits as a result of an error made by the</u>
- 26 pension system, the pension system shall promptly pay the
- 27 additional benefits owed.

- 1 (e) The board's correction procedures must comply with the
- 2 Internal Revenue Service's Employee Plans Compliance Resolution
- 3 System and Revenue Procedure 2016-51, including subsequent
- 4 guidance.
- 5 SECTION 46. Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, is amended
- 6 by adding Part 6A to read as follows:
- 7 PART 6A. EQUITABLE ADJUSTMENTS
- 8 Sec. 6A.01. EQUITABLE ADJUSTMENTS TO BENEFITS. (a)
- 9 Subject to this section and notwithstanding any other provision of
- 10 this article, the board shall consider and adopt rules requiring
- 11 the equitable return of funds paid to or credited to the benefit of
- 12 a member or pensioner under this article before September 1, 2017,
- 13 to the extent the funds exceeded reasonable amounts that should be
- 14 paid or credited given the circumstances of the pension system at
- 15 the time the payment or credit was made, including the return of
- 16 <u>excessive</u> interest credited to a member's DROP account and
- 17 excessive adjustments made under Section 6.12 of this article.
- (b) For purposes of Subsection (a) of this section,
- 19 "reasonable amounts" includes the amounts that would have been paid
- 20 or credited:
- 21 (1) if the interest rate applied in determining a
- 22 benefit, including the interest rate applied to a DROP account,
- 23 equaled the actual, audited rate of return of the plan at the time
- 24 the interest was credited to the account; or
- 25 (2) if the percentage increase applied under Section
- 26 6.12 of this article equaled the percentage increase, if any, in the
- 27 Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers

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- 1 (CPI-W) most recently published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics
- 2 of the United States Department of Labor and used by the United
- 3 States Social Security Administration to provide a cost-of-living
- 4 adjustment for social security benefit payments payable beginning
- 5 in January of the next year.
- 6 Sec. 6A.02. ADJUDICATION OF CERTAIN CHALLENGES. (a) The
- 7 Texas Supreme Court has exclusive and original jurisdiction over a
- 8 challenge to the constitutionality under the Texas Constitution of
- 9 Section 6A.01 of this article. An action under this section is
- 10 authorized to the full extent permitted by Section 3, Article V,
- 11 Texas Constitution. The Texas Supreme Court may issue any
- 12 injunctive, declaratory, or equitable relief the court deems
- 13 appropriate or necessary to effectuate the court's mandamus
- 14 jurisdiction in connection with a challenge under this section.
- 15 (b) Any action brought under this section must be filed not
- 16 later than the 90th day after the date the board adopts a rule under
- 17 Section 6A.01 of this article.
- 18 (c) If an action brought under this section is timely filed,
- 19 the board may not enforce or otherwise administer any rules adopted
- 20 pursuant to Section 6A.01 of this article during the pendency of the
- 21 <u>action</u>.
- 22 SECTION 47. Section 8.01, Article 6243a-1, Revised
- 23 Statutes, is amended to read as follows:
- Sec. 8.01. QUALIFICATION UNDER FEDERAL TAX LAW. (a) The
- 25 plans within the pension system and the assets of the fund are
- 26 intended to qualify as a governmental plan under Sections [Section]
- 27 401 and 414(d) of the code, be exempt from federal income taxes

- 1 under Section 501(a) of the code, and conform at all times to
- 2 applicable requirements of law, regulations, and orders of duly
- 3 constituted federal governmental authorities. Accordingly, if any
- 4 provision of this article is subject to more than one construction,
- 5 one of which will permit the qualification of a plan that is within
- 6 the pension system, that construction that will permit the plan to
- 7 qualify and conform will prevail.
- 8 (b) The plans within the pension system as well as the
- 9 assets of the fund shall be maintained for the exclusive benefit of
- 10 members and their beneficiaries. At no time before the termination
- 11 of all the plans within the pension system and the satisfaction of
- 12 all liabilities with respect to members and their beneficiaries
- 13 under all plans shall any part of the principal or interest from the
- 14 assets of the fund be used for or diverted to purposes other than
- 15 the exclusive benefit of the members and beneficiaries.
- 16 (c) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this article,
- 17 the annual benefit [pension] provided with respect to any member
- 18 [may not exceed an annual benefit computed in accordance with the
- 19 limitations prescribed by this subsection.
- 20 [(1) The maximum annual benefit payable] in any
- 21 limitation year [to a member] may not exceed the amount permitted by
- 22 Section 415(b) of the code for the limitation year, and the sum of
- 23 the member contributions and all other annual additions for any
- 24 limitation year may not exceed the amount permitted under Section
- 25 415(c) of the code for the limitation year. If the aggregated
- 26 annual benefit or aggregated annual additions under [lesser of:
- 27 [(A) \$90,000; or

