- 1 HB308
- 2 216794-3
- 3 By Representative Ingram
- 4 RFD: Ways and Means General Fund
- 5 First Read: 08-FEB-22

1

2	ENROLLED, An Act,
3	To amend Section 36-27-16, Code of Alabama 1975, as
4	amended by Act 2021-270, 2021 Regular Session, relating to
5	retirement benefits for employees who are members of the
6	Employees' Retirement System; to modify the retirement
7	benefits for Tier II plan members of the system by providing
8	30-year service retirement.
9	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:
10	Section 1. Sections 36-26-36.1, 36-27-16, as amended
11	by Act 2021-270, 2021 Regular Session, 36-27-24, and 36-27-59
12	of the Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:
13	Section 36-27-16, Code of Alabama 1975, as amended by Act
14	2021-270, 2021 Regular Session, is amended to read as follows:
15	"§36-26-36.1.
16	"(a) Any Tier I or Tier II plan member of the
17	Teachers' or Employees' Retirement System of Alabama not
18	otherwise covered by a provision to convert unused sick leave
19	into membership service for purposes of service retirement
20	may, at their option and in lieu of receiving payment for 50
21	percent of their accrued and unused sick leave at the time of
22	their retirement as provided in Section 36-26-36, or any other
23	payment that may be provided for such unused sick leave, use
24	their accrued sick leave, up to a maximum number of 180
25	accrued sick leave days or as otherwise allowed by law,

1	whichever is greater, to be included as membership service in
2	determining the total years of creditable service in the
3	Employees' Retirement System of Alabama or the Teachers'
4	Retirement System of Alabama; provided that no employee of an
5	employer participating in the Employees' Retirement System
6	pursuant to Section 36-27-6 shall be entitled to the benefits
7	provided herein unless such employer shall elect to come under
8	the provisions of this section and further elects to fund the
9	benefits provided herein. Unused sick leave may be converted
10	to membership service only for the purpose of applying for
11	service retirement and may be considered in the determination
12	of eligibility for retirement. The conversion shall not apply
13	to eligibility for deferred retirement. It is further provided
14	that if a Tier I or Tier II plan member eligible for service
15	retirement is also eligible for disability retirement the
16	member may elect disability retirement and also receive credit
17	for accumulated sick leave pursuant to this section. No Tier I
18	or Tier II plan member shall receive both service credit
19	provided for by this section and payment or partial payment
20	for accrued sick leave pursuant to any other provision of law.
21	"(b) The conversion of accrued sick leave into
22	creditable service provided in this section shall not apply to
23	any Tier II plan member.
24	"§36-27-16.

"(a) (1) RETIREMENT, ETC., OF EMPLOYEES GENERALLY;
 ELIGIBILITY FOR SERVICE RETIREMENT BENEFITS.

"a. Any Tier I plan member who withdraws from 3 service upon or after attainment of age 60 and any Tier II 4 plan member who withdraws from service upon or after 5 6 attainment of age 62 may retire upon written application to the Board of Control setting forth at what time, not less than 7 8 30 days nor more than 90 days subsequent to the execution and 9 filing thereof, he or she desires to be retired; provided, 10 that any such member who became a member on or after October 11 1, 1963, shall have completed 10 or more years of creditable 12 service; provided further, that a Tier I plan member employed 13 as a state policeman shall be eligible to file application for 14 service retirement upon attaining age 52 and a Tier II plan member employed as a state policeman or employed as a 15 16 correctional officer, firefighter, or law enforcement officer 17 as defined in Section 36-27-59 with at least ten 10 years of creditable service as a correctional officer, firefighter, or 18 law enforcement officer shall be eligible to file application 19 20 for service retirement upon attaining age 56.

"b. Any Tier I plan member who has attained age 60, or age 52 in the case of a state policeman and any Tier II plan member who has attained age 62, or age 56 in the case of a state policeman or in the case of a correctional officer, firefighter, or law enforcement officer as defined in Section

1 36-27-59 who has at least ten 10 years of creditable service 2 as a correctional officer, firefighter, or law enforcement officer, and has previously withdrawn from service may retire 3 upon written application to the Board of Control setting forth 4 5 at what time, not less than 30 days nor more than 90 days 6 subsequent to the execution and filing thereof, he or she desires to be retired; provided, the member shall have at the 7 time of his or her withdrawal from service completed the age 8 9 and service requirements established by the Board of Control 10 for eligibility for deferred benefits; provided, that such 11 minimum number of years of creditable service shall not be 12 less than 10 years nor more than 25 years.

13 "c. In addition to any law or part of law relating 14 to service retirement under the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama, any Tier I plan member of the Employees' 15 16 Retirement System who withdraws from service after completion 17 of not less than 25 years of creditable service, or any Tier II plan member who withdraws from service after completion of 18 19 not less than 30 years of creditable service, may retire 20 without a reduction in retirement allowance upon written 21 application to the Board of Control of the Employees' 22 Retirement System setting forth the first day of which month, 23 not less than 30 days or more than 90 days subsequent to the 24 execution and filing thereof, he or she desires to be retired, 25 provided that no person whose employer participates in the

Employees' Retirement System under Section 36-27-6 shall be entitled to the benefits provided in this paragraph <u>for Tier I</u> <u>members</u> unless such employer elects to come under the provisions of the paragraph. Any employer making such election must bear the cost of such benefit.

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"(2) AMOUNT OF SERVICE RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE.

