

By: Huffman

S.B. No. 1683

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the benefits from, membership in, and administration of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas.

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

SECTION 1. Section 822.003(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A person terminates membership in the retirement system by:

(1) death;

(2) retirement;

(3) withdrawal of all of the person's accumulated contributions while the person is absent from service; or

(4) not qualifying for service credit for five consecutive years.

SECTION 2. Section 822.005(d), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(d) The retirement system shall adopt procedures to track and compile information of all applications filed under this section from the time an application is made until [~~any warrant for~~] the refund is issued by the retirement system.

SECTION 3. Section 823.006, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 823.006. LIMITS ON ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PURCHASE OF SERVICE CREDIT. Notwithstanding any other provision of this

1 subtitle, the retirement system shall [~~may~~] limit the purchase of  
2 service credit to the extent required by applicable limits on the  
3 amount of annual contributions a participant may make to a  
4 qualified plan under Sections 401(a) and 415(c), Internal Revenue  
5 Code of 1986.

6 SECTION 4. Section 824.101(g), Government Code, is amended  
7 to read as follows:

8 (g) Receipt by the retirement system of a certified copy of  
9 a divorce or annulment decree between a member or annuitant and a  
10 designated beneficiary revokes any designation of the former spouse  
11 as beneficiary of any death benefits payable under Subchapter E or F  
12 of this chapter that was effective before the date of divorce or  
13 annulment, if the decree is received by the retirement system  
14 before the payment of any part of the death benefit to any  
15 beneficiary.

16 SECTION 5. Section 824.1013(c-1), Government Code, is  
17 amended to read as follows:

18 (c-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (c), a trust designated as  
19 a beneficiary under this section is entitled on the retiree's death  
20 to receive monthly payments of the survivor's portion of the  
21 retiree's optional retirement annuity for the remainder of the  
22 trust beneficiary's life if the beneficiary designated at the time  
23 of the retiree's retirement is the sole beneficiary of the trust. A  
24 beneficiary designated under this section is entitled on the  
25 retiree's death to receive monthly payments of the survivor's  
26 portion of the retiree's optional retirement annuity for the  
27 remainder of the beneficiary's life if the beneficiary designated

1 at the time of the retiree's retirement is a trust and the  
2 beneficiary designated under this section is:

- 3 (1) the sole beneficiary of that trust; or  
4 (2) an individual who at the time of the retiree's  
5 death is the sole beneficiary of that trust.

6 SECTION 6. Section 824.201(a), Government Code, is amended  
7 to read as follows:

8 (a) A member may apply for a service retirement annuity by  
9 filing an [~~a written~~] application for retirement with the board of  
10 trustees.

11 SECTION 7. Section 824.301(a), Government Code, is amended  
12 to read as follows:

13 (a) A member may apply for a disability retirement annuity  
14 by:

- 15 (1) filing an [~~a written~~] application for retirement  
16 with the board of trustees; or  
17 (2) having an application filed with the board by the  
18 member's legal representative.

19 SECTION 8. The heading to Section 824.404, Government Code,  
20 is amended to read as follows:

21 Sec. 824.404. OPTIONAL MONTHLY SURVIVOR BENEFITS.

22 SECTION 9. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.