[(B) 100 percent of a member's 415 compensation 1 averaged over the three consecutive limitation years, or the actual 2 number of limitation years for a member whose total pension service 3 is less than three consecutive limitation years, during which the 4 5 member had the greatest aggregate 415 compensation from the city. [(2) Benefits provided to a member under this article 6 7 and under any defined benefit plan or plans maintained by the city 8 shall be aggregated for purposes of determining whether the limitations in Subdivision (1) of this subsection are met. If the 9 10 aggregate benefits otherwise payable from] any qualified plans created under this article and any other defined benefit plan or 11 plans maintained by the city would otherwise exceed the limitations 12 of Section 415 of the code [Subdivision (1) of this subsection], the 13 14 required reductions in benefits or contributions shall first be 15 made to the extent possible from the other plan or plans. limitations referenced in this subsection shall be adjusted 16 annually in accordance with Section 415(d) of the code and any 17 adjustment to benefits applies to the benefits of active and 18 19 terminated members and applies without regard to whether a terminated member is a pensioner. 20 21 [(3) The adjustments on retirement are the following: [(A) If the annual benefit begins before a member 2.2 attains age 62, the \$90,000 limitation, as adjusted, shall be 23 24 reduced in a manner prescribed by the secretary of the treasury. However, that adjustment may not reduce the member's annual benefit 25 below \$75,000, if the member's benefit begins after age 55, or 26 actuarial equivalent of \$75,000 beginning at age 55 if benefits 2.7

begin before age 55. Furthermore, except as provided by Paragraph 1 (C) of this subdivision, an adjustment may not reduce the member's 2 annual benefit below \$50,000, regardless of the age at which the benefit begins. 4 5 [(B) If the annual benefit begins after a member attains age 65, the \$90,000 limitation, as adjusted, will be 6 7 increased so that it is the actuarial equivalent of the \$90,000 limitation at age 65. 8 [(C) If a member's benefits begin before the 9 10 member has at least 15 years of pension service as a full-time employee of the police or fire department, or both, including 11 credit for full-time service in the armed forces of the United 12 States, Paragraphs (A) and (B) of this subdivision shall be applied 13 by substituting "social security retirement age" for "age 62" and 14 for "age 65," and the last two sentences of Paragraph (A) of this 15 subdivision do not apply in computing the benefit limitation for 16 17 that member. 18 [(D) The portion of a member's benefit that is attributable to the member's own contributions is not part of the 19 annual benefit subject to the limitations of Subdivision (1) of 20 this subsection. Instead, the amount of those contributions 21 treated as an annual addition to a qualified defined contribution 2.2 23 plan maintained by the city. 24 [(4)(A) The dollar limitation on annual benefits 25 provided by Subdivision (1) of this subsection, and the \$50,000

limitation provided by Subdivision (3) of this subsection, but not

the \$75,000 limitation provided by that subsection, shall

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- adjusted annually as provided by Section 415(d) of the code and the 1 regulations prescribed by the secretary of the treasury. The 2 adjusted limitation is effective as of January 1 of each calendar year and is applicable to limitation years ending with or within 4 5 that calendar year. [(B) The limitation provided by this paragraph 6 7 for a member who has separated from service with a vested right to a pension shall be adjusted annually as provided by Section 415(d) of the code and the regulations prescribed by the secretary of the 9 10 treasury. [(5) The following interest rate assumptions shall be 11 12 used in computing the limitations under this section: 13 [(A) For the purpose of determining the portion 14 of the annual benefit that is purchased with member contributions, 15 the interest rate assumption is 8.5 percent, compounded annually, for plan years beginning before 1988 and 120 percent of the federal 16 17 mid-term rate, as in effect under Section 1274 of the code, compounded annually, for plan years beginning after 1987. 18 19 [(B) For the purpose of adjusting the annual benefit to a straight life annuity, the interest rate assumption is 20 five percent, unless a different rate is required by the secretary 21 of the treasury. 22 23 (C) For the purpose of adjusting the \$90,000
 - limitation after a member attains age 65, the interest rate assumption is five percent, unless a different rate is required by the secretary of the treasury, and the mortality decrement shall be ignored to the extent that a forfeiture does not occur at death.

