

CHAPTER 86**(HB 299)**

AN ACT relating to retirement.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

Section 1. KRS 61.552 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) Any employee participating in one (1) of the state-administered retirement systems who has been refunded his accumulated contributions under the provisions of KRS 16.645(22), 61.625, or 78.545(15), thereby losing service credit, may regain the credit by paying to the system from which he received the refund or refunds the amount or amounts refunded with interest at a rate determined by the board of the respective retirement system. The payment, including interest as determined by the board, shall be deposited to the member's contribution account and considered as accumulated contributions of the individual member. The payments shall not be picked up, as described in KRS 61.560(4), by the employer.
- (2) Any employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems, who has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five (65) in the systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems, and who did not elect membership in the County Employees Retirement System, as provided in KRS 78.540(2), may obtain credit in the County Employees Retirement System for prior service and for current service by paying to the County Employees Retirement System a delayed contribution payment for the service he would have received had he elected membership. The delayed contribution payment shall not be picked up, as described in KRS 61.560(4), by the employer. Payment may be by lump sum or the employee may pay by increments.
- (3) Any employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems, who has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five (65) in the systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems, and who did not elect membership in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System, as provided in KRS 61.525(2), may obtain credit in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System for prior service and for current service by paying to the system a delayed contribution payment for the service he would have received had he elected membership. The delayed contribution payment shall not be picked up, as described in KRS 61.560(4), by the employer. Payment may be by lump sum or the employee may pay by increments.
- (4) An employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems, who has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five (65) in the systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems, may obtain credit in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System for current service between July 1, 1956, and the effective date of participation of his department by paying to the system a delayed contribution payment for the service he would have received had his department participated on July 1, 1956. The delayed contribution payment shall not be picked up, as described in KRS 61.560(4), by the employer. Payment may be by lump sum or the employee may pay by increments.

- (5) (a) An employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems, who has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five (65) in the systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems, may obtain credit in the County Employees Retirement System for current service between July 1, 1958, and the effective date of participation of his county by paying to the County Employees Retirement System a delayed contribution payment for the service he would have received had his county participated on July 1, 1958. The delayed contribution payment shall not be picked up, as described in KRS 61.560(4), by the employer.
- (b) An employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems, who has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five (65) in the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems may obtain credit for the period of his service with an area development district created pursuant to KRS 147A.050 or with a business development corporation created pursuant to KRS 155.001 to 155.230 if that service was not covered by a state-administered retirement system. The member shall pay to the retirement system in which he participates a delayed contribution payment, as determined by the board's actuary. The employee may obtain credit for employment with a business development corporation only if the Kentucky Retirement Systems receives a favorable private letter ruling from the United States Internal Revenue Service or a favorable opinion letter from the United States Department of Labor. Payment may be by lump sum or the employee may pay by increments.
- (6) After August 1, 2000, service credit obtained under the subsections of this section which do not require the employee to have a minimum number of years of service credit to be eligible to make a purchase shall be disallowed and the recontribution of refund, including interest as determined by the board or other payment, if any, shall be paid to the member if the member does not obtain for service performed six (6) months' additional current service credit in one (1) of the state-administered retirement systems. The service requirement shall be waived if the member dies or becomes disabled as provided for by KRS 16.582 or 61.600.
- (7) The members shall not receive benefit of service for the same period of time in another public defined benefit retirement fund.
- (8) Any employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems who has at least forty-eight (48) months' service if age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months' service if under age sixty-five (65) in the retirement systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems, who formerly worked for a state university in a position which would have qualified as a regular full-time position had the university been a participating department, and who did not participate in a defined benefit ~~or defined contribution~~ retirement program at the university may obtain credit in the employee's account in the County Employees Retirement System, the Kentucky Employees Retirement System, or the State Police Retirement System for prior and current service by paying either retirement system a delayed contribution payment for the service he would have received had his period of university employment been covered by the County Employees, Kentucky Employees Retirement System, or State Police Retirement System.

The delayed contribution payment shall not be picked up, as described in KRS 61.560(4), by the employer. Payment may be by lump sum, or the employee may pay by increments.

- (9)
 - (a) Effective August 1, 1980, any county participating in the County Employees Retirement System may purchase current service, between July 1, 1958, and participation date of the county, for present employees of the county who have obtained coverage under KRS 78.540(2);
 - (b) Effective July 1, 1973, any department participating in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System may purchase current service between July 1, 1956, and participation date of the department, for present employees of the department who were employees on the participation date of the department and elected coverage under KRS 61.525(2);
 - (c) Cost of the service credit purchased under this subsection shall be determined by computing the discounted value of the additional service credit based on an actuarial formula recommended by the board's consulting actuary and approved by the board. A department shall make payment for the service credit within the same fiscal year in which the option is elected. The county shall establish a payment schedule subject to approval by the board for payment of the service credit. The maximum period allowed in a payment schedule shall be ten (10) years with interest at the rate actuarially assumed by the board; however, a shorter period is desirable and the board may approve any schedule provided it is not longer than a ten (10) year period;
 - (d) If a county or department elects the provisions of this subsection, any present employee who would be eligible to receive service credit under the provisions of this subsection and has purchased service credit under subsection (4) or (5) of this section shall have his payment for the service credit refunded with interest at the rate paid under KRS 61.575 or 78.640;
 - (e) Any payments made by a county or department under this subsection shall be deposited to the retirement allowance account of the proper retirement system and these funds shall not be considered accumulated contributions of the individual members.
- (10) Interest paid by a member of the Kentucky Employees Retirement System, County Employees Retirement System, or State Police Retirement System under this section or other similar statutes under KRS 16.510 to 16.652, KRS 61.515 to 61.705, or KRS 78.520 to 78.852 prior to June 19, 1976, shall be credited to the individual member's contribution account in the appropriate retirement system and considered as accumulated contributions of the member.
- (11) Employees who served as assistants to officers and employees of the General Assembly who have at least forty-eight (48) months of service if age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five (65) in the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems and who were unable to acquire service under KRS 61.510(20) may purchase credit for the service performed after January 1, 1960. Service credit under this section shall be obtained by the payment of a delayed contribution which shall not be picked up by the employer as described in KRS 61.560(4).
- (12)
 - (a) Effective August 1, 1988, any employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems who has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if

under age sixty-five (65) in the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems may purchase service credit for interim, seasonal, emergency, or temporary employment or part-time employment averaging one hundred (100) or more hours of work per month on a calendar or fiscal year basis. If the average number of hours of work is less than one hundred (100) per month, the member shall be allowed credit only for those months he receives creditable compensation for one hundred hours of work. The cost will be determined as a delayed contribution payment for the period of time involved, which shall not be picked up by the employer as described in KRS 61.560(4).

- (b) Any noncertified employee of a school board who has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five (65) in the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems may purchase service credit for part-time employment prior to the 1990-91 school year which averaged eighty (80) or more hours of work per month on a calendar or fiscal year basis by paying to the County Employees Retirement System a delayed contribution payment. The delayed contribution payment shall not be picked up, as described in KRS 78.610(4), by the employer. Payment may be by lump sum or the employee may pay by increments. If the average number of hours of work is less than eighty (80) per month, the noncertified employee of a school board shall be allowed credit only for those months he receives creditable compensation for eighty (80) hours of work. The cost will be determined as a delayed contribution payment, which shall not be picked up by the employer as described in KRS 78.610(4).
- (13) A retired member, who is contributing to one (1) of the state-administered retirement programs under the provisions of KRS 61.637(1) to (4) and purchases service credit under this section in the system or systems from which he is retired, shall have his retirement allowance recomputed:
- (a) Upon termination from employment, if the member is contributing to the same system or systems from which he was retired; or
 - (b) Upon completion of six (6) months' service credit as required under subsection (6) of this section, if the member is contributing to a system other than the system or systems from which he is retired.
- (14) Any employee participating in one (1) of the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems who has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five (65) in the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems may obtain credit for prior or current service for any period of approved educational leave, or for agency-approved leave to work for a work-related labor organization if the agency subsequently participated in the County Employees Retirement System, by paying to the respective retirement system a delayed contribution payment. The employee may also obtain credit for agency-approved leave to work for a work-related labor organization if the agency subsequently participated in the County Employees Retirement System, but only if the Kentucky Retirement Systems receives a favorable private letter ruling from the United States Internal Revenue Service or a favorable opinion letter from the United States Department of Labor. The delayed contribution payment shall not be picked up, as described in KRS 61.560(4), by the employer, and shall be deposited to the individual member's account.