7 "a. Upon retirement from service, a Tier I plan
8 member shall receive a service retirement allowance which
9 shall consist of:

10 "1. An annuity which shall be the actuarial equivalent of his or her accumulated contributions at the time 11 12 of his or her retirement; except, that in the case of a state 13 policeman who has completed 20 years of creditable service as 14 a state policeman who retires after age 56 but prior to age 60, the annuity shall be equal to the annuity that would have 15 16 been payable upon service retirement at age 60 had the member continued in service to age 60 without change in compensation; 17

18 "2. A pension which shall be equal to the annuity 19 allowance at age of retirement, but not to exceed an annuity 20 allowable at age 65, computed on the basis of contributions 21 made prior to attainment of age 65; except, that in the case 22 of a state policeman who has completed 20 years of creditable 23 service as a state policeman who retires after age 56 but 24 prior to age 60, the pension shall be equal to the annuity 1 that he or she would have received had he or she contributed 2 to age 60 without change in compensation; and

"3. An additional pension, if he or she has a prior 3 service certificate in full force and effect, which shall be 4 5 equal to the annuity which would have been provided at the age 6 of retirement, but which shall not exceed an annuity allowable at age 65 by twice the contributions which he or she would 7 8 have made during the period of prior service with which he or she is credited had the system been in operation and had he or 9 10 she contributed thereunder; except, that in case of a state 11 policeman who has completed 20 years of creditable service as 12 a state policeman who retired after age 56 but prior to age 13 60, an additional pension, if he or she has a prior service 14 certificate in full force and effect, which shall be equal to the annuity which would have been provided at age 60, but 15 16 which shall not exceed an annuity allowable at age 60 by twice the contributions which he or she would have made during the 17 period of prior service with which he or she is credited had 18 the system been in operation and had he or she contributed 19 thereunder. 20

"b. Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraphs 1., 2., and 3. of paragraph a. of this subdivision, a state policeman who is a Tier I plan member and who has completed 20 years of service as a state policeman who retires after age 52 but prior to age 56 shall receive:

"1. An annuity which shall be equal to the annuity that would have been payable had the member continued in service for four years without change in compensation;

4 "2. A pension which shall be equal to the annuity
5 that he or she would have received had he or she contributed
6 for four years without change in compensation; and

"3. An additional pension, if he or she has a prior 7 8 service certificate in full force and effect, which shall be equal to the annuity which would have been provided at the age 9 10 of retirement, but which shall not exceed an annuity allowable 11 at the age of retirement plus four years by twice the contributions which he or she would have made during the 12 13 period of prior service with which he or she is credited had 14 the system been in operation and had he or she contributed 15 thereunder. In lieu of a determination of the actual 16 compensation of a member that was received during such prior 17 service, the Board of Control may use for the purpose of this article the compensation rate which, if it had progressed with 18 19 the rates of salary increase shown in the tables as prescribed in subsection (n) of Section 36-27-23, would have resulted in 20 21 the same average salary of the member for the five years 22 immediately preceding the date of establishment as the records 23 show the member actually received.

24 "c. The annual service retirement pension payable to25 a Tier I plan member not employed as a state policeman

1	retiring on or after October 1, 1975, shall not be less than						
2	an amount which, when added to his or her annuity, is equal to						
3	the greater of the following two amounts:						
4	"1. Two and one-eightieth percent of the member's						
5	average final compensation multiplied by the number of years						
6	of his or her creditable service; or						
7	"2. If he or she became a member before October 1,						
8	1965, \$72.00 seventy-two dollars (\$72) multiplied by the						
9	number of years of his or her creditable service not in excess						
10	of 25 years.						
11	"d. The annual service retirement pension payable to						
12	a Tier I plan member employed as a state policeman retiring on						
13	or after October 1, 1975, shall not be less than an amount						
14	which, when added to his or her annuity is equal to the						
15	greater of the following two amounts:						
16	"1. Two and seven-eighths percent of the member's						
17	average final compensation multiplied by the number of years						
18	of his or her creditable service. Creditable service for any						
19	state policeman under the age of 56 years who has completed 20						
20	years of creditable service as a state policeman shall include						
21	a bonus equal to four additional years. Creditable service for						
22	a state policeman 56 years or older shall include a bonus						
23	equal to the years or portion thereof remaining until the						
24	member reaches age 60; or						

1 "2. If he or she became a member before October 1, 2 1965, \$86.40 eighty-six dollars forty cents (\$86.40) multiplied by the number of years of his or her creditable 3 service not in excess of 25 years; provided, however, that if 4 such member has completed 20 years of creditable service as a 5 6 state policeman and has not attained age 60 at the time of retirement, the pension shall be determined as provided in 7 8 this subparagraph on the basis of the number of years of creditable service which he or she would have had if he or she 9 had remained in service for four years, except that, in the 10 11 case of those state policemen retiring at age 56 or after, the 12 number of years in determining the pension shall not exceed the number of years of creditable service which he or she 13 14 would have had if he or she had remained in service to age 60. 15 "e. Upon retirement from service, a Tier II plan 16 member who is not employed as a state policeman shall receive 17 a service retirement allowance which shall consist of an annuity which shall be the actuarial equivalent of the 18 member's accumulated contributions at the time of retirement 19 20 and a pension which, when added to the member's annuity, shall 21 be equal to one and sixty-five hundredths percent (1.65%) of 22 the member's average final compensation multiplied by the 23 number of years of creditable service. The service retirement

24 <u>allowance for a member that retires with 30 years of</u>

25 <u>creditable service before reaching the age of 62 shall be</u>

reduced by two percent (2%) for each year of the difference
 between age 62 and the age at retirement of the member.
 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the service retirement
 allowance shall not exceed eighty percent (80%) of the
 member's average final compensation.

6 "f. Upon retirement from service, a Tier II plan member who is employed as a state policeman shall receive a 7 service retirement allowance which shall consist of an annuity 8 which shall be the actuarial equivalent of the member's 9 10 accumulated contributions at the time of retirement and a 11 pension which, when added to the member's annuity, shall be 12 equal to two and three-eighths percent (2.375%) of the 13 member's average final compensation multiplied by the member's 14 number of years of creditable service. The service retirement 15 allowance for a member that retires with 30 years of 16 creditable service before reaching the age of 62 shall be 17 reduced by two percent (2%) for each year of the difference between age 62 and the age at retirement of the member. 18 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the service retirement 19 allowance shall not exceed eighty percent (80%) of the 20 21 member's average final compensation.