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[(6) For purposes of Subdivisions (1) and (3) of this 1 subsection, an adjustment under Section 415(d) of the code may not 2 be taken into account before the limitation year for which that adjustment first takes effect. For purposes of Subdivisions (1) 4 and (5) of this subsection, an adjustment is not required for the 5 value of qualified joint and survivor annuity benefits, 6 preretirement death benefits, postretirement medical benefits, or 7 postretirement cost-of-living increases made in accordance with Section 415(d) of the code and Section 1.415-3(c) of the Income Tax 10 Regulations. [(7) This plan may pay an annual benefit to any member 11 in excess of the member's maximum annual benefit otherwise allowed 12 if: 13 [(A) the annual benefit derived from the city's 14 15 contributions under any qualified plans within this article and all defined benefit plans maintained by the city does not in the 16 aggregate exceed \$10,000 for the limitation year or for any prior 17 limitation year; and 18 [(B) the member has not at any time participated 19 in a defined contribution plan maintained by the city. 20 21 [For purposes of this subdivision, member contributions to the plan are not considered a separate defined contribution plan 2.2 maintained by the city. 23 24 [(8) If a member has less than 10 years of pension 25 service in the plan at the time the member begins to receive benefits under the plan, the \$90,000 limitation, as adjusted, shall 26 be reduced by multiplying the limitation by a fraction in which the 27

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numerator is the number of years of pension service and the denominator is 10; provided, however, that the fraction may not be less than one-tenth. The 100 percent limitation of Subdivision (1)(B) of this subsection, and the \$10,000 limitation of 4 Subdivision (7) of this subsection shall be reduced in the same 5 manner as provided by this subdivision, except the numerator shall 6 be the number of years of employment with the city rather than years 7 8 of pension service. 9 [(9) If a member is or has been a participant in one or 10 more defined benefit plans and one or more defined contribution plans maintained by the city, the following provisions shall apply: 11 [(A) The sum of the defined benefit plan fraction 12 and the defined contribution plan fraction for any limitation year 13 14 may not exceed 1.0. 15 [(B) The defined benefit plan fraction for any 16 limitation year is a fraction in which: 17 [(I) the numerator is the projected annual benefit of a member, determined as of the close of the limitation 18 year pursuant to Section 1.415-7(b)(3) of the Income Tax 19 Regulations; and 20 [(II) the denominator is the lesser of: 21 (i) the product of 1.25 and the maximum 2.2 dollar limitation provided by Subdivision (1)(A) of this 23 24 subsection, as adjusted, for the limitation year; or 25 [(ii) the product of 1.4 and the amount that may be taken into account under Subdivision (1)(B) of this 26 subsection for the limitation year. 27

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[(C) The defined contribution plan fraction for
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   any limitation year is a fraction in which:
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                          [(I) the numerator is the sum of the annual
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   additions to the member's account as of the close of the limitation
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   year; and
                          (II) the denominator is the sum of the
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   lesser of the following amounts determined for the limitation year
    and each prior year of service with the city:
9
                          (i) the product of 1.25 and the dollar
   limitation in effect under Section 415(c)(1)(A) of the code for the
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   limitation year, determined without regard to Section 415(c)(6) of
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   the code; or
                          [(ii) the product of 1.4 and the amount that
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   may be taken into account under Section 415(c)(1)(B) of the code for
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   the limitation year beginning before January 1, 1987; the annual
   additions may not be recomputed to treat all member contributions
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   as an annual addition.
                     [(D) If the sum of the defined benefit plan
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   fraction and the defined contribution plan fraction exceeds 1.0 in
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   any limitation year for any member of any plan within the pension
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   system, the administrator shall limit, to the extent necessary, the
   annual additions to the member's account for that limitation year.
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   If after limiting to the extent possible the annual additions to the
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   member's account for the limitation year, the sum of the defined
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   benefit plan fraction and the defined contribution plan fraction
   still exceeds 1.0, the administrator shall adjust the benefits
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   under the defined benefit plan fraction so that the sum of both
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1 fractions shall not exceed 1.0 in any limitation year for the

2 member.

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defined contribution plan.