- (15) Any employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems who has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five (65) in the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems may obtain credit for prior or current service for any period of authorized maternity leave, unpaid leave authorized under the Federal Family and Medical Leave Act, or for any period of authorized sick leave without pay, by paying to the respective retirement system a delayed contribution payment. The delayed contribution payment shall not be picked up, as described in KRS 61.560(4), by the employer, and shall be deposited to the individual member's account.
- (16) Any employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems may purchase service credit under any of the provisions of KRS 16.510 to 16.652, 61.515 to 61.705, or 78.520 to 78.852 by making installment payments in lieu of a lump-sum payment.
- (a) The cost of the service shall be computed in the same manner as for a lump-sum payment which shall be the principal; and interest, at the actuarial rate in effect at the time the member elects to make the purchase compounded annually, shall be added for the period that the installments are to be made. Multiple service purchases may be combined under a single installment purchase; however, no employee may make more than one (1) installment purchase at the same time. Once multiple service purchases have been combined in an installment purchase, the employee may not separate the purchases or pay a portion of one (1) of the purchases. The employee may elect to stop the installment payments by notifying the retirement system; may have the installment purchase recalculated to add one (1) or more additional service purchases; or may pay by lump sum the remaining principal.
 - (b) One (1) year of installment payments shall be made for each one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or any part thereof of the total cost, except that the total period allowed for installments shall not be less than one (1) year and shall not exceed five (5) years.
 - (c) The employee shall pay the installments by payroll deduction. Upon notification by the retirement system, the employer shall report the installment payments either monthly or semimonthly continuously over each twelve (12) month period at the same time as, but separate from, regular employee contributions on the forms or by the computer format specified by the board. The payments made under this subsection shall be considered accumulated contributions of the member and shall not be picked up by the employer pursuant to KRS 61.560(4) and no employer contributions shall be paid on the installments.
 - (d) The retirement system shall determine how much of the total cost represents payment for one (1) month of the service to be purchased and shall credit one (1) month of service to the member's account each time this amount has been paid. The first service credited shall represent the first calendar month of the service to be purchased and each succeeding month of service credit shall represent the succeeding months of that service.
 - (e) If the employee elects to stop the installment payments, dies, retires, or does not continue employment in a position required to participate in the retirement system, the member, or in the case of death, the beneficiary, shall have sixty (60) days to pay the remaining principal of the purchase by lump sum, except that payment by the member

shall be made prior to the effective retirement date. If the member or beneficiary does not pay the remaining cost, the retirement system shall refund to the member or the beneficiary the payment, payments, or portion of a payment that does not represent a full month of service purchased.

- (f) If the employer does not report installment payments on an employee for sixty (60) days, except in the case of employees on military leave or sick leave without pay, the installment purchase shall cease and the retirement system shall refund to the employee the payment, payments, or portion of a payment that does not represent a full month of service purchased. Installment payments of employees on military leave or sick leave without pay shall be suspended during the period of leave and shall resume without recalculation upon the employee's return from leave.
 - (g) If payments have ceased under paragraph (e) or (f) of this subsection and the member later becomes a participating employee in one (1) of the three (3) systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems, the employee may complete the adjusted original installment purchase by lump sum or installment payments. If the employee elects to renew the installment purchase, the cost of the remaining service shall be recalculated in accordance with paragraph (a) of this subsection. If the original installment purchase was for multiple service purchases, the employee may not separate those purchases under a new installment purchase.
- (17) Any employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems may purchase service credit under any of the provisions of KRS 16.510 to 16.652, 61.515 to 61.705, or 78.520 to 78.852 by transferring funds through a direct trustee-to-trustee transfer as permitted under the applicable sections of the Internal Revenue Code and any regulations or rulings issued thereunder, or through a direct rollover as contemplated by and permitted under 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(a)(31) and any regulations or rulings issued thereunder. Service credit may also be purchased by a rollover of funds pursuant to and permitted under the rules specified in 26 U.S.C. sec. 402(c) and 26 U.S.C. sec. 408(d)(3). The Kentucky Retirement Systems shall accept the transfer or rollover to the extent permitted under the rules specified in the applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code and any regulations and rulings issued thereunder. The amount shall be credited to the individual member's contribution account in the appropriate retirement system and shall be considered accumulated contributions of the member.
- (18) After August 1, 1998, any employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems who is age sixty-five (65) or older and has forty-eight (48) months of service credit or, if younger, who has sixty (60) months of service credit in systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems may purchase credit in the system in which the employee has the service credit for up to ten (10) years service in a regular full-time position that was credited to a state or local government-administered public defined benefit plan in another state other than a defined benefit plan for teachers. The employee shall pay a delayed contribution payment. Payment may be by lump sum, or the employee may pay by increments. The employee may transfer funds directly from the other state's plan if eligible to the extent permitted under subsection (17) of this section and to the extent permitted by the other state's laws and shall provide proof that he is not eligible for a retirement benefit for the period of service from the other state's plan.
- (19) After August 1, 1998, any employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems, who has sixty (60) or more months of

service in the State Police Retirement System or in a hazardous position in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System or the County Employees Retirement System, may purchase credit in the system in which the employee has the sixty (60) months of service credit for up to ten (10) years of service in a regular full-time position that was credited to a defined benefit retirement plan administered by a state or local government in another state, if the service could be certified as hazardous pursuant to KRS 61.592. The employee shall pay a delayed contribution payment. Payment may be by lump sum or by increments. The employee may transfer funds directly from the other unit of government's plan if eligible to the extent permitted under subsection (17) of this section and to the extent permitted by the other state's laws, and the employee shall provide proof that he is not eligible for a retirement benefit for the period of service from the other unit of government's plan.

- (20) Any employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems who has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five (65) in the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems and who has completed service as a volunteer in the Kentucky Peace Corps, created by KRS 154.01-720, may purchase service credit for the time served in the corps by making delayed contribution payments.
- (21) An employee participating in any retirement system administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems who has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if age sixty-five (65), or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five (65) in the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems, and who was formerly employed in a regional community mental health and mental retardation services program, organized and operated under the provisions of KRS 210.370 to 210.480, which does not participate in a state-administered retirement system may obtain credit for the period of his service in the regional community mental health and mental retardation program, by paying to the state retirement system in which he participates a delayed contribution payment. Payment to one (1) of the retirement systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems may be made by lump sum or in increments.
- (22) An employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems who has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five (65) in the systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems, who was employed by a vocational technical school in a noncertified part-time position averaging eighty (80) or more hours per month, determined by using the number of months actually worked within a calendar or fiscal year, may purchase service credit in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System. The cost of the service shall be a delayed contribution payment, which shall not be picked up by the employer as described in KRS 61.560(4).
- (23) (a) Any person who is entitled to service credit for employment which was not reported in accordance with KRS 16.543, 61.543, or KRS 78.615 may obtain credit for the service by paying the employee contributions due within six (6) months of notification by the system. No interest shall be added to the contributions. The service credit shall not be credited to the member's account until the employer contributions are received. If a retired member makes the payment within six (6) months, the retired member's retirement allowance shall be adjusted to reflect the added service after the employer contributions are received by the retirement system.

- (b) Any employee participating in one (1) of the state-administered retirement systems who is entitled to service credit under paragraph (a) of this subsection and who has not repaid the employee contributions due within six (6) months of notification by the system may regain the credit after the six (6) months by paying to the system the employee contributions plus interest at the actuarially assumed rate from the date of initial notification under paragraph (a) of this subsection. Service credit shall not be credited to the member's account until the employer contributions are received by the retirement system. The payments shall not be picked up, as described in KRS 61.560(4), by the employer.
- (24) Any employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems who has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five (65) in the systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems may purchase service credit for employment with a public agency that would have been eligible to participate under KRS 61.520 but which did not participate in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System or a political subdivision that would have been eligible to participate under KRS 78.530 but which did not participate in the County Employees Retirement System if the former public agency or political subdivision has merged with or been taken over by a participating department or county. The cost of the service shall be determined as a delayed contribution payment for the respective retirement system. Payment may be made by lump sum or in increments. The payment shall not be picked up, as described in KRS 61.560(4) or KRS 78.610(4), by the employer.
- (25) Any employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems prior to July 15, 2002, who has accrued at least forty-eight (48) months of service if age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five (65) in the systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems and who has total service in all state-administered retirement systems of at least one hundred eighty (180) months of service credit may purchase a combined maximum total of five (5) years of retirement service credit which is not otherwise purchasable under any of the provisions of KRS 16.510 to 16.652, KRS 61.510 to 61.705, and KRS 78.510 to 78.852. The purchase price for the retirement service credit shall be calculated and paid for as a delayed contribution payment. The payment shall not be picked up, as described in KRS 16.545(4), KRS 61.560(4), KRS 78.610(4), by the employer, and the employee's payment shall be paid into the individual member's contribution account in the appropriate retirement system and shall be considered accumulated contributions of the member. Payment by the member may be by lump sum or by increments. The service purchased under this subsection shall not be used in determining a retirement allowance until the member has accrued at least two hundred forty (240) months of service, excluding service purchased under this subsection. If the member does not accrue at least two hundred forty (240) months of service, excluding service purchased under this subsection, upon retirement, death, or written request following termination, the payment, plus interest as provided in KRS 61.575, shall be refunded.
- (26) An employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems, who has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if age sixty-five (65), or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five (65), in the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems, may obtain credit in the County Employees Retirement System for the period of that employee's service with a community action

agency created under KRS 273.405 to 273.453 if that service was not covered by a state-administered retirement system. The member shall pay to the retirement system a delayed contribution payment. Payment may be made by lump sum or in increments. The payment shall not be picked up, as described in KRS 61.560(4) or 78.610(4), by the employer.