"g. Anything in this article to the contrary notwithstanding, in the application of the foregoing provisions of this subdivision to a member whose creditable service includes a period of service as a state policeman and 1 a period of service in another employment classification, the 2 benefit rates applicable to a member employed as a state policeman shall apply to all creditable service as a state 3 policeman, and the benefit rates applicable to a member not 4 5 employed as a state policeman shall apply to all creditable 6 service, but in all other respects the pension under this 7 subdivision shall be determined on the basis of the member's 8 employment classification at the time of his or her withdrawal from service. 9

"h. The annual service retirement pension payable to 10 11 any state employee who had attained age 60 on or before October 1, 1945, who declined membership in the Employees' 12 13 Retirement System of Alabama in the manner prescribed in 14 Section 36-27-4 and who retires as a state employee after 15 completing a minimum of 15 years' service shall be \$72.00 16 seventy-two dollars (\$72) multiplied by the number of years of 17 his or her service not in excess of 25 years.

18 "(b)(1) RETIREMENT OF DISABLED EMPLOYEES;19 ELIGIBILITY FOR DISABILITY RETIREMENT BENEFITS.

20 "a. Upon application of a Tier I plan member in 21 service or of his or her employer, any member who has had 10 22 or more years of creditable service who becomes disabled may 23 be retired on a disability retirement allowance by the Board 24 of Control not less than 30 nor more than 90 days next 25 following the date of filing of such application; provided,

1 that the medical board, after a medical examination of such 2 member, shall certify that such member is mentally or physically incapacitated for the further performance of duty, 3 that such incapacity is likely to be permanent and that such 4 5 member should be retired. Upon the application of a Tier II 6 plan member in service or his or her employer, any member who has had 10 or more years of creditable service may be retired 7 8 by the Board of Control on a disability retirement allowance not less than 30 nor more than 90 days next following the date 9 10 of filing such application; provided, that the medical board, 11 after a medical examination of such member, shall certify that 12 the member is totally and permanently mentally or physically 13 incapacitated from regular and substantial gainful employment, 14 and that member should be retired.

15 "b. Without regard to the number of years of 16 creditable service, a member employed as a state policeman, a 17 municipal police officer or a deputy sheriff, or a member employed as a state, municipal, or county firefighter who is 18 19 not covered through his or her current employer under the United States Social Security Act, who as a result of his or 20 21 her employment, in the line of duty and not as a result of his 22 or her own misconduct, shall become permanently and totally 23 disabled to the extent that he or she cannot perform his or 24 her duties or duties of a less strenuous nature, as an 25 employee of the State of Alabama or as an employee of an

1 employer participating under the provisions of Section 2 36-27-6, shall be retired on a disability retirement allowance, not less than 30 nor more than 90 days next 3 following the date of filing of such application, provided 4 5 that the medical board, after a medical examination of such 6 member shall certify that such member is mentally or 7 physically incapacitated for the further performance of duty, 8 that such incapacity is likely to be permanent, and that such member should be retired. 9

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"(2) AMOUNT OF DISABILITY RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE.

11 "a. Upon retirement for disability_ a member shall receive a service retirement allowance if he or she is a Tier 12 13 I plan member and he or she has attained age 60 or if he or 14 she is a Tier II plan member and he or she has attained age 62, or if any law or part of any law pertaining to retirement 15 16 under the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama provides for 17 service retirement after the completion of 25 years of creditable service or 30 years of creditable service without a 18 reduction in the retirement allowance and the member has 19 20 completed 25 years of creditable service or 30 years of 21 creditable service, whichever is applicable, or, in the case 22 of a state policeman, if he or she is a Tier I plan member and 23 he or she has attained age 52 or, in the case of a state 24 policeman or a correctional officer, firefighter, or law enforcement officer as defined in Section 36-27-59 with at 25

least ten <u>10</u> years of creditable service as a correctional officer, firefighter, or law enforcement officer, if he or she is a Tier II plan member and he or she has attained age 56; otherwise, he or she shall receive a disability retirement allowance which shall consist of:

6 "1. An annuity which shall be the actuarial 7 equivalent of his or her accumulated contributions at the time 8 of his or her retirement;

9 "2. A pension which shall be equal to the pension 10 that would have been payable under subparagraphs 2 and 3 of 11 paragraph a. of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this 12 section upon service retirement at age 65 had the member 13 continued in service to that age without change in 14 compensation.

15 "b. The annual disability retirement pension payable 16 to a Tier I plan member not employed as a state policeman 17 retiring on or after October 1, 1975, shall not be less than 18 an amount which when added to his or her annuity is equal to 19 the greatest of the following two amounts:

"1. Two and one-eightieth percent of the member's
average final compensation multiplied by the number of years
of creditable service.

23 "2. If he or she became a member before October 1,
24 1965, \$54.00 <u>fifty-four dollars (\$54)</u> multiplied by the number

1 of years of his or her creditable service not in excess of 25
2 years.

3 "c. The annual disability retirement pension payable 4 to a Tier I plan member employed as a state policeman retiring 5 on or after October 1, 1975, shall not be less than an amount 6 which when added to his or her annuity is equal to the greater 7 of the following two amounts:

"1. Two and seven-eighths percent of the member's 8 average final compensation multiplied by the number of years 9 10 of his or her creditable service. Creditable service for any 11 state policeman under the age of 56 years who has completed 20 12 years of creditable service as a state policeman shall include 13 a bonus equal to four additional years. Creditable service for 14 a state policeman 56 years or older shall include a bonus 15 equal to the years or portion thereof remaining until the 16 member reaches age 60; or

17 "2. If he or she became a member before October 1,
18 1965, \$64.80 sixty-four dollars eighty cents (\$64.80)
19 multiplied by the number of years of his or her creditable
20 service not in excess of 25 years.

"d. The annual disability retirement allowance payable to a Tier II plan member not employed as a state policeman shall be equal to one and sixty-five hundredths percent (1.65%) of the member's average final compensation multiplied by the number of years of creditable service.

"e. The annual disability retirement allowance payable to a Tier II plan member employed as a state policeman shall be equal to two and three-eighths percent (2.375%) of the member's average final compensation multiplied by the number of years of creditable service.