3 (10) For purposes of determining the limits provided by this section, all qualified defined benefit plans, whether 4 5 terminated or not, ever maintained by or contributed to by the city, shall be treated as one defined benefit plan, and all qualified 6 defined contribution plans, whether terminated or not, ever 7 8 maintained by or contributed to by the city, shall be treated as one

(c-1) [(11)] Notwithstanding anything contained in this section to the contrary, the limitations, adjustments, and other requirements prescribed by this section shall at all times be computed in the manner most favorable to the affected members, to 13 the extent permitted by guidelines issued by the Internal Revenue Service [comply with the requirements of Section 415 of the code and 15 all regulations promulgated under the code]. If any provision of 16 17 Section 415 of the code is repealed or is not enforced by the Internal Revenue Service, that provision may not reduce the 18 19 benefits of any member after the effective date of the repeal of the 20 provision or during the period in which the provision is not enforced.

(c-2) Any benefit reductions that are required to be made under this section shall be applied to reduce the monthly benefit that would otherwise have been payable to the member, unless the value of the member's DROP account accrued under Section 6.14 of this article exceeds the amount that may be paid under this section. If the value of the DROP account exceeds the value of the payments

- 1 that may be made under this section, the member shall receive a
- 2 lump-sum payment from the account of the maximum amount that may be
- 3 paid under this section and the payment shall permanently reduce
- 4 the benefits the member would otherwise have been entitled to
- 5 receive under the combined pension plan.
- 6 (d) A member's retirement pension may not begin later than
- 7 April 1 of the year after the later of the year in which the member
- 8 leaves active service or the year in which the member attains age
- 9 70-1/2 and must at all times comply with the requirements of Section
- 10 401(a)(9) of the code. [Benefits to a qualified beneficiary may not
- 11 begin later than one year after the date of the member's death].
- (e) Any person [member or beneficiary] who receives any
- 13 distribution from any plan within the pension system that is an
- 14 eligible rollover distribution as defined by Section 402(f)(2)(A)
- 15 of the code is entitled to have that distribution transferred
- 16 directly to another eligible retirement plan as defined by Section
- 17 402(c)(8)(B) of the code of the person's [member's or beneficiary's]
- 18 choice on providing direction regarding that transfer to the
- 19 executive director [administrator] in accordance with procedures
- 20 established by the executive director [administrator].
- 21 (e-1) If an eligible rollover distribution described by
- 22 Subsection (e) of this section is to a designated beneficiary who is
- 23 not the spouse or former spouse of the member, the transfer may only
- 24 be to an individual retirement account or an individual retirement
- 25 annuity.
- 26 (f) For the 2017 calendar year, the [The] annual
- 27 compensation taken into account for any purpose under the combined

- 1 pension plan [this article] may not exceed \$400,000 for an eligible participant or \$270,000 for an ineligible participant [\$200,000 for 2 For a Group A member the term "annual 3 any calendar year]. compensation" means the aggregate of the member's base pay. For a 4 Group B member the term "annual compensation" means the aggregate 5 of the member's computation pay for any given plan year. 6 dollar limits [The \$200,000 limit] shall be adjusted from [on 7 8 January 1 of each year at the same] time to time [and] in accordance with guidelines [the same manner as] provided by the secretary of 9 10 the treasury. For [Section 415(d) of the code. In determining the compensation of a member for] purposes of this subsection, an: 11 (1) "eligible participant" means any person who first 12 became a member of the pension system before January 1, 1996; and 13 14 (2) "ineligible participant" means any member who is not an eligible participant [limitation, the family aggregation 15 rules of Section 414(q)(6) of the code apply, except that the term 16 "family member" includes only the spouse of the member and any 17 lineal descendants of the member who have not attained age 19 at the 18 19 end of the plan year. If as a result of this family aggregation requirement, the \$200,000 limit is exceeded, the limitation shall 20 be prorated among the affected individuals in proportion to each 21 22 individual's compensation as determined before applicati limit]. 23 24 (g) For purposes of Subsection (h) of this section, "normal
- 25 <u>retirement age" means the earlier of:</u>
- 26 <u>(1) the attainment of 50 years of age on or before</u> 27 September 1, 2017, and completion of at least five years of pension