- (27) Any employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems who has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five (65) in the retirement systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems may obtain current service credit for up to forty-eight (48) months for his or her period of service as a Domestic Relations Commissioner by paying to the retirement system a delayed contribution payment no later than December 31, 2002. Payment may be made by lump sum or under an installment agreement. The payment shall not be picked up, as described in KRS 61.560(4), by the employer, and shall be deposited to the individual member's account.
- (28) The board of trustees is authorized to establish a program, subject to a favorable ruling from the Internal Revenue Service, to provide for the purchase of service credit under any of the provisions of KRS 16.510 to 16.552, 61.515 to 61.705, and 78.520 to 78.852, pursuant to the employer pick-up provisions in 26 U.S.C. sec. 414(h)(2).
- (29) An employee may obtain credit for regular full-time service with an agency prior to August 1, 1998, for which the employee did not receive credit due to KRS 61.637(1), by paying a delayed contribution. The payment shall not be picked up by the employer, except as provided in subsection (28) of this section, and shall be credited to the employee's second retirement account. Service credit obtained under this subsection shall not be used in determining benefits under KRS 61.702. The employee may purchase credit for service prior to August 1, 1998, if:
- (a) The employee retired from one (1) of the retirement systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems and was reemployed prior to August 1, 1998, earning less than the maximum permissible earnings under the Federal Social Security Act;
 - (b) The employee elected to participate in a second retirement account effective August 1, 1998, in accordance with KRS 61.637(7); and
 - (c) The employee has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if age sixty-five (65), or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five (65), in a second account in the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems.
- (30) An employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems, who has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five (65) in the systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems, may obtain credit for the service in a regular full-time position otherwise creditable under the Kentucky Employees Retirement System, the County Employees Retirement System, or the State Police Retirement System for service in the United States government, other than service in the Armed Forces, for which service is not otherwise given, by paying to the system a delayed contribution payment. Payment may be made by lump sum or in increments. No payment made pursuant to this section shall be picked up by the employer, as described in KRS 61.560(4).
- (31) *An employee participating in a hazardous position in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems, who has at least forty-eight (48)*

months of service if age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five (65) in the systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems, may obtain credit for service in a regular full-time position in an urban-county government that would qualify for hazardous duty coverage under KRS 61.592 by paying to the system a delayed contribution payment. Payment may be made by lump sum or in increments. No payment made pursuant to this section shall be picked up by the employer, as described in KRS 61.560(4).

Section 2. KRS 6.505 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) Each legislator in office on July 1, 1980, may within thirty (30) days after that date, and any legislator thereafter taking office may within thirty (30) days after the date thereof, elect to make monthly contributions to the Legislators' Retirement Plan, in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of his monthly creditable compensation, as defined in KRS 61.510(13). The election shall be effective to establish membership in the plan as of July 1, 1980, or as of the date from which the thirty (30) day period is measured, as the case may be. Provided, however, that any legislator who was in office on July 1, 1980, and who is in office at the time he makes the election may, after the expiration of the thirty (30) day period and until May 1, 1982, make the election, in which event he shall pay to the Legislators' Retirement Plan, for the months between July 1, 1980, and the date of his election such sum as, when added to any member's contribution by him that is transferred from another retirement system under KRS 6.535, will equal the member's contribution required by this section. If the member makes his election after February 1, 1981, he shall in addition pay to the plan interest on the foregoing sum, at six percent (6%) per annum, calculated as if the sum consisted of equal monthly payments, one (1) of which was due at the end of each month between July 1, 1980, and the date the election was made. The election shall be addressed to and filed with the secretary of the Finance and Administration Cabinet and shall constitute an authorization to the secretary to thereafter cause to be deducted from the member's monthly creditable compensation an amount equal to five percent (5%) thereof, as a voluntarily elected contribution by the member towards the funding of the Legislators' Retirement Plan. Such election shall operate to create an inviolable contract between such member and the Commonwealth, guaranteeing to and vesting in the member the rights and benefits provided for under KRS 6.515 to 6.530. An election once made under this section either to participate or not to participate in the Legislators' Retirement Plan, shall be considered to apply to all future service as a legislator, whether in the same or a different office as a legislator, and whether or not it is in successive terms.
- (2) *A legislator entitled to elect membership in the retirement system who failed to elect membership within thirty (30) days after taking office may elect membership not later than August 31, 2005. An election, upon being made pursuant to this section, shall operate to create an inviolable contract between the member and the Commonwealth, guaranteeing to and vesting in the member the rights and benefits provided for under the terms and conditions of KRS 6.500 to 6.577.*
- (3) *When any legislator makes a delayed election of membership in the Legislators' Retirement Plan under subsection (2) of this section, his active membership in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System shall terminate, as of the date his membership in the Legislators' Retirement Plan becomes effective, and any credit in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System, earned for service as a legislator, which he then has or which he subsequently regains while being an active member of the Legislators' Retirement Plan, shall be transferred to and counted as service credit in the Legislators'*

Retirement Plan, and shall no longer constitute credit in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System, except for the purpose of validating any other credit in that system if the member pays the difference, if any, between the amount transferred from the Kentucky Employees Retirement System and the actuarial value of the transferred service. However, any credit he then has in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System, earned for service in any capacity other than a legislator, shall not be affected. No person may attain credit in more than one (1) of the retirement plans or systems mentioned in this section for the same period of service. When credit is transferred from the Kentucky Employees Retirement System to the Legislators' Retirement Plan, the Kentucky Employees Retirement System shall transfer to the Legislators' Retirement Fund an amount equal to the employee's and employer's contributions attributable to that credit, together with interest on the contributions from the date made to the date of transfer at the actuarially-assumed interest rate of the Kentucky Employees Retirement System in effect at the time the contributions were made, compounded annually at that same interest rate.

- (4) The state shall, solely for the purpose of compliance with Section 414(h) of the United States Internal Revenue Code, pick up the employee contributions required by this section for all compensation earned after August 1, 1982, and the contributions so picked up shall be treated as employer contributions in determining tax treatment under the United States Internal Revenue Code and KRS 141.010(10). The picked-up employee contribution shall satisfy all obligations to the retirement system satisfied prior to August 1, 1982, by the employee contribution, and the picked-up employee contribution shall be in lieu of an employee contribution. The state shall pay these picked-up employee contributions from the same source of funds which is used to pay earnings to the employee. The employee shall have no option to receive the contributed amounts directly instead of having them paid by the employer to the system. Employee contributions picked up after August 1, 1982, shall be treated for all purposes of KRS 6.500 to 6.535 in the same manner and to the same extent as employee contributions made prior to August 1, 1982.
- (5)~~(3)~~ When any legislator elects membership in the Legislators' Retirement Plan in accordance with this section, his active membership in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System, State Police Retirement System, County Employees Retirement System, or Teachers' Retirement System shall terminate, as of the date his membership in the Legislators' Retirement Plan becomes effective, and any credit in such other system or systems, earned for service as a legislator, which he then has or which he subsequently regains while being an active member of the Legislators' Retirement Plan, shall be transferred to and counted as service credit in the Legislators' Retirement Plan, and shall no longer constitute credit in such other retirement system except for the purpose of validating any other credit in that system. However, any credit he then has in such other retirement system, earned for service in any capacity other than a legislator, shall not be affected. No person may attain credit in more than one (1) of the retirement plans or systems mentioned in this section, for the same period of service.
- (6)~~(4)~~ A member of the Legislators' Retirement Plan who would be entitled, under KRS 61.552, to repurchase credit in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System, for previous service as a legislator, which credit had been lost by refund of contributions, may pay the amount required by KRS 61.552 directly to the Legislators' Retirement Plan and thereby obtain credit in that plan for such service, rather than making payment to the Kentucky Employees Retirement System for credit which would be transferred to the Legislators'

Retirement Plan. In such event, the Kentucky Employees Retirement System shall transfer to the Legislators' Retirement Plan an amount equal to the employer's contributions that originally were made to the Kentucky Employees Retirement System for the regained service credit, with interest as provided in KRS 6.535. Six (6) months' current service shall be required in the Legislators' Retirement Plan in order for the repurchased credit to remain in force, the same as provided in KRS 61.552.