6 "f. Anything in this chapter to the contrary 7 notwithstanding in the application of the provisions of this subdivision to a member whose creditable service includes a 8 period of service as a state policeman and a period of service 9 10 in another employment classification the benefit rates 11 applicable to a member employed as a state policeman shall 12 apply to all creditable service as a state policeman, and the 13 benefit rates applicable to a member not employed as a state 14 policeman shall apply to all other creditable service, but in 15 all other respects the pension under this subdivision shall be 16 determined on the basis of the member's employment 17 classification at the time of his or her withdrawal from service. 18

19 "(3) REEXAMINATION OF BENEFICIARIES RETIRED ON 20 ACCOUNT OF DISABILITY. Once each year during the first five 21 years following the retirement of a member on a disability 22 retirement allowance and once every three-year period 23 thereafter, the Board of Control may, and upon his or her 24 application shall, require any disability beneficiary who has 25 not yet attained age 60 if the beneficiary is a Tier I plan

1 member or age 62 if the beneficiary is a Tier II plan member to undergo a medical examination, such examination to be made 2 at the place of residence of such beneficiary or other place 3 4 mutually agreed upon by a physician or physicians of, or designated by, the medical board. Should any disability 5 6 beneficiary who has not yet attained age 60, if the beneficiary is a Tier I plan member or age 62 if the 7 8 beneficiary is a Tier II plan member, refuse to submit to such 9 medical examination, his or her allowance may be discontinued 10 until his or her withdrawal of such refusal, and, should his 11 or her refusal continue for one year, all his or her rights in 12 and to his or her pension may be revoked by the Board of 13 Control; provided, that these requirements relative to the medical examination shall not apply in the case of a state 14 15 policeman retired for disability and who has attained age 52 16 if he or she is a Tier I plan member or in the case of a state policeman or a correctional officer, firefighter, or law 17 enforcement officer as defined in Section 36-27-59 with at 18 19 least ten 10 years of creditable service as a correctional 20 officer, firefighter, or law enforcement officer retired for 21 disability who has attained age 56 if he or she is a Tier II 22 plan member. Should the medical board report and certify to 23 the Board of Control that a disability beneficiary who is a 24 Tier I plan member is engaged in or is able to engage in a 25 gainful occupation paying more than the difference between his

1 or her retirement allowance and his or her average final 2 compensation and should the Board of Control concur in such report, then the amount of his or her pension shall be reduced 3 to an amount which, together with his or her annuity and the 4 5 amount earnable by him or her shall equal the amount of his or 6 her average final compensation. Should his or her earning capacity be later changed, the amount of his or her pension 7 may be further modified; provided, that the new pension shall 8 not exceed the amount of the pension originally granted nor an 9 10 amount which, when added to the amount earnable by the 11 beneficiary, together with this annuity exceeds the amount of 12 his or her average final compensation.

"Should the medical board report and certify to the Board of Control that a disability beneficiary who is a Tier II plan member has the capacity to engage in regular and substantial gainful employment, the Board of Control shall discontinue the beneficiary's retirement allowance until the beneficiary is otherwise eligible for service retirement.

19 "(c) Disposition of contributions and allowances20 upon death, etc., of member.

"(1) Should a member cease to be an employee except by death or by retirement under the provisions of this article, the contributions standing to the credit of his or her individual account in the Annuity Savings Fund shall be paid to him or her upon demand and, in addition to such

1 payment, there shall be paid five-tenths of the interest accumulations standing to the credit of his or her individual 2 account if he or she shall have not less than three but less 3 than 16 years of membership service, six-tenths of such 4 interest accumulations if he or she shall have not less than 5 6 16 but less than 21 years of membership service, seven-tenths of such interest accumulations if he or she shall have not 7 8 less than 21 but less than 26 years of membership service and eight-tenths of such interest accumulations if he or she shall 9 10 have not less than 26 years of membership service.

11 "(2) In case of the death of a member eligible for 12 service retirement pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, 13 an allowance shall be paid to the surviving spouse, or to such 14 other person who the member shall have designated, in an amount that would have been payable if the member had retired 15 16 immediately prior to his or her death and had elected Option 17 3, as set forth in subsection (d) of this section or, alternatively, if the surviving spouse or other designee 18 desires, he or she may choose to receive, in lieu of the 19 20 allowance provided under Option 3, the accumulated 21 contributions of the member plus an amount equal to the accumulated contributions of the member not to exceed 22 23 $\frac{55,000.00}{5}$ five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or the accumulated 24 contributions of the member plus the benefit provided by 25 Section 36-27B-3 if a benefit is payable under such section;

1 "(3) In case of the death of a Tier I plan member 2 not eligible for service retirement, after completion of 25 years of creditable service, an allowance shall be paid to the 3 surviving spouse, or to such other person who the member shall 4 5 have designated, in an amount that would have been payable if 6 the member had retired for disability immediately prior to his or her death and had elected Option 3 as set forth in 7 subsection (d) of this section or, alternatively, if the 8 9 surviving spouse or other designee desires, he or she may 10 choose to receive, in lieu of the allowance provided under 11 Option 3, the accumulated contributions of the member plus an 12 amount equal to the accumulated contributions of the member 13 not to exceed \$5,000.00 five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or the 14 accumulated contributions of the member plus the benefit provided by Section 36-27B-3 if a benefit is payable under 15 16 such section. For purposes of this subsection only, hazardous 17 duty time, as set forth in subdivision (b)(1) of Section 36-27-59, may be used in calculating the requisite years of 18 service for firefighters, law enforcement officers, and 19 correctional officers even if the member has not otherwise 20 21 attained 25 years of creditable service;

"(4) Upon the death of a member on account of whom
no survivor allowance is payable under subdivisions (2) or (3)
of this subsection, the accumulated contributions of the
member plus an amount equal to the accumulated contributions

not to exceed \$5,000 five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or the accumulated contributions of the member plus the benefit provided by Section 36-27B-3 if a benefit is payable under such section shall be paid to his or her estate or to such person as he or she shall have nominated by written designation duly executed and filed with the Board of Control.