- 1 service;
- 2 (2) the attainment of 58 years of age after September
- 3 1, 2017, and completion of at least five years of pension service;
- 4 or
- 5 (3) completion of 20 years of pension service.
- 6 (h) The retirement benefit earned by a member is
- 7 <u>nonforfeitable:</u>
- 8 (1) on attainment of normal retirement age, if not
- 9 already nonforfeitable; or
- 10 (2) to the extent the benefit is funded, if not already
- 11 nonforfeitable, on the termination or partial termination of the
- 12 combined pension plan or the complete discontinuance of city
- 13 contributions to the fund.
- 14 (i) In accordance with Section 401(a)(8) of the code,
- 15 forfeitures arising under the combined pension plan may not be used
- 16 to increase the benefits any member would otherwise receive under
- 17 the terms of the plan. Forfeitures may be used first to reduce
- 18 administrative expenses, then to reduce required city
- 19 contributions.
- 20 (j) Subject to procedures adopted by the board, the pension
- 21 system shall accept an eligible rollover distribution from another
- 22 eligible retirement plan as defined by Section 402(f)(2)(B) of the
- 23 code as payment of all or a portion of any payment a member is
- 24 permitted to make to the pension system for past pension service
- 25 credit. The pension system shall separately account for any
- 26 after-tax contributions transferred from any plan under this
- 27 subsection.

SECTION 48. Section 8.02, Article 6243a-1, Revised 1 Statutes, is amended to read as follows: 2 Sec. 8.02. EXCESS BENEFIT PLAN FOR POLICE OFFICERS AND FIRE 3 FIGHTERS. The board may by rule establish and administer [On the 4 enactment of federal legislation enabling public retirement 5 systems to establish excess benefit plans for the benefit of 6 employees for whom additional benefits from retirement plans 7 qualified under Section 401 of the code would exceed the 8 limitations of Section 415 of the code, there is created outside the 10 pension system] a separate[____] qualified governmental [nonqualified] excess benefit arrangement and associated trust for 11 12 the arrangement in accordance with Section 415(m) of the code. [plan containing the following terms and provisions: 13 14 (a)(1) All definitions prescribed by Section 2.01 of this 15 article are applicable to the plan created pursuant to this section 16 except: [(A) if a different definition is set forth in 17 this subsection; or 18 19 [(B) the context in which a term is used in this 20 section indicates a different meaning is clearly intended than that prescribed by Section 2.01 of this article. 21 [(2) "Excess benefit plan" means this separate, 22 nonqualified, unfunded excess benefit plan as created by this 23 24 section for the benefit of eligible members, as amended or restated from time to time. 25

the pension system or maintained by the city outside the pension

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[(3) "Qualified plan" means any plan maintained within

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- 1 system for the exclusive benefit of some or all of the employees of
- 2 the city if the plan has been found by the Internal Revenue Service
- 3 to be qualified or has been treated by the city as a qualified plan
- 4 under Section 401 of the code.
- 5 [(4) "Maximum benefit" means the retirement benefit a
- 6 member or, the spouse, any child, or any dependent parent of a
- 7 member if those persons are entitled, is entitled to receive from
- 8 all qualified plans in any month after giving effect to Section 8.01
- 9 of this article and any similar provisions of any other qualified
- 10 plans designed to conform to Section 415 of the code.
- 11 [(5) "Excess benefit participant" means any member
- 12 whose retirement benefits as determined on the basis of all
- 13 qualified plans without regard to the limitations of Section 8.01
- 14 of this article and comparable provisions of other qualified plans
- 15 would exceed the maximum benefit permitted under Section 415 of the
- 16 code.
- 17 [(6) "Unrestricted benefit" means the monthly
- 18 retirement benefit a member, or the spouse or any child of a member,
- 19 would have received under the terms of all qualified plans except
- 20 for the restrictions of Section 8.01 of this article and any similar
- 21 provisions of any other qualified plans designed to conform to
- 22 Section 415 of the code.
- 23 [(b)(1) An excess benefit participant who is receiving
- 24 benefits from an applicable qualified plan is entitled to a monthly
- 25 benefit under this excess benefit plan in an amount equal to the
- 26 lesser of:
- 27 [(A) the member's unrestricted benefit less the

maximum benefit; or

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[(B) the amount by which the member's monthly]

benefit from the qualified plan or plans approved by the members has

been reduced due to the limitations of Section 415 of the code.

[(2) In the case of the death of an excess benefit participant whose spouse or child is entitled to preretirement or postretirement death benefits under a qualified plan, the excess benefit participant's surviving spouse or child is entitled to a monthly benefit under the excess benefit plan equal to the benefit determined in accordance with the qualified plans without regard to the limitations under Section 8.01 of this article or Section 415 of the code, less the maximum benefit.