Section 3. KRS 6.515 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) Service credit in the Legislators' Retirement Plan shall be acquired only by service as a legislator after July 1, 1980, while a member of the plan, by transfer of credit as provided in KRS 6.505, or by purchase or transfer of credit as provided in this section.
- (2) (a)
 1. Any active member of the Legislators' Retirement Plan who has at least five (5) years of service credit in the Legislators' Retirement Plan, or his beneficiary acting in his place if the member dies prior to retirement, shall receive service credit for a maximum of four (4) years for his period of service in the Armed Forces of the United States, if his discharge therefrom is honorable and he has not been credited with the service by any other retirement system administered by the Commonwealth of Kentucky, by paying the retirement system thirty-five percent (35%) of the actuarial cost of the service as determined by the board of trustees, based on assumptions used in the most recent biennial evaluation. The service credit shall be awarded and the cost shall be determined in conformity with the rate which applies to the legislator in question under KRS 6.520. Service credit awarded under this subsection shall be equivalent, for all purposes of the Legislators' Retirement Plan, to other service credit earned in the plan.
 2. Any active member of the Legislators' Retirement Plan who has at least five (5) years of service credit in the Legislators' Retirement Plan may purchase and receive service credit for one (1) month of service for each six (6) months of service in the reserves or the National Guard by paying the retirement system one hundred percent (100%) of the actuarial cost of the service as determined by the board of trustees, based on the assumptions used in the most recent biennial evaluation. The service credit shall be awarded and the cost shall be determined in conformity with the rate that applies to the legislator in question under KRS 6.520. Service credit awarded as provided in this subsection shall be equivalent, for all purposes of the Legislators' Retirement Plan, to other service credit earned in the plan. The service in the military reserves or the National Guard shall be treated as service earned prior to participation in the plan. The purchase can be made by the member by transfer, if authorized under subsection (7)(d) of this section, or in a lump-sum payment or by installment payments, as set forth in paragraph (b) of this subsection. The payment shall not be picked up by the employer as provided in KRS 6.505(4){(2)}.
- (b) The member may purchase all of his military service credit at one (1) time, or in increments of no less than one (1) year, unless there is a fraction remaining after all full years have been paid for. Payment of the total or the increment may be made by lump-sum or by monthly installments through payroll deduction. If the member chooses to pay by installment, the cost of the service credit shall be computed in the same manner as for a lump-sum payment, which shall be the principal. Interest, at the annual actuarial rate in effect at the time each payment is made, shall be added to each

monthly payment at the rate of one-twelfth (1/12) of the annual interest rate applied to the declining principal amount. Installment purchases shall be for no less than twelve (12) nor more than sixty (60) months. If the member leaves office before completing his installment payments, he may satisfy his contract by a lump-sum payment of the remaining principal amount, but no further installment payments shall be accepted thereafter. In this case, the member shall be credited with the military service credit for which he has paid, in years or months but no fraction less than a full month, and any payment remaining after credit for full months has been awarded shall be returned to the member.

- (c) The payments made under this section shall be considered accumulated contributions of the member and shall not be picked up by the employer under KRS 6.505(4){(2)}.
- (3) In the event of divorce, rights to benefits shall be considered marital property subject to the provisions of KRS 403.190.
- (4) A member who has qualified for benefits under KRS 6.525(1) may transfer to the Legislators' Retirement Plan up to ten (10) years of service credit which he has earned in a retirement system administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems. If the member elects to transfer his service credit, the system from which the transfer is made shall transfer to the legislators' retirement fund an amount equal to the employee's and employer's contributions attributable to that credit, together with interest on the contributions from the date made to date of transfer at the actuarially assumed interest rate of the system from which the transfer is made in effect at the time the contributions were made, compounded annually at that same interest rate. The member shall be entitled to the transferred service credit, at the rate at which he qualifies under KRS 6.520, when he pays the total difference between the amount of the funds transferred and the cost of the credit to the Legislators' Retirement Plan, as determined by the actuary for the Legislators' Retirement Plan. The member may pay by transfer, if authorized under subsection (7)(d) of this section, by lump sum, or by increments, as provided for in this section. The payments made under this section shall be considered accumulated contributions of the member and shall not be picked up by the employer under KRS 6.505(4){(2)}.
- (5) (a) Any active member of the Legislators Retirement Plan who is vested in the Legislators Retirement Plan under KRS 6.525 shall receive service credit for a maximum of four (4) years each for his period of service as a Domestic Relations Commissioner, a Master Commissioner, or a District Court Trial Commissioner of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, or a combination thereof, if the service has not been credited to the member's account with any other public defined benefit plan, by paying the retirement system one hundred percent (100%) of the actuarial cost of the service as determined by the board of trustees, based on assumptions used in the most recent biennial evaluation. The period of service to be purchased shall be certified to the board of trustees by the custodian of the records. The service credit shall be awarded and the cost shall be determined in conformity with the rate that applies to the member in question under KRS 6.520. Service credit awarded under this subsection shall be equivalent, for all purposes of the Legislators Retirement Plan, to other service credit earned in the plan. The member may pay by transfer, by lump sum, or by increments as set forth in this section. The payments made under this section shall be considered accumulated contributions of the member and shall not be picked up by the employer under KRS 6.505(4){(2)}.

- (b) Any active member of the Legislators Retirement Plan who is vested in the Legislators Retirement Plan under KRS 6.525, shall receive service credit for his period of service to the United States Government, other than service in the Armed Forces, if the service has not been credited to the member's account with any other public defined benefit plan, by paying the retirement system one hundred percent (100%) of the actuarial cost of the service as determined by the board of trustees, based on assumptions used in the most recent biennial evaluation. The period of service to be purchased shall be certified to the board of trustees by the custodian of the records. The service credit shall be awarded and the cost shall be determined in conformity with the rate that applies to the member in question under KRS 6.520. Service credit awarded under this subsection shall be equivalent, for all purposes of the Legislators Retirement Plan, to other service credit earned in the plan. The member may pay by transfer, by lump sum, or by increments as set forth in this section. The payments made under this section shall be considered accumulated contributions of the member and shall not be picked up by the employer under KRS 6.505(4){(2)}.
- (c) Any member of the Legislators Retirement Plan, who is in office on June 21, 2001, and who is in active contributing status to the applicable retirement plan on June 21, 2001, and who has at least *one hundred eighty (180)*{two hundred forty (240)} months of service credit may purchase a combined maximum total of five (5) years of retirement service credit that is not otherwise purchasable, by paying the retirement system one hundred percent (100%) of the actuarial cost of the service as determined by the board of trustees, based on assumptions used in the most recent biennial evaluation. The member shall be entitled to the service credit at the rate at which he qualifies under KRS 6.520. Service credit awarded under this subsection shall be equivalent, for all purposes of the Legislators Retirement Plan, to other service credit earned in the plan, ***except that the service purchased under this subsection shall not be used in determining a retirement allowance until the member has accrued at least two hundred forty (240) months of service, excluding service purchased under this subsection. If the member does not accrue at least two hundred forty (240) months of service, excluding service purchased under this subsection, then upon retirement, death, or written request following termination, the payment shall be refunded.*** The member may pay by transfer, by lump sum, or by increments as set forth in this section. The payments made under this section shall be considered accumulated contributions of the member and shall not be picked up by the employer under KRS 6.505(4){(2)}.
- (d) A member of the Legislators Retirement Plan may purchase service credit under the provisions of this section by transferring funds through a direct trustee-to-trustee transfer as permitted under the applicable sections of the Internal Revenue Code and any regulations or rulings issued thereunder or through a direct rollover as contemplated by and permitted under 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(a)(31) and any regulations or rulings issued thereunder. Service credit may also be purchased by a rollover of funds pursuant to and permitted under the rules specified in 26 U.S.C. sec. 402(c) and 26 U.S.C. sec. 408(d)(3). The Legislators Retirement Fund shall accept the transfer or rollover to the extent permitted under the rules specified in the applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code and any regulations and rulings issued thereunder. The amount shall be credited to the individual member's contribution account and shall be

considered accumulated contributions of the member and shall not be picked up by the employer under KRS 6.505(4)~~(2)~~.

Section 4. KRS 6.520 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) A member of the Legislators' Retirement Plan who retires on or after his normal retirement date shall receive a service retirement allowance, payable monthly during his lifetime, in an amount per month equal to three and fifty one-hundredths percent (3.50%) of his final compensation multiplied by the number of years of his service, but in no event to exceed one hundred percent (100%) of final compensation. For this purpose, "final compensation" means the average monthly creditable compensation as determined in KRS 61.510(13) of the member for services as a legislator for the **three (3) years during which the member had the highest creditable legislative compensation**~~[sixty (60) months of service immediately preceding retirement, except that in the case of a legislator who retires pursuant to KRS 21.410 or who dies in office, "final compensation" shall be the assumed salary in KRS 61.510(13)]~~.
- (2) A member shall have rights, with respect to retirement before reaching normal retirement date in the Legislators' Retirement Plan, identical in terms with those rights provided in KRS 21.400(2) and (3) in the Judicial Retirement Plan for members of that plan, except that the reduction in a legislators' service retirement allowance for early retirement shall be at the rate of five percent (5%) of the allowance for each year that retirement precedes the normal retirement date.
- (3) Subsections (1) and (2) of this section to the contrary notwithstanding, each legislator in office on July 1, 1982, that is a member of the Legislators' Retirement Plan, who retires on or after his normal retirement date, shall receive a service retirement allowance, payable monthly, on a formula equal to that of a justice or judge of the Court of Justice with an equivalent service entrance date, but in no event less than that specified in subsection (1) of this section, of his final compensation multiplied by the number of years of his service, but in no event to exceed one hundred percent (100%) of his final compensation. For this purpose, "final compensation" means the average monthly creditable compensation as determined in KRS 61.510(13) of the **three (3) years during which the member had the highest creditable legislative compensation**~~[sixty (60) months of service immediately preceding retirement as provided in KRS 6.525]~~.
- (4) Subsections (1) and (2) of this section to the contrary notwithstanding, a member of the Legislators' Retirement Plan with a service entrance date after July 1, 1982, who retires on or after his normal retirement date, shall receive a service retirement allowance, payable monthly during his lifetime, in an amount per month equal to two and seventy-five one-hundredths percent (2.75%) of his final compensation multiplied by the number of years of his service, but in no event to exceed one hundred percent (100%) of final compensation. For this purpose, "final compensation" means the average monthly creditable compensation as determined in KRS 61.510(13) of the member for services as a legislator for the **three (3) years during which the member had the highest creditable legislative compensation**~~[sixty (60) months of service immediately preceding retirement as provided in KRS 6.525]~~.

