

1 AN ACT relating to members of the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System who  
2 are called to active military duty.

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

4 ➔Section 1. KRS 161.168 is amended to read as follows:

5 Notwithstanding any other statute to the contrary, ***an employee who is a member of the***  
6 ***Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System and***~~a certified employee of a local board of~~  
7 ~~education~~ who is a member of a state National Guard or a Reserve component ordered to  
8 active military duty by the President of the United States shall be granted a leave of  
9 absence for this purpose and shall be considered to be rendering service to the state.

10 (1) ***An employer***~~[A local board of education]~~ that has granted military leave to ***an***~~[a~~  
11 ~~certified]~~ employee ***who is a member of the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement***  
12 ***System*** and has a commitment from the employer to return to work upon the  
13 conclusion of military leave may provide the employer's contribution toward the  
14 purchase of the state's medical insurance program during the period of military  
15 leave as long as the employee or spouse pays the additional cost of dependent  
16 coverage.

17 (2) Upon the employee's return to work, the Commonwealth of Kentucky shall pay the  
18 member contribution and any accrued interest that is required to be paid under KRS  
19 161.507(4)(b) in order for the member to receive retirement service credit for the  
20 period of active military duty. Under no circumstances shall a member be entitled to  
21 service credit under this paragraph that is in violation of the provisions of KRS  
22 161.500. The provisions of this subsection shall be retroactive to January 1, 2003,  
23 for employees who have been deployed to active combat service.

24 (3) For each year of military service or each year of combined military and school  
25 service within a school year, the certified employee ***of a school board*** shall receive  
26 a year of service credit for purposes of the district's single salary schedule defined in  
27 KRS 157.320.

1 (4) No provisions of this section shall be construed to provide disability benefits under  
2 KRS 161.611 or 161.663, survivorship benefits under KRS 161.520, life insurance  
3 benefits under KRS 161.555 or any other benefit available from the Kentucky  
4 Teachers' Retirement System as a result of active military service, or conditions or  
5 injuries resulting from active military service, except for the accrual of service  
6 credit which shall be acknowledged by the retirement system subject to the relevant  
7 conditions set forth in KRS 161.507.