[(3) Unless the excess benefit participant makes a timely election to the contrary, a retirement benefit payable under this excess benefit plan shall be paid in the form and at the time it would have been paid under the applicable qualified plan except for the limitations under Section 415 of the code. However, retirement benefits payable under this excess benefit plan shall be paid at the time and in the form, including a single-sum distribution, as the excess benefit participant elects from among the benefit payment forms made available under the election form as approved by the board. An excess benefit participant makes an election under this subdivision by sending written notice to the administrator on the election form approved by the board. Each optional benefit form permitted under this excess benefit plan shall be the actuarial equivalent of each other permitted benefit form. On or after an excess benefit participant's leaving active service with an

- entitlement to a retirement benefit under any qualified plan
 approved by the members, a benefit under this subdivision may be
 elected to be paid.
- [(c)(1) This plan shall be administered by the board, and the administrator shall also carry out the business of the board with respect to this excess benefit plan. Except as provided to the contrary by this subsection, the rights, duties, and responsibilities of the board and administrator shall be the same for this excess benefit plan as for the qualified pension plans within the pension system.
- [(2) The qualified actuary employed pursuant to
 Section 4.08 of this article is responsible for determining the
 amount of benefits that may not be provided under the qualified
 plans solely by reason of the limitations of Section 415 of the code
 and thus the amount of city contributions that will be made to this
 excess benefit plan rather than to a qualified plan.
- [(3) The legal advisors described by Section 3.03 of this article shall also provide advice to the board for this excess benefit plan.

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[(d) Contributions may not be accumulated under this excess benefit plan to pay future retirement benefits. Instead, each payment of city contributions that would otherwise be made to the fund pursuant to Section 4.02 of this article or comparable provisions of other qualified plans approved by the members shall be reduced by the amount determined by the administrator as necessary to meet the requirements for retirement benefits under this excess benefit plan until the next payment of city

contributions is expected to be made to the fund by the city. The 1 city shall then pay to this excess benefit plan, out of the withheld city contributions no earlier than the 14th day before the date of each distribution of monthly retirement benefits is required to be 4 made from this excess benefit plan, the amount necessary to satisfy 5 the obligation to pay this excess benefit plan monthly retirement 6 benefits. The administrator shall satisfy the obligation of this 7 excess benefit plan to pay retirement benefits out of the city contributions so transferred for that month. 9 10 contributions otherwise required to the pension system pursuant to Section 4.02 of this article and any other qualified plan approved 11 by the members shall be divided into those contributions required 12 to pay retirement benefits pursuant to this section and those 13 contributions paid into and accumulated to pay the maximum benefits 14 15 required under the qualified plans. City contributions made provide retirement benefits pursuant to this section may not be 16 commingled with the monies of the fund or any other qualified plan. 17 [(e) Amendments to this excess benefit plan shall be made in 18

the same manner provided by Section 7.01 of this article.]

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SECTION 49. Section 8.03, Article 6243a-1, Revised 20 Statutes, is amended to read as follows: 21

Sec. 8.03. EXEMPTION OF BENEFITS FROM JUDICIAL PROCESS OR ALIENATION. (a) A portion of the fund or benefit or amount awarded to any primary party, qualified survivor, [or] beneficiary of a member's DROP account, excess benefit participant, or survivor of an excess benefit participant under this article may not be held, seized, taken, subjected to, or detained or levied on by virtue of

- 1 any execution, attachment, garnishment, injunction, or other writ, order, or decree, or any process or proceedings issued from or by 2 3 any court for the payment or satisfaction, in whole or in part, of any debt, damage, claim, demands, or judgment against any person 4 5 entitled to benefits from any plan within the pension system or from the excess benefit plan. The fund and the excess benefit plan or 6 any claim against the fund or the excess benefit plan may not be 7 directly or indirectly assigned or transferred, and any attempt to 8 transfer or assign the fund or the excess benefit plan or a claim 9 10 against the fund or the excess benefit plan is void.
- 11 (b) A benefit under any plan created or existing pursuant to 12 this article or Article 6243a is subject to division pursuant to the terms of a qualified domestic relations order. 13 The executive director [administrator] shall determine the qualifications of a 14 15 domestic relations order according to a uniform, consistent procedure approved by the board. The total benefit payable to a 16 primary party or to an alternate payee under a qualified domestic 17 relations order may not actuarially exceed the benefits to which a 18 19 primary party would be entitled in the absence of the qualified domestic relations order. In calculating the alternate payee's 20 benefits under a qualified domestic relations order, the interest 21 rate is the rate used by the pension system's actuary in the 22 actuarial evaluation for that year, except that the minimum 23 interest rate for this purpose is the minimum required by Section 24 414 of the code. 25
- 26 (c) This section does not preclude:
- 27 (1) the payment of death benefits to a [support] trust