Section 5. KRS 6.525 is amended to read as follows:

The Legislators' Retirement Plan shall be governed by KRS 21.560 and by provisions identical in terms with those provided in KRS 21.345(1) and (3), 21.360(1), 21.370 to 21.410, 21.420,

21.425, 21.450, 21.460, 21.470, 21.480, 21.525, and 61.552 for the Judicial Retirement Plan, except that:

- (1) Five (5) years of service as a legislator will be sufficient for vesting; and
- (2)
 - (a) A member of the Legislators' Retirement Plan may combine his service credit with his service credit in the Teachers' Retirement System, Kentucky Employees Retirement System, County Employees Retirement System, and State Police Retirement System at the time of his retirement, according to the procedure of KRS 61.680(2)(a), except that the salary used to determine final compensation shall be based on the **creditable compensation**~~assumed salary~~ in KRS 61.510(13) for service while a member of the General Assembly whether or not a member of the Legislators' Retirement Plan.
 - (b) *For members contributing on or after the effective date of this Act, upon retirement, a member's accounts under the Legislators' Retirement Plan, State Police Retirement System, Kentucky Employees Retirement System, County Employees Retirement System, and Teachers' Retirement System shall be consolidated for the purpose of determining eligibility and amount of benefits as provided in KRS 61.680(2)(a) and in the same manner as for the other retirement systems using the highest salary regardless of the system in which it was earned. For purposes of this paragraph, "retirement" means the month in which the member elects to begin receiving benefits or benefits become payable due to the member's death.*
 - (c) *A member who has an account in the Legislators' Retirement Plan and the Judicial Retirement Plan may combine his service in both plans for purposes of determining eligibility, the amount of benefits and final compensation.*
 - (d) A member of the Legislators' Retirement Plan may retire at the completion of **twenty-seven (27)**~~thirty (30)~~ or more years of combined service credit, so long as at least fifteen (15) years of such credit were earned after January 1, 1960, and there shall be no reduction in the retirement allowance because of retirement before the age of sixty-five (65).
 - (e) For the purposes of this section, any reference in the KRS sections listed above to the Judicial Retirement Plan shall also be read as a reference to the Legislators' Retirement Plan, and any reference to the Legislators' Retirement Plan shall also be read as a reference to the Judicial Retirement Plan.
- (3) Any other statute to the contrary notwithstanding, a member of any state-administered retirement system who has ceased to qualify for membership but subsequently returns to a qualified status, shall, for the purposes of determining the date of entry into the state-administered retirement system for the subsequent period or periods of service, be deemed to have never left the retirement system.

Section 6. KRS 21.360 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) Each Judge of the District Court in office on July 1, 1978, may within thirty (30) days after that date, and any judge or justice of any court entitled to be a member thereafter taking office may within thirty (30) days after taking office, elect to make monthly contributions to the retirement system in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of his monthly official salary. The election shall be effective to establish membership in the system as of July 1, 1978, or as of the date the judge or justice took office, as the case may be. The election shall be addressed to and filed with the secretary of the Finance and Administration Cabinet, and

shall constitute an authorization by the member, to the secretary, to thereafter cause to be deducted from the member's official salary, each month, an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the monthly salary, as a voluntary contribution by the member towards the funding of the retirement system. The contribution shall continue until the judge or justice is vested in a service retirement allowance equal to one hundred percent (100%) of final compensation. Thereafter employee contributions shall be discontinued but continued service and retirement benefits shall not be affected thereby.

- (2) A judge or justice entitled to elect membership in the retirement system who failed to elect membership within thirty (30) days after taking office in 1980 *or who elected membership in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System* may elect membership not later than August 31, 2005~~[1990]~~. An election, upon being made pursuant to this section, shall operate to create an inviolable contract between the member and the Commonwealth, guaranteeing to and vesting in the member the rights and benefits provided for under the terms and conditions of KRS 21.350 to 21.510.
- (3)
 - (a) When any judge makes a delayed election of membership in the Judicial Retirement Plan under subsection (2) of this section, his active membership in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System shall terminate, as of the date his membership in the Judicial Retirement Plan becomes effective, and any credit in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System, earned for service as a judge, which he then has or which he subsequently regains while being an active member of the Judicial Retirement Plan, shall be transferred to and counted as service credit in the Judicial Retirement Plan, and shall no longer constitute credit in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System, except for the purpose of validating any other credit in that system, *if the member pays the difference, if any, between the amount transferred from the Kentucky Employees Retirement System and the actuarial value of the transferred service.*
 - (b) ~~However,~~ Any credit he then has in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System, earned for service in any capacity other than a judge, shall not be affected. *Notwithstanding any provisions of KRS 61.680 to the contrary, final compensation used to determine benefits for any service credit remaining in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System shall be based on the highest years of compensation as a judge whether the years occur before or after the judge elects membership in the Judicial Retirement Plan.*
 - (c) No person may attain credit in more than one (1) of the retirement plans or systems mentioned in this section for the same period of service. When credit is transferred from the Kentucky Employees Retirement System to the Judicial Retirement Plan, the Kentucky Employees Retirement System shall transfer to the Judicial Retirement Fund an amount equal to the employee's and employer's contributions attributable to that credit, together with interest on the contributions from the date made to the date of transfer at the actuarially-assumed interest rate of the Kentucky Employees Retirement System in effect at the time the contributions were made, compounded annually at that same interest rate.
- (4) Membership and benefit rights for judges and justices (other than Judges of the District Court), and for the commissioners and administrative director, who took office prior to July 1, 1978, shall be dependent upon valid elections having been made under this section (and KRS 21.355 and 21.365) prior to the 1978 amendment to this section. The terms of such

elections, including the contribution rate, shall continue to govern for the duration of the member's service.

- (5) When any Judge of the District Court in office on July 1, 1978, elects membership in the Judicial Retirement System in accordance with this section, his membership in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System shall terminate as of July 1, 1978, and any credit in that system he earned for service as a Judge of the District Court shall be nullified; provided that the effect of such service to validate any other service credit in that system shall not be nullified.
- (6) The state shall, solely for the purpose of compliance with Section 414(h) of the United States Internal Revenue Code, pick up the employee contributions required by this section for all compensation earned after August 1, 1982, and the contributions so picked up shall be treated as employer contributions in determining tax treatment under the United States Internal Revenue Code and KRS 141.010(10). The picked-up employee contribution shall satisfy all obligations to the retirement system satisfied prior to August 1, 1982, by the employee contribution, and the picked-up employee contribution shall be in lieu of an employee contribution. The state shall pay these picked-up employee contributions from the same source of funds which is used to pay earnings to the employee. The employee shall have no option to receive the contributed amounts directly instead of having them paid by the employer to the system. Employee contributions picked up after August 1, 1982, shall be treated for all purposes of KRS 21.345 to 21.570 in the same manner and to the same extent as employee contributions made prior to August 1, 1982.
- (7) An election once made under this section, either to participate or not to participate in the Judicial Retirement Plan, shall be considered to apply, to all future service in any office covered by the plan, whether such service is in the same or a different office, and whether or not it is continuous.

Section 7. KRS 21.370 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of KRS 21.410 and in subsection (2) of KRS 21.420, no benefits shall be payable under KRS 21.350 to 21.480 to any member or to his surviving spouse, unless he has completed at least eight (8) years of service, including service before becoming a member. No surviving spouse of a retired member shall be entitled to any benefits unless the person was the spouse of the member at the time he retired.
- (2) A member who has qualified for benefits under this section may transfer to the Judicial Retirement Plan up to ten (10) years of service credit which he has earned in a retirement system administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems, and he may transfer to the Judicial Retirement Plan up to ten (10) years of service credit which he has earned in the Kentucky Legislators' Retirement Plan. If the member elects to transfer his service credit, the system or plan from which the transfer is made shall transfer to the judicial retirement fund an amount equal to the employee's and employer's contributions attributable to that credit, together with interest on the contributions from the date made to the date of transfer at the actuarially assumed interest rate of the system or plan from which the transfer is made in effect at the time the contributions were made, compounded annually at that same interest rate. The member shall be entitled to the transferred service credit, at the rate at which he qualifies under KRS 21.400, when he pays the total difference between the amount of the funds transferred and the cost of the credit to the Judicial Retirement Plan, as determined by the actuary for the Judicial Retirement Plan. The member may pay by transfer, if authorized

under subsection (5)(d) of this section, or by lump sum or increments as set forth in subsection (4)(b) of this section. The payments made under this section shall be considered accumulated contributions of the member and shall not be picked up by the employer under KRS 21.360(6).