7 "(d) Optional allowances. With the provision that 8 the election of an option shall be effective on the effective 9 date of retirement, any member may elect prior to retirement 10 to receive, in lieu of his or her retirement allowance payable 11 throughout life, the actuarial equivalent, at that time, of 12 his or her retirement allowance in a reduced retirement 13 allowance payable throughout life with the provisions that:

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

"(2) OPTION 2. Upon his or her death, his or her reduced retirement allowance shall be continued throughout the life of and paid to the person as he or she shall nominate by written designation duly acknowledged and filed with the Board of Control at the time of his or her retirement; "(3) OPTION 3. Upon his or her death, one half of his or her reduced allowance shall be continued throughout the life of and paid to the person as he or she shall nominate by written designation duly acknowledged and filed with the Board of Control at the time of his or her retirement; or

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

"(5) OPTION 5. At the time of retirement, he or she 13 14 shall receive a partial lump sum distribution as a single 15 payment not to exceed the sum of 24 months of the maximum 16 monthly retirement allowance the member could receive. This 17 option may be elected in addition to the election of another option under this subsection and the further reduced monthly 18 retirement allowance shall be calculated in accordance with 19 20 the selected option. This option shall not be available to a 21 member who is receiving a disability retirement.

"(e) Effect of return to active service. Should any beneficiary be restored to active service, his or her retirement allowance shall be suspended until he or she again withdraws from service and he or she shall not again become a

1 member of the retirement system nor shall he or she make contributions; except, that should such beneficiary who has 2 been restored to active service continue in service for a 3 period of two or more years from the date of his or her 4 5 reentry into active service, he or she may request the Board 6 of Control to allow him or her to again become a member of the 7 retirement system. The Board of Control may grant the request 8 for restoration to membership; provided, that such beneficiary 9 whose retirement allowance has been suspended shall repay to 10 the system all moneys monies received by him or her as 11 benefits during any periods subsequent to the date of his or her reentry into active service and shall make a contribution 12 13 equal to the amount he or she would have contributed had he or 14 she been a member during the period of his or her restoration 15 to active service on a suspended allowance basis together with 16 the interest which would have been credited to the 17 contributions on account of such period of restoration up to the date such contribution is made. 18

19 "(f)(1) REDETERMINATION, ETC., OF CERTAIN
20 ALLOWANCES. All retirement allowance payments due on or after
21 October 1, 1975, to members who retired prior to that date
22 shall be redetermined as if the provisions of this section in
23 effect on October 1, 1975, were in effect at the time the
24 member retired. Anything in this article to the contrary
25 notwithstanding, the annual retirement allowance of any member

1 not employed as a state policeman who retired on or before 2 January 1, 1956, shall not be less than \$79.20 seventy-nine dollars twenty cents (\$79.20) multiplied by the number of 3 years of his or her creditable service not in excess of 30 4 years in the case of service retirement of \$59.40 fifty-nine 5 6 dollars forty cents (\$59.40) multiplied by the number of years of his or her creditable service not in excess of 30 years in 7 8 the case of disability retirement. Any increase provided in the retirement allowance payment under this subdivision for a 9 10 member who retired under the provisions of any optional 11 benefit elected pursuant to subsection (d) of this section 12 shall accrue only to the retired member, and no person 13 designated to receive any payments after the death of a 14 retired member under the provisions of any such optional 15 benefit shall receive any increase in such payments under this 16 subdivision. Notwithstanding, any member who retired prior to 17 October 1, 1975, and who chose either Option 2 or Option 3 may 18 elect to receive a reduced allowance and to stipulate that the 19 actuarial equivalent of the increase in his or her retirement allowance, which became effective on that date, be ascribed to 20 21 his or her designated beneficiary; provided, that such member 22 shall clearly express this intention by filing a written 23 application to the effect with the Secretary-Treasurer of the 24 Employees' Retirement System of Alabama prior to October 1, 25 1976.

1	"(2) Any person who, prior to October 1, 1963, was						
2	in receipt of a benefit pursuant to Act No. 376, approved						
3	November 6, 1959, but was not a member of the system at the						
4	time of retirement, shall not be entitled to receive an annual						
5	retirement allowance from the system, effective October 1,						
6	1971, as follows:						
7	"a. If such person was retired on or before January						
8	1, 1956, an amount equal to \$79.20 seventy-nine dollars twenty						
9	cents (\$79.20) multiplied by the number of years of his or her						
10	creditable service not in excess of 30 years.						
11	"b. If such person was retired after January 1,						
12	1956, an amount equal to \$72.00 <u>seventy-two dollars (\$72)</u>						
13	multiplied by the number of years of his or her creditable						
14	service not in excess of 25 years.						
15	"(3) Prior to October 31, 1975, any beneficiary may						
16	elect to leave on deposit with the system all or a specified						
17	part of any increase in his or her monthly retirement						
18	allowance payments arising in accordance with subdivisions (1)						
19	or (2) of this subsection over the monthly allowance which he						
20	or she was receiving prior to October 1, 1975. The portion of						
21	each monthly payment left in the system in accordance with						
22	such election shall be credited, together with regular						
23	interest thereon, to the individual account of such						
24	beneficiary. Upon the death of such beneficiary the total						
25	amount standing to his or her credit, including regular						

interest to the date of death, shall be paid in a lump sum to his or her legal representatives or to such person as he or she shall have nominated by written designation duly acknowledged and filed with the Board of Control.

5 "(g) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this 6 section to the contrary, when a designated beneficiary for a member predeceases the member who is receiving a monthly 7 benefit allowance provided under Option 2, 3, or 4, the member 8 may designate a replacement beneficiary for the deceased 9 10 beneficiary to become effective two years after the date of 11 designation of the replacement beneficiary and an actuarial 12 adjustment in the monthly benefit allowance of the member to 13 cover any cost associated with designating a replacement 14 beneficiary shall be reflected thereafter in the monthly 15 benefit allowance received by the member, commencing with the 16 first benefit allowance check received by the member following 17 the date of designation of the replacement beneficiary.

18 "(h) Notwithstanding any provision of this section 19 to the contrary, if a retired member who is receiving a 20 monthly benefit allowance provided under Option 2, 3, or 4 21 divorces his or her designated beneficiary, the member may 22 designate a replacement beneficiary for the beneficiary to 23 become effective two years after the date of designation of 24 the replacement beneficiary and an actuarial adjustment in the 25 monthly benefit allowance of the member to cover any cost

associated with designating a replacement beneficiary shall be reflected thereafter in the monthly benefit allowance received by the member, commencing with the first benefit allowance check received by the member following the date of designation of the replacement beneficiary.