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- 1 for certain [surviving] children of a primary party pursuant to
- 2 Section 6.06(n) of this article;
- 3 (2) the withholding of federal taxes from pension
- 4 benefits;
- 5 (3) the recovery by the board of overpayments of
- 6 benefits previously made to any person;
- 7 (4) the direct deposit of benefit payments to an
- 8 account in a bank, savings and loan association, credit union, or
- 9 other financial institution, provided the arrangement is not an
- 10 <u>alienation;</u>
- 11 (5) under any policy adopted by the board and
- 12 uniformly applied to voluntary arrangements entered into by a
- 13 primary party or qualified survivor, any voluntary and revocable
- 14 arrangement entered into by a pensioner or a qualified survivor
- 15 that permits the withholding and direct payment of health care or
- 16 life insurance premiums or similar payments from the monthly
- 17 benefit payments; or
- 18 (6) an assignment of the distribution from an
- 19 annuitized DROP account to a third party under Section 6.14(e-3)(1)
- 20 of this article.
- 21 (d) For purposes of Subsection (c) of this section, an
- 22 attachment, garnishment, levy, execution, or other legal process is
- 23 <u>not considered a voluntary arrangement.</u>
- SECTION 50. The following provisions of Article 6243a-1,
- 25 Revised Statutes, are repealed:
- 26 (1) Section 1.01(b);
- 27 (2) Section 3.01(c);

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               (3)
                    Section 4.01(b);
                    Section 4.02(f);
               (4)
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               (5)
                    Sections 6.06(i) and (s);
                    Section 6.10B(h);
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               (6)
                    Sections 6.14(i) and (k); and
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               (7)
               (8) Part 7.
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          SECTION 51. (a) In this section, "board," "city," "city
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   manager, " "nominations committee, " "pension system, " and "trustee"
   have the meanings assigned by Section 2.01, Article 6243a-1,
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   Revised Statutes, as amended by this Act.
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          (b) The terms of the current trustees expire on the
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    effective date of this Act. Subject to Subsection (e) of this
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    section, on that date or as soon as possible after that date:
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                   the mayor, nominations committee, and
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   manager, as applicable, shall appoint new trustees to the board in
   accordance with the requirements of Sections 3.01(b)(1), (2), and
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17
    (3), Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, as added by this Act; and
               (2) notwithstanding the requirements of Sections
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    3.01(b)(4) and (5) and (f), Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, as
   added or amended by this Act, that the board adopt rules governing
20
   the nomination and election of trustees appointed under Sections
21
   3.01(b)(4) and (5), Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, as added by
22
   this Act, the nominations committee shall adopt procedures for
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   nominating and electing the initial trustees nominated and elected
   under Sections 3.01(b)(4) and (5), Article 6243a-1, Revised
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(c) Notwithstanding Section 3.01(o), Article 6243a-1,

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Statutes, as added by this Act.

- 1 Revised Statutes, as amended by this Act, and except as provided by
- 2 Subsections (d) and (h) of this section, the board may not take any
- 3 action authorized by Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, until at
- 4 least 10 initial trustees have been appointed or elected, unless
- 5 the action is in the ordinary course of business of the board and is
- 6 required for the continued administration of the pension system.
- 7 (d) Once all trustees have been appointed to the board under
- 8 this section, the board shall by majority vote adopt rules
- 9 establishing a process for nominating and electing trustees under
- 10 Sections 3.01(b)(4) and (5), Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, as
- 11 added by this Act.
- 12 (e) The city manager and the nominations committee shall
- 13 jointly appoint a new trustee to the board under Section
- 14 3.01(b)(3), Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, as added by this
- 15 Act, not later than the 60th day after the effective date of this
- 16 Act.
- 17 (f) As soon as possible after the effective date of this
- 18 Act, the mayor and the nominations committee shall:
- 19 (1) make a determination under Section 3.01(e),
- 20 Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, as amended by this Act,
- 21 regarding the term limits of the board established under that
- 22 article; and
- 23 (2) notwithstanding Section 3.01(e), Article 6243a-1,
- 24 Revised Statutes, as amended by this Act, determine the terms of
- 25 initial trustees to ensure the appropriate staggering of trustee
- 26 terms.
- 27 (g) Notwithstanding Section 3.01(g), Article 6243a-1,