- (3) Any active member of the Judicial Retirement Plan who is vested in the Judicial Retirement Plan under subsection (1) of this section or KRS 21.375, shall receive service credit for a maximum of four (4) years for his period of service as a city police judge for a city within the Commonwealth of Kentucky, if the service was performed prior to the first Monday in January, 1978, and if the service has not been credited to the member's account with any other public defined benefit plan, by paying the retirement system one hundred percent (100%) of the actuarial cost of the service as determined by the board of trustees, based on assumptions used in the most recent biennial evaluation. The period of service to be purchased shall be certified to the board of trustees by the custodian of the records of the city for which the service was performed. The service credit shall be awarded and the cost shall be determined in conformity with the rate which applies to the member in question under KRS 21.400. Service credit awarded under this subsection shall be equivalent, for all purposes of the Judicial Retirement Plan, to other service credit earned in the plan. The payments made under this section shall be considered accumulated contributions of the member and shall not be picked up by the employer under KRS 21.360(6).
- (4)
 - (a)
 1. Any active member of the Judicial Retirement Plan who is vested in the Judicial Retirement Plan under subsection (1) of this section or KRS 21.375, or his beneficiary acting in his place if the member dies prior to retirement, shall receive service credit for a maximum of four (4) years for his period of service in the Armed Forces of the United States, if his discharge therefrom is honorable and he has not been credited with the service by any other retirement system administered by the Commonwealth of Kentucky, by paying the retirement system thirty-five percent (35%) of the actuarial cost of the service as determined by the board of trustees, based on assumptions used in the most recent biennial evaluation. The service credit shall be awarded and the cost shall be determined in conformity with the rate which applies to the member in question under KRS 21.400. Service credit awarded under this subsection shall be equivalent, for all purposes of the Judicial Retirement Plan, to other service credit earned in the plan.
 2. Any active member of the Judicial Retirement Plan who is vested in the Judicial Retirement Plan may purchase and receive service credit for one (1) month of service for each six (6) months of service in the reserves or the National Guard by paying the retirement system one hundred percent (100%) of the actuarial cost of the service as determined by the board of trustees, based on assumptions used in the most recent biennial evaluation. The service credit shall be awarded and the cost shall be determined in conformity with the rate that applies to the member in question as provided in KRS 21.400. Service credit awarded under this subsection shall be equivalent, for all purposes of the Judicial Retirement Plan, to other service credit earned in the plan. The service in the military reserves or the National Guard shall be treated as service earned prior to participation in the plan. The purchase can be made by the member in a transfer, if authorized under subsection (5)(d) of this section, or by a lump-sum payment

or installment payments. The payment shall not be picked up by the employer as provided in KRS 21.360(6).

- (b) The member may purchase all of his military service credit at one (1) time, or in increments of no less than one (1) year, unless there is a fraction remaining after all full years have been paid for. Payment of the total or the increment may be made by lump sum or by monthly installments through payroll deduction. If the member chooses to pay by installment, the cost of the service credit shall be computed in the same manner as for a lump-sum payment, which shall be the principal. Interest, at the annual actuarial rate in effect at the time each payment is made, shall be added to each monthly payment at the rate of one-twelfth (1/12) of the annual interest rate applied to the declining principal amount. Installment purchases shall be for no less than twelve (12) nor more than sixty (60) months. If the member leaves office before completing his installment payments, he may satisfy his contract by a lump-sum payment of the remaining principal amount, but no further installment payments shall be accepted thereafter. In this case, the member shall be credited with the military service credit for which he has paid, in years or months but no fraction less than a full month, and any payment remaining after credit for full months has been awarded shall be returned to the member.
 - (c) The payments made under this section shall be considered accumulated contributions of the member and shall not be picked up by the employer under KRS 21.360(6).
- (5) (a) Any active member of the Judicial Retirement Plan who is vested in the Judicial Retirement Plan under subsection (1) of this section or KRS 21.375 shall receive service credit for a maximum of four (4) years each for his period of service as a Domestic Relations Commissioner, a Master Commissioner, or a District Court Trial Commissioner of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, or a combination thereof, if the service has not been credited to the member's account with any other public defined benefit plan, by paying the retirement system one hundred percent (100%) of the actuarial cost of the service as determined by the board of trustees, based on assumptions used in the most recent biennial evaluation. The period of service to be purchased shall be certified to the board of trustees by the custodian of the records. The service credit shall be awarded and the cost shall be determined in conformity with the rate that applies to the member in question under KRS 21.400. Service credit awarded under this subsection shall be equivalent, for all purposes of the Judicial Retirement Plan, to other service credit earned in the plan. The member may pay by transfer as set forth in paragraph (d) of this subsection, or by lump sum or increments as set forth in subsection (4)(b) of this section. The payments made under this section shall be considered accumulated contributions of the member and shall not be picked up by the employer under KRS 21.360(6).
- (b) Any active member of the Judicial Retirement Plan who is vested in the Judicial Retirement Plan under subsection (1) of this section or KRS 21.375 shall receive service credit for his period of service to the United States Government, other than service in the Armed Forces, if the service has not been credited to the member's account with any other public defined benefit plan, by paying the retirement system one hundred percent (100%) of the actuarial cost of the service as determined by the board of trustees, based on assumptions used in the most recent biennial evaluation. The period of service to be purchased shall be certified to the board of trustees by the

custodian of the records. The service credit shall be awarded and the cost shall be determined in conformity with the rate that applies to the member in question under KRS 21.400. Service credit awarded under this subsection shall be equivalent, for all purposes of the Judicial Retirement Plan, to other service credit earned in the plan. The member may pay by transfer as set forth in paragraph (d) of this subsection, or by lump sum or increments as set forth in subsection (4)(b) of this section. The payments made under this section shall be considered accumulated contributions of the member and shall not be picked up by the employer under KRS 21.360(6).

- (c) Any member of the Judicial Retirement Plan, who is in office on June 21, 2001, and who is in active contributing status to the applicable retirement plan on June 21, 2001, and who has at least *one hundred eighty (180)*~~[two hundred forty (240)]~~ months of service credit may purchase a combined maximum total of five (5) years retirement service credit that is not otherwise purchasable, by paying the retirement system one hundred percent (100%) of the actuarial cost of the service as determined by the board of trustees, based on assumptions used in the most recent biennial evaluation. The service credit shall be awarded and the cost shall be determined in conformity with the rate that applies to the member in question under KRS 21.400. Service credit awarded under this subsection shall be equivalent, for all purposes of the Judicial Retirement Plan, to other service credit earned in the plan, *except that the service purchased under this subsection shall not be used in determining a retirement allowance until the member has accrued at least two hundred forty (240) months of service, excluding service purchased under this subsection. If the member does not accrue at least two hundred forty (240) months of service, excluding service purchased under this subsection, then upon retirement, death, or written request following termination, the payment shall be refunded.* The member may pay by transfer as set forth in paragraph (d) of this subsection, or by lump sum or increments as set forth in subsection (4)(b) of this section. The payments made under this section shall be considered accumulated contributions of the member and shall not be picked up by the employer under KRS 21.360(6).
- (d) A member of the Judicial Retirement Plan may purchase service credit under the provisions of this section by transferring funds through a direct trustee-to-trustee transfer permitted under the applicable sections of the Internal Revenue Code and any regulations or rulings issued thereunder, or through a direct rollover as contemplated by and permitted under 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(a)(31). Service credit may also be purchased by a rollover of funds pursuant to and permitted under the rules specified in 26 U.S.C. sec. 402(c) and 26 U.S.C. sec. 408(d)(3). The Judicial Retirement Fund shall accept the transfer or rollover to the extent permitted under the rules specified in the applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code and any regulations and rulings issued thereunder. The amount shall be credited to the individual member's contribution account and shall be considered accumulated contributions of the member and shall not be picked up by the employer under KRS 21.360(6).

