

1 AN ACT relating to the Teachers' Retirement System.

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

3 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS 161.220 TO 161.716 IS CREATED
4 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

- 5 *(1) Individuals who become university members of the Teachers' Retirement System*
6 *on or after January 1, 2021, shall be provided a foundational plan, which shall*
7 *be known as the foundational benefit component, a supplemental benefit*
8 *component established by Section 2 of this Act, and retiree health benefits as*
9 *provided by KRS 161.675. For purposes of this section, the foundational benefit*
10 *component includes all benefits provided by KRS 161.220 to 161.716 for*
11 *individuals who become university members of the Teachers' Retirement System*