- 1 Revised Statutes, the board shall elect from among its trustees an
- 2 initial chairman, vice chairman, and deputy vice chairman as soon
- 3 as possible after all trustees have been appointed or elected in
- 4 accordance with this Act and, if the board elects to do so, an
- 5 initial second deputy vice chairman.
- 6 (h) Not later than the 90th day after the date all trustees
- 7 under Section 3.01, Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, as amended
- 8 by this Act, have been appointed or elected, the board shall vote on
- 9 and, if the board determines it is appropriate, amend the existing
- 10 rules relating to the governance and conduct of the board.
- SECTION 52. (a) Not later than January 1, 2018, the board
- 12 of trustees of the pension system established under Article
- 13 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, shall:
- 14 (1) establish the ethics policy required by Section
- 15 3.01(r), Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, as added by this Act;
- 16 and
- 17 (2) appoint an executive director under Section 3.04,
- 18 Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, as amended by this Act.
- 19 (b) As soon as possible after the executive director is
- 20 appointed under Subsection (a) of this section, the executive
- 21 director may hire, subject to confirmation by the board of trustees
- 22 of the pension system established under Article 6243a-1, Revised
- 23 Statutes, a chief investment officer as authorized under Section
- 24 3.025, Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, as added by this Act, and
- 25 a chief legal officer as authorized under Section 3.03(c), Article
- 26 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, as amended by this Act.
- 27 SECTION 53. (a) In this section, "executive director,"

- 1 "nominations committee," and "pensioner" have the meanings
- 2 assigned by Section 2.01, Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, as
- 3 amended by this Act.
- 4 (b) As soon as possible after the effective date of this
- 5 Act, but not later than the 30th day after the effective date of
- 6 this Act:
- 7 (1) the president, chair, or other executive head of
- 8 an organization described by Section 3.011(a)(2), Article 6243a-1,
- 9 Revised Statutes, as added by this Act, that is eligible to and
- 10 intends to participate on the nominations committee shall notify
- 11 the executive director of:
- 12 (A) the organization's intent to participate on
- 13 the nominations committee; and
- 14 (B) whether the president, chair, or other
- 15 executive head, as appropriate, or that person's designee will
- 16 serve on the committee; and
- 17 (2) the president, chair, or other executive head of
- 18 an organization described by Section 3.011(a)(3)(B) or (4)(B),
- 19 Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, as added by this Act, that is
- 20 eligible to and intends to participate in appointing a pensioner to
- 21 the nominations committee shall:
- (A) notify the executive director of the
- 23 organization's intent to participate in appointing a pensioner to
- 24 the nominations committee; and
- 25 (B) appoint or jointly appoint, as applicable, a
- 26 pensioner to serve on the nominations committee in accordance with
- 27 Sections 3.011(a)(3) and (4), Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, as

- 1 added by this Act.
- 2 SECTION 54. Section 4.025, Article 6243a-1, Revised
- 3 Statutes, as added by this Act, applies only to a contribution made
- 4 on or after the date of the most recently completed actuarial
- 5 valuation following the effective date of this Act.
- 6 SECTION 55. Not earlier than June 1, 2019, and not later
- 7 than August 15, 2019, the board of trustees established under
- 8 Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, shall make and submit to the
- 9 State Pension Review Board for review an initial determination
- 10 under Section 4.02(e), Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, as
- 11 amended by this Act, based on the most recently completed actuarial
- 12 valuation. Each subsequent annual determination under Section
- 13 4.02(e), Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, as amended by this Act,
- 14 shall be based on the most recently completed actuarial valuation.
- 15 SECTION 56. The board of trustees of the pension system
- 16 established under Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, shall review
- 17 all investments held on the effective date of this Act under Section
- 18 4.071, Article 6243a-1, Revised Statutes, as added by this Act.
- 19 SECTION 57. Changes in law to Part 5, Article 6243a-1,
- 20 Revised Statutes, as amended by this Act, apply to membership in a
- 21 pension system established under Article 6243a-1, Revised
- 22 Statutes, on or after the effective date of this Act.
- 23 SECTION 58. A rollover distribution to a plan administered
- 24 by the pension system established under Article 6243a-1, Revised
- 25 Statutes, that was made on or after January 1, 2002, is validated as
- 26 of the date the distribution occurred. A distribution described by
- 27 this section may not be held invalid because the distribution was

- 1 not performed in accordance with Section 8.01(j), Article 6243a-1,
- 2 Revised Statutes, as added by this Act, or other applicable law.
- 3 SECTION 59. If any provision of this Act or its application
- 4 to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does
- 5 not affect other provisions or applications of this Act that can be
- 6 given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to
- 7 this end the provisions of this Act are declared to be severable.
- 8 SECTION 60. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.