Section 8. KRS 61.510 is amended to read as follows:

As used in KRS 61.515 to 61.705, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (1) "System" means the Kentucky Employees Retirement System created by KRS 61.515 to 61.705;

- (2) "Board" means the board of trustees of the system as provided in KRS 61.645;
- (3) "Department" means any state department or board or agency participating in the system in accordance with appropriate executive order, as provided in KRS 61.520. For purposes of KRS 61.515 to 61.705, the members, officers, and employees of the General Assembly and any other body, entity, or instrumentality designated by executive order by the Governor, shall be deemed to be a department, notwithstanding whether said body, entity, or instrumentality is an integral part of state government;
- (4) "Examiner" means the medical examiners as provided in KRS 61.665;
- (5) "Employee" means the members, officers, and employees of the General Assembly and every regular full-time, appointed or elective officer or employee of a participating department, including the Department of Military Affairs. The term does not include persons engaged as independent contractors, seasonal, emergency, temporary, interim, and part-time workers. In case of any doubt, the board shall determine if a person is an employee within the meaning of KRS 61.515 to 61.705;
- (6) "Employer" means a department or any authority of a department having the power to appoint or select an employee in the department, including the Senate and the House of Representatives, or any other entity, the employees of which are eligible for membership in the system pursuant to KRS 61.525;
- (7) "State" means the Commonwealth of Kentucky;
- (8) "Member" means any employee who is included in the membership of the system or any former employee whose membership has not been terminated under KRS 61.535;
- (9) "Service" means the total of current service and prior service as defined in this section;
- (10) "Current service" means the number of years and months of employment as an employee, on and after July 1, 1956, except that for members, officers, and employees of the General Assembly this date shall be January 1, 1960, for which creditable compensation is paid and employee contributions deducted, except as otherwise provided, and each member, officer, and employee of the General Assembly shall be credited with a month of current service for each month he serves in the position;
- (11) "Prior service" means the number of years and completed months, expressed as a fraction of a year, of employment as an employee, prior to July 1, 1956, for which creditable compensation was paid; except that for members, officers, and employees of the General Assembly, this date shall be January 1, 1960. An employee shall be credited with one (1) month of prior service only in those months he received compensation for at least one hundred (100) hours of work; provided, however, that each member, officer, and employee of the General Assembly shall be credited with a month of prior service for each month he served in the position prior to January 1, 1960. Twelve (12) months of current service in the system are required to validate prior service;
- (12) "Accumulated contributions" at any time means the sum of all amounts deducted from the compensation of a member and credited to his individual account in the members' contribution account, including employee contributions picked up after August 1, 1982, pursuant to KRS 61.560(4), together with interest credited on such amounts and any other amounts the member shall have contributed thereto, including interest credited thereon;

- (13) "Creditable compensation" means all salary, wages, tips to the extent the tips are reported for income tax purposes, and fees, including payments for compensatory time, paid to the employee as a result of services performed for the employer or for time during which the member is on paid leave, which are includable on the member's federal form W-2 wage and tax statement under the heading "wages, tips, other compensation," including employee contributions picked up after August 1, 1982, pursuant to KRS 61.560(4).~~[-, except that]~~ For members of the General Assembly, it shall mean *all amounts which are includable on the member's federal form W-2 wage and tax statement under the heading "wages, tips, other compensation," including employee contributions picked up after August 1, 1982, pursuant to KRS 6.505(4) or 61.560(4)*~~[an assumed salary of twenty-seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$27,500) per annum which shall include per diem and expense payments authorized by KRS Chapter 6. The creditable compensation of members, officers, and employees of the General Assembly shall be calculated as having been received in equal amounts for each month of the year]~~. A lump-sum bonus, severance pay, or employer-provided payment for purchase of service credit shall be included as creditable compensation but shall be averaged over the employee's total service with the system in which it is recorded if it is equal to or greater than one thousand dollars (\$1,000). In cases where compensation includes maintenance and other perquisites, the board shall fix the value of that part of the compensation not paid in money. Living allowances, expense reimbursements, lump-sum payments for accrued vacation leave, and other items determined by the board shall be excluded. Creditable compensation shall also include amounts which are not includable in the member's gross income by virtue of the member having taken a voluntary salary reduction provided for under applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code. Creditable compensation shall also include elective amounts for qualified transportation fringes paid or made available on or after January 1, 2001, for calendar years on or after January 1, 2001, that are not includable in the gross income of the employee by reason of 26 U.S.C. sec. 132(f)(4);
- (14) "Final compensation" of a member means:
- (a) For a member who is not employed in a hazardous position, as provided in KRS 61.592, the creditable compensation of the member during the five (5) fiscal years he was paid at the highest average monthly rate divided by the number of months of service credit during that five (5) year period multiplied by twelve (12)~~[-, except that for members of the General Assembly who retire pursuant to KRS 61.600, or who die in office, "final compensation" shall be twenty-seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$27,500)]~~. The five (5) years may be fractional and need not be consecutive. If the number of months of service credit during the five (5) year period is less than forty-eight (48), one (1) or more additional fiscal years shall be used; or
 - (b) For a member who is not employed in a hazardous position, as provided in KRS 61.592, whose effective retirement date is between August 1, 2001, and January 1, 2009, and whose total service credit is at least twenty-seven (27) years and whose age and years of service total at least seventy-five (75), final compensation means the creditable compensation of the member during the three (3) fiscal years the member was paid at the highest average monthly rate divided by the number of months of service credit during that three (3) years period multiplied by twelve (12). The three (3) years may be fractional and need not be consecutive. If the number of months of service credit during the three (3) year period is less than twenty-four (24), one (1) or more additional fiscal years shall be used. Notwithstanding the provision of KRS

61.565, the funding for this paragraph shall be provided from existing funds of the retirement allowance; or

- (c) For a member who is employed in a hazardous position, as provided in KRS 61.592, the creditable compensation of the member during the three (3) fiscal years he was paid at the highest average monthly rate divided by the number of months of service credit during that three (3) year period multiplied by twelve (12). The three (3) years may be fractional and need not be consecutive. If the number of months of service credit during the three (3) year period is less than twenty-four (24), one (1) or more additional fiscal years shall be used;
- (15) "Final rate of pay" means the actual rate upon which earnings of an employee were calculated during the twelve (12) month period immediately preceding the member's effective retirement date, including employee contributions picked up after August 1, 1982, pursuant to KRS 61.560(4).~~[In the case of members of the General Assembly, the "final rate of pay" shall be the creditable compensation.]~~ The rate shall be certified to the system by the employer and the following equivalents shall be used to convert the rate to an annual rate: two thousand eighty (2,080) hours for eight (8) hour workdays, nineteen hundred fifty (1,950) hours for seven and one-half (7-1/2) hour workdays, two hundred sixty (260) days, fifty-two (52) weeks, twelve (12) months, one (1) year;
- (16) "Retirement allowance" means the retirement payments to which a member is entitled;
- (17) "Actuarial equivalent" means a benefit of equal value when computed upon the basis of the actuarial tables that are from time to time adopted by the board, except in cases of disability retirement, the options authorized by KRS 61.635 shall be computed by adding ten (10) years to the age of the member. No disability retirement option shall be less than the same option computed under early retirement;
- (18) "Normal retirement date" means the sixty-fifth birthday of a member, unless otherwise provided in KRS 61.515 to 61.705;
- (19) "Fiscal year" of the system means the twelve (12) months from July 1 through the following June 30, which shall also be the plan year;
- (20) "Officers and employees of the General Assembly" means the occupants of those positions enumerated in KRS 6.150. The term shall also apply to assistants who were employed by the General Assembly for at least one (1) regular legislative session prior to July 13, 2004, who elect to participate in the retirement system, and who serve for at least six (6) regular legislative sessions. Assistants hired after July 13, 2004, shall be designated as interim employees;
- (21) "Regular full-time positions," as used in subsection (5) of this section, shall mean all positions that average one hundred (100) or more hours per month determined by using the number of months actually worked within a calendar or fiscal year, including all positions except:
 - (a) Seasonal positions, which although temporary in duration, are positions which coincide in duration with a particular season or seasons of the year and which may recur regularly from year to year, the period of time shall not exceed nine (9) months;
 - (b) Emergency positions which are positions which do not exceed thirty (30) working days and are nonrenewable;

- (c) Temporary positions which are positions of employment with a participating department for a period of time not to exceed nine (9) months;
 - (d) Part-time positions which are positions which may be permanent in duration, but which require less than a calendar or fiscal year average of one hundred (100) hours of work per month, determined by using the number of months actually worked within a calendar or fiscal year, in the performance of duty; and
 - (e) Interim positions which are positions established for a one-time or recurring need not to exceed nine (9) months;
- (22) "Delayed contribution payment" means an amount paid by an employee for purchase of current service. The amount shall be determined using the same formula in KRS 61.5525, and the payment shall not be picked up by the employer. A delayed contribution payment shall be deposited to the member's contribution account and considered as accumulated contributions of the individual member. In determining payments under this subsection, the formula found in this subsection shall prevail over the one found in KRS 212.434;
- (23) "Parted employer" means a department, portion of a department, board, or agency, such as Outwood Hospital and School, which previously participated in the system, but due to lease or other contractual arrangement is now operated by a publicly held corporation or other similar organization, and therefore is no longer participating in the system;
- (24) "Retired member" means any former member receiving a retirement allowance or any former member who has filed the necessary documents for retirement benefits and is no longer contributing to the retirement system;
- (25) "Current rate of pay" means the member's actual hourly, daily, weekly, biweekly, monthly, or yearly rate of pay converted to an annual rate as defined in final rate of pay. The rate shall be certified by the employer;
- (26) "Beneficiary" means the person or persons or estate or trust or trustee designated by the member in accordance with KRS 61.542 or 61.705 to receive any available benefits in the event of the member's death. As used in KRS 61.702, "beneficiary" does not mean an estate, trust, or trustee;
- (27) "Recipient" means the retired member or the person or persons designated as beneficiary by the member and drawing a retirement allowance as a result of the member's death or a dependent child drawing a retirement allowance. An alternate payee of a qualified domestic relations order shall be considered a recipient only for purposes of KRS 61.691;
- (28) "Level-percentage-of-payroll amortization method" means a method of determining the annual amortization payment on the unfunded past service liability as expressed as a percentage of payroll over a set period of years. Under this method, the percentage of payroll shall be projected to remain constant for all years remaining in the set period and the unfunded past service liability shall be projected to be fully amortized at the conclusion of the set period;
- (29) "Increment" means twelve (12) months of service credit which are purchased. The twelve (12) months need not be consecutive. The final increment may be less than twelve (12) months;
- (30) "Person" means a natural person;
- (31) "Retirement office" means the Kentucky Retirement Systems office building in Frankfort;