- 6 "(i) Any future act to increase the retirement age 7 for Tier II plan members above the age of 62 shall require a 8 two-thirds vote of the elected membership of each house of the 9 Legislature."
- 10

"§36-27-24.

11 "(a) Effective October 1, 1997, all the assets of 12 the retirement system shall be credited according to the 13 purpose for which they are held among three funds, namely, the 14 Annuity Savings Fund, the Pension Accumulation Fund, and the 15 Expense Fund. The operation of the former Pension Reserve Fund 16 and the Annuity Reserve Fund shall be discontinued as of such 17 date and the balance of the former Pension Reserve Fund shall be transferred to the Pension Accumulation Fund, and the 18 19 balance of the former Annuity Reserve Fund shall be transferred to the Pension Accumulation Fund. 20 21 "(b) Annuity Savings Fund. The Annuity Savings Fund shall be a fund in which shall be accumulated contributions 22

23 from the compensation of members to provide for their

24 annuities.

1	"Contributions to and payments from the Annuity
2	Savings Fund shall be made as follows: Effective October 1,
3	1971, each employer shall cause to be deducted from the salary
4	of each member on each and every payroll of such employer for
5	each and every payroll period five percent of his or her
6	earnable compensation; except, that in the case of a state
7	policeman, the rate of 10 percent of earnable compensation
8	shall apply, and in computing all retirement benefits it shall
9	be assumed that a seven percent rate of contribution had
10	applied with respect to service as a state policeman prior to
11	July 1, 1957. For all pay dates beginning on or after October
12	1, 2011, each employer, except those employers participating
13	pursuant to Section 36-27-6, shall cause to be deducted from
14	the salary of each member on each and every payroll of such
15	employer for each and every payroll period seven and
16	one-quarter percent (7.25%) of his or her earnable
17	compensation; except, that in the case of a state policeman,
18	the rate of ten percent (10%) of earnable compensation shall
19	apply. For all pay dates beginning on or after October 1,
20	2012, each employer, except those employers participating
21	pursuant to Section 36-27-6, shall cause to be deducted from
22	the salary of each Tier I plan member on each and every
23	payroll of such employer for each and every payroll period
24	seven and one-half percent (7.5%) of his or her earnable
25	compensation; except, that in the case of a state policeman,

1 the rate of ten percent (10%) of earnable compensation shall apply. For all pay dates beginning on or after January 1, 2 3 2013, each employer shall cause to be deducted from the salary 4 of each Tier II plan member on each and every payroll period six percent (6%) of his or her earnable compensation; except 5 that in the case of a state policeman, the rate of ten percent 6 7 (10%) shall apply and in the case of a correctional officer, 8 firefighter, or law enforcement officer as defined in Section 9 36-27-59, the rate of seven percent (7%) shall apply. For all pay dates beginning on or after October 1, 2022, for all 10 11 employers, each employer shall cause to be deducted from the 12 salary of each Tier II plan member on each and every payroll 13 period six and one-half percent (6.5%) of his or her earnable 14 compensation. Any employer participating under Section 15 36-27-6, by adoption of a resolution, may elect for the 16 increases in employee contributions provided by Act 2011-676 17 to be withheld from the earnable compensation of employees of 18 the employer. In determining the amount earnable by a member 19 in a payroll period, the Board of Control may consider the 20 rate of annual compensation payable to such member on the 21 first day of the payroll period as continuing through such 22 payroll period, and it may omit deductions from compensation 23 for any period less than a full payroll period if an employee was not a member on the first day of the payroll period, and, 24 25 to facilitate the making of deductions, it may modify the

1 deductions required of any member by such an amount as shall not exceed one tenth of one percent of the annual compensation 2 upon the basis of which such deductions are made. 3 "The deductions provided for in this subsection 4 shall be made notwithstanding that the minimum compensation 5 provided for by law for any member shall be reduced thereby. 6 7 Every member shall be deemed to consent and agree to the 8 deduction made and provided for in this subsection and shall receipt for his or her full salary or compensation and payment 9 of salary or compensation less such deductions shall be a full 10 11 and complete discharge and acquittance of all claims and 12 demands whatsoever for the services rendered by such person 13 during the period covered by such payment, except as to the 14 benefits provided under this article. The employer shall 15 certify to the Board of Control in each and every payroll or 16 in such other manner as the board may prescribe the amounts to be deducted, and each of the amounts shall be deducted and, 17 18 when deducted, shall be paid into the Annuity Savings Fund and shall be credited, together with regular interest thereon, to 19 20 the individual account of the member from whose compensation 21 the deduction was made. "In addition to the contributions deducted from 22 23 compensation as provided in this subsection, subject to the approval of the Board of Control, any member may deposit in 24 25 the Annuity Savings Fund by a single payment or by an

1 increased rate of contribution an amount computed to be sufficient to purchase an additional annuity which, together 2 3 with his or her prospective retirement allowance, will provide for him or her a total retirement allowance not to exceed one Δ half of his or her average final compensation at age 60. Such 5 additional amounts so deposited shall become a part of his or 6 her accumulated contributions, except in the case of 7 8 retirement, when they shall be treated as excess contributions returnable to the member in cash or as an annuity of 9 equivalent actuarial value and shall not be considered in 10 11 computing his or her pension. "The contributions and interest credits of a member 12 13 withdrawn by him or her or paid to his or her estate or to his or her designated beneficiary in event of his or her death 14 15 shall be paid from the Annuity Savings Fund. Should a member 16 cease to be a member other than by retirement under the provisions of this article, an amount equivalent to the 17 18 difference, if any, between his or her accumulated

19 contributions and the amount then paid shall be transferred to

20 the Expense Fund. Upon the retirement of a member or the death

21 of an eligible member where an allowance to a surviving spouse

- 22 or other designated beneficiary is payable, his or her
- 23 accumulated contributions shall be transferred from the
- 24 Annuity Savings Fund to the Pension Accumulation Fund.