- (32) "Last day of paid employment" means the last date employer and employee contributions are required to be reported in accordance with KRS 16.543, 61.543, or 78.615 to the retirement office in order for the employee to receive current service credit for the month. Last day of paid employment does not mean a date the employee receives payment for accrued leave, whether by lump sum or otherwise, if that date occurs twenty-four (24) or more months after previous contributions;
- (33) "Objective medical evidence" means reports of examinations or treatments; medical signs which are anatomical, physiological, or psychological abnormalities that can be observed; psychiatric signs which are medically demonstrable phenomena indicating specific abnormalities of behavior, affect, thought, memory, orientation, or contact with reality; or laboratory findings which are anatomical, physiological, or psychological phenomena that can be shown by medically acceptable laboratory diagnostic techniques, including but not limited to chemical tests, electrocardiograms, electroencephalograms, X-rays, and psychological tests;
- (34) "Participating" means an employee is currently earning service credit in the system as provided in KRS 61.543; and
- (35) "Month" means a calendar month.

Section 9. KRS 61.680 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) Prior to August 1, 1982, every employee shall be deemed to consent and agree to any deduction from his compensation required by KRS 6.500 to 6.535, 16.510 to 16.652, 61.510 to 61.692, 78.510 to 78.852, and to all other provisions thereof. Thereafter, employee contributions shall be picked up by the employer pursuant to KRS 61.560(4).
- (2) (a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of KRS 6.500 to 6.535, 16.510 to 16.652, 61.510 to 61.692, 78.510 to 78.852 and 161.220 to 161.714, upon death, disability, or service retirement, a member's accounts under the Legislators' Retirement Plan, State Police Retirement System, Kentucky Employees Retirement System, County Employees Retirement System, and Teachers' Retirement System, except for service prohibited by KRS 161.623(2), shall be consolidated for the purpose of determining eligibility and amount of benefits. Vested service credit in a retirement system, other than the Teachers' Retirement System, sponsored by a Kentucky institution of higher education and accepted by the Kentucky Employees Retirement System or the County Employees Retirement System, may be used to determine eligibility for twenty-seven (27) year retirement but not the amount of benefits. The computation of benefits shall be based on the applicable formula in each system and service credit in each system, but the final compensation, excluding compensation earned under KRS 161.155(9), shall be determined as if all service were in one (1) system. If the member has prior service in more than one (1) system, he shall obtain at least twelve (12) months' current service in each system in which he has prior service in order to validate the prior service in each system for purposes of determining consolidated benefits under this section. Upon the determination of benefits, each system shall pay the applicable percentage of total benefits.
- (b) The provisions of paragraph (a) of this subsection shall be waived if the member notifies the system of his desire to maintain separate retirement accounts in the State Police Retirement System, Kentucky Employees Retirement System, or County Employees Retirement System.

- (c) If the member has not contributed at least one (1) year in a system in which he has prior service, his current service in the system shall be valid for purposes of determining eligibility and in computation of benefits on a consolidated basis.
- (3) A member with service credit in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System, State Police Retirement System, or the County Employees Retirement System who becomes the holder of an office entitling him to membership in the Judicial Retirement Plan or the Legislators' Retirement Plan, but who does not elect within thirty (30) days after taking office in such service to participate in the plan, in accordance with KRS 6.505 or 21.360, shall be deemed to have elected to retain membership in the system in which he is a member, either the Kentucky Employees Retirement System, State Police Retirement System, or the County Employees Retirement System. In that event, the agency employing the member shall withhold employee contributions, or picked-up employee contributions after August 2, 1982, make employer contributions and remit these contributions to the system in which the member retained his membership. Any person entitled to membership in the Judicial Retirement Plan or the Legislators' Retirement Plan, who does not elect within thirty (30) days after taking office to participate in the plan, in accordance with KRS 6.505 or 21.360, and who at the time of taking office is not a contributing member of, or does not have service credit in, any of the retirement systems mentioned in this section, or the Teachers' Retirement System, shall participate in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System. A member of one (1) of the state-administered retirement plans who ceases to contribute to the plan as provided in KRS 21.360 and who is employed in a nonelected position by an agency participating in the Kentucky Retirement Systems shall be deemed to have elected membership in the system in which the employer of the nonelected position participates. A member of one (1) of the state-administered retirement plans who ceases to contribute to the plan as provided in KRS 21.360 and who is not employed in a nonelected position by an agency participating in the Kentucky Retirement Systems shall be deemed to have elected membership in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System.
- (4) (a) Prior to July 1, 1976, a person entering the service of an employer participating in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System or the County Employees Retirement System with service credit in the Teachers' Retirement System and who desires to retain membership in the Teachers' Retirement System, and who is permitted by that system to continue, shall be exempt from participating in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System or the County Employees Retirement System.
- (b) Any person who has elected to retain membership in the Teachers' Retirement System as provided in paragraph (a) of this subsection may cancel his election and participate in the system under which his position would normally participate, if he elects to cancel his option prior to January 1, 1977.
- (c) Any member of the General Assembly who upon election is a contributing member of the Teachers' Retirement System and who does not elect within thirty (30) days after taking office to participate in the Legislators' Retirement Plan, in accordance with KRS 6.505, shall during his term of office participate in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System unless an election to retain membership in the Teachers' Retirement System is filed in writing within ninety (90) days after his term of office begins. No contributions may be made to the Teachers' Retirement System for the same period of service under the Legislators' Retirement Plan or the Kentucky Employees Retirement System as a member of the General Assembly, but

contributions made to the Teachers' Retirement System while a member of the General Assembly shall be transferred to the Legislators' Retirement Plan, as provided for in KRS 6.535, when the member elects to join the Legislators' Retirement Plan, and service credit in the Legislators' Retirement Plan shall be granted as provided for in KRS 6.505(5)~~(3)~~.

- (5) Effective July 1, 1974, any member of the Kentucky Employees Retirement System or County Employees Retirement System who is working in a position covered by one (1) of these retirement systems and his employee contributions, service credit and employer contributions made on his behalf are being transferred to the other retirement system shall contribute to the system in which his employer participates, or after August 1, 1982, the employer shall pick up the employee contributions, and no further contributions or service credit shall be transferred to the system in which he elected to retain membership, as subsection (2) of this section eliminates the necessity of the transfers.
- (6) Any member of the Kentucky Employees Retirement System or County Employees Retirement System who is working in more than one (1) position covered by the same retirement system, shall have his wages and contributions consolidated and his retirement account administered as a single account. If part-time positions are involved, an accumulation of all hours worked within the same retirement system shall be used to determine eligibility under KRS 61.510(21).
- (7) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (2) of this section, a person who does not have the amount of service required for service retirement in the State Police Retirement System, Kentucky Employees Retirement System, County Employees Retirement System, Legislators' Retirement Plan, or Teachers' Retirement System, but who is a member of one (1) of the systems or is a former member of one (1) or more of the systems with valid service credit therein, shall become eligible for service retirement benefits attributable to the amount of his actual service credit in each system in which he has service credit when his combined service credit in all the systems, plus any service credit he has in the Judicial Retirement Plan, is equal to that required for service retirement in each respective system. The computation of benefits shall be based on the applicable formula in each system and service credit in each system, except that total service in all systems, unless prohibited by KRS 161.623(2), shall be used to determine the reduction for early retirement, if any. *Except as provided in Section 6 of this Act*, the final compensation shall be determined by using the creditable compensation reported to the State Police Retirement System, Kentucky Employees Retirement System, County Employees Retirement System, Legislators' Retirement Plan, or Teachers' Retirement System and only as much of the compensation earned in the Judicial Retirement Plan as is needed to satisfy the final compensation requirement applicable in the respective retirement systems.
- (8) Each retirement system from which the member retires shall pay a retirement allowance upon receipt of required forms and documents, except that no retirement system shall pay a retirement allowance or annuity until all forms and documents are filed at all retirement systems in compliance with each system's requirements.

Became law March 20, 2005, without Governor's signature.