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"Notwithstanding the preceding provisions, no deductions shall be made from any member's salary on account 2 of which the employer's contributions are in default. 3

"The State Personnel Board, with the approval of the 4 Governor, may provide that the state shall pick up member 5 contributions to the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama 6 7 as required by this subsection on behalf of all state 8 employees who participate in the Employees' Retirement System 9 by a corresponding reduction in the salary of the member, such pick-up to be mandatory for all such employees, and the 10 11 contributions so picked up shall be treated as employer 12 contributions in determining tax treatment under the Internal 13 Revenue Code. These contributions shall be paid from the same source of funds which is used in paying earnings to the 14 15 employee. If employee contributions are so picked up they 16 shall be treated for all other purposes of state law in the 17 same manner and to the same extent as employee contributions 18 made prior to the date picked up.

"(c) Pension Accumulation Fund. The Pension 19 Accumulation Fund shall be the fund in which shall be 20 21 accumulated all reserves other than the amounts held in the 22 Annuity Savings Fund for the payment of all pensions, all 23 allowances granted to surviving spouses or other designated beneficiaries and other benefits payable from contributions 24 25 made by the employer and from which shall be paid all

1 pensions, all allowances granted to surviving spouses or other designated beneficiaries and other benefits on account of 2 3 members with prior service credit. "Contributions to and payments from the Pension Δ Accumulation Fund shall be made as follows: On account of each 5 member there shall be paid monthly by the employer an amount 6 7 equal to a certain percentage of the earnable compensation of each member to be known as the "normal contribution" and an 8 additional amount equal to a percentage of his or her earnable 9 compensation to be known as the "accrued liability 10 11 contribution," and these two amounts shall be paid monthly into the Pension Accumulation Fund; provided, that in the case 12 13 of a state policeman, such percentage rates of contributions shall be calculated separately. The percentage rate of such 14 contributions shall be fixed for each fiscal year on the basis 15 16 of the liabilities of the retirement system as shown by the last annual actuarial valuation, and such percentage rate as 17 18 established by such valuation shall take effect the following October 1 and continue in effect for the fiscal year. 19 "On the basis of regular interest and of such 20 21 mortality and other tables as shall be adopted by the Board of 22 Control, the actuary engaged by the board to make such 23 valuation required by this article during the period over which the accrued liability contribution is payable shall, 24 immediately after making such valuation, determine the uniform 25

1 and constant percentage of the earnable compensation of the

2	average new entrant which, if contributed on the basis of his
3	or her compensation throughout his or her entire period of
4	active service, would be sufficient to provide for the payment
5	of any pension payable on his or her account. The percentage
6	rate so determined shall be known as the "normal contribution"
7	rate. The normal rate of contributions shall be determined by
8	the actuary after each valuation.
9	"The accrued liability contribution rate shall be
10	computed by the actuary on the basis of each valuation as the
11	percentage rate of the total annual compensation of all
12	members which is sufficient to liquidate the accrued liability
13	over a period to be determined by the Board of Control which
14	shall be not less than 10 nor more than 30 years.
15	"The unfunded accrued liability shall be computed by
16	the actuary as the total liabilities of the system which are
17	not dischargeable by the assets of the Annuity Savings Fund
18	and the Pension Accumulation Fund and the present value of the
19	aforesaid normal contributions.
20	"For purposes of computing the unfunded accrued
21	liability the assets shall be determined as follows:
22	"On September 30, 1997, the assets shall be
23	determined by using the market value of such assets. For
24	subsequent years the value of the assets shall be determined

1	by the	system's	actuary	using	a	five	year	smoothed	market
2	value.								

3 "The total amount payable in each year to the
4 Pension Accumulation Fund shall be not less than the sum of
5 the percentage rates known as the normal contribution rate and
6 the accrued liability contribution rate of the total
7 compensation earnable by all members during the preceding
8 year.

"All interest and dividends earned on the funds of 9 10 the retirement system shall be credited to the Pension 11 Accumulation Fund. The amounts needed to allow a regular interest on the reserves in the Annuity Savings Fund shall be 12 transferred in accordance with this article from the Pension 13 14 Accumulation Fund. The Board of Control, in its discretion, may transfer to and from the Pension Accumulation Fund the 15 16 amounts of any surplus or deficit which may develop in the Annuity Savings Fund, or the Expense Fund. 17

¹⁸ "Upon the death of a member on account of whom no
¹⁹ survivor allowance is payable under subdivisions (2) and (3)
²⁰ of subsection (c) of Section 36-27-16, the death benefit as
²¹ provided in subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of Section
²² 36-27-16 equal to the accumulated contributions, not to exceed
²³ \$5,000.00 five thousand dollars (\$5,000), shall be payable
²⁴ from the Pension Accumulation Fund.

1 "(d) Expense Fund. The Expense Fund shall be the fund from which the expenses of the administration of the 2 retirement system shall be paid, exclusive of amounts payable 3 as retirement allowances and as other benefits provided in Δ this chapter. In addition thereto and on account of each 5 member of the retirement system, there shall be paid monthly 6 7 by the employer an amount equal to a certain percentage of the 8 earnable compensation of each member for the administrative 9 expenses of the retirement system. The percentage rate of such contribution shall be fixed by the Board of Control on the 10 11 basis of the cost exclusive of that provided by interest not returnable. Any amounts credited to the accounts of the 12 13 members withdrawing before retirement and not returnable under 14 the provisions of subsection (c) of Section 36-27-16 shall be credited to the Expense Fund. 15

16 "(e) Employer's contributions. For each biennium 17 beginning October 1, 1965, each employer shall pay to the 18 retirement system the rates provided in this section and 19 thereafter, at least 30 days preceding October 1 of each fiscal year, the Board of Control shall certify to the chief 20 21 fiscal officer of each employer the percentage rates of 22 earnable compensation of the members required to be paid to 23 the retirement system in accordance with subsections (c) and 24 (d) of this section.

1 "The employer's contribution on account of the membership of employees whose salaries are paid in whole or in 2 part from funds derived from federal grants shall be paid from 3 funds derived from the federal grants in accordance with 4 statutes governing the administration of the grants and in 5 proportion to salaries paid therefrom. At such time and in 6 7 such manner as may be required, the Board of Control shall 8 certify to each department of state receiving a federal grant 9 the amount due and payable from the grant as the employer's 10 contribution to the retirement system on account of the 11 membership of the department whose salaries are paid in whole 12 or in part from funds derived from such federal grants. The 13 fiscal agent of the department shall authorize the state 14 Comptroller to draw a warrant or warrants in payment of the 15 amount certified as due and payable from federal grants.

16 "(f) Appropriations. There is hereby appropriated 17 annually from the fund from which salaries of the employees of 18 each employer are paid the amounts sufficient to carry out the 19 provisions of this section. In the case of those departments 20 supported wholly by transfers from other state funds, there is 21 hereby appropriated from the supporting funds such additional 22 amounts as may be necessary to pay the employer contribution 23 of each department so supported in the same proportion as the other state funds contribute to the support and maintenance of 24 25 such department.

1 "(g) Employer cost provided for in this article together with member contributions required under this article 2 shall be paid to the Employees' Retirement System on the first 3 day of the month following the month in which the related 4 member salary is earned. Delinquent accounts shall accrue 5 6 interest at the actuarial assumed investment rate beginning 30 days after the original due date. The member contributions for 7 8 each member shall be reported to the Employees' Retirement 9 System in a format prescribed by the Employees' Retirement 10 System.

11

"§36-27-59.

12 "(a) When used in this section, the following terms 13 shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly 14 indicates otherwise:

"(1) CORRECTIONAL OFFICER. A full-time correctional
 officer who is certified as a correctional officer by the
 Alabama Peace Officers' Standards and Training Commission.
 "(2) FIREFIGHTER. A full-time firefighter employed

with the State of Alabama, a municipal fire department, or a
fire district who has a level one minimum standard
certification by the Firefighters Personnel Standards and
Education Commission, or a firefighter employed by the Alabama
Forestry Commission who has been certified by the State
Forester as having met the wild land firefighter training
standard of the National Wildfire Coordinating Group.

1 "(3) LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER. A full-time law enforcement officer, not covered as a state policeman, 2 3 employed with any state agency, department, board, commission, or institution or a full-time law enforcement officer employed 4 by a local unit of the Employees' Retirement System under 5 Section 36-27-6 who is certified as a law enforcement officer 6 by the Alabama Peace Officers' Standards and Training 7 Commission. 8

"(b)(1) Any firefighter, law enforcement officer, or 9 correctional officer covered under the Employees' Retirement 10 11 System or the Teachers' Retirement System as a Tier I or Tier 12 II plan member, upon attainment of the requisite years of 13 creditable service or who otherwise qualifies for service or disability retirement, shall be awarded one year of hazardous 14 15 duty time for every five years of service as a firefighter, a 16 law enforcement officer, or a correctional officer provided that the person has made the additional contribution provided 17 18 in subdivision (2) or paid the additional contribution required in subsection (c) for each year of service used in 19 20 determining hazardous duty time for the person. Proportional 21 credit shall be awarded for any period of service less than 22 five years.

23 "(2) Effective January 1, 2001, and each pay period
 24 thereafter, each active employee who is a firefighter, law
 25 enforcement officer, or correctional officer, as defined in

1 subsection (a), shall contribute to the Teachers' or Employees' Retirement System of Alabama six percent of his or 2 3 her earnable compensation. For all pay dates beginning on or after October 1, 2011, each active employee who is a 4 firefighter, law enforcement officer, or correctional officer, 5 as defined in subsection (a), except those employees 6 7 participating pursuant to Section 36-27-6, shall contribute to the Teachers' or Employees' Retirement System of Alabama eight 8 and one-quarter percent (8.25%) of his or her earnable 9 10 compensation. For all pay dates beginning on or after October 11 1, 2012, each active employee who is a Tier I plan member and 12 who is a firefighter, law enforcement officer, or correctional 13 officer, as defined in subsection (a), except those employees participating pursuant to Section 36-27-6, shall contribute to 14 15 the Teachers' or Employees' Retirement System of Alabama eight 16 and one-half percent (8.5%) of his or her earnable compensation. For all pay dates beginning on or after October 17 18 1, 2022, each active employee who is a Tier II plan member and who is a firefighter, law enforcement officer, or correctional 19 20 officer, as defined in subsection (a), shall contribute to the 21 Teachers' or Employees' Retirement Systems of Alabama seven 22 and one-half percent (7.50%) of his or her earnable 23 compensation. Any employer participating under Section 36-27-6, by adoption of a resolution, may elect for the 24 25 increases in employee contributions provided by Act 2011-676

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to be withheld from the earnable compensation of employees of the employer.

"(c) Any member of the Employees' Retirement System 3 4 or the Teachers' Retirement System eligible under subsection (b) may receive credit for his or her eligible prior service 5 provided the member pays to the Secretary-Treasurer of the 6 7 Employees' Retirement System or the Secretary-Treasurer of the 8 Teachers' Retirement System one percent of his or her current annual earnable compensation or previous year's annual 9 10 earnable compensation, whichever is higher, for each year of 11 claimed credit within two years of January 1, 2001, except 12 that any firefighter employed by the Alabama Forestry 13 Commission shall make such payment within two years of December 28, 2001. Any member participating in the Employees' 14 Retirement System under Section 36-27-6, who has eligible 15 16 prior service under this section and who also had no prior eligibility to purchase prior service credit under this 17 18 subsection, may purchase prior service credit under this section at the same rate provided in subsection (b) within one 19 year of the effective date of his or her enrollment with the 20 21 Employees' Retirement System or within one year of August 1, 22 2004. The member may purchase his or her claimed credit in 23 increments of five years, unless the total service credit is less than five years, in which case the service shall be 24 25 purchased in its entirety. The member shall provide

1	certification from each employing agency, on forms prescribed
2	by the Teachers' or Employees' Retirement System, of each year
3	of claimed service, as a prerequisite to payment under this
4	section.
5	" (d) The provisions of this section shall not apply
6	to any Tier II plan member."
7	Section 2. This act shall become effective
8	immediately following its passage and approval by the
9	Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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2						
3	_					
4		Speaker of the House of Rep	resentatives			
5						
6]	President and Presiding Offic	er of the Senate			
7 8 9 10 11 12 13	House of Representatives I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and was passed by the House 02-MAR-22, as amended. Jeff Woodard Clerk					
14 15	Senate	06-APR-22	Amended and Passed			
16	House	07-APR-22	Concurred in Sen- ate Amendment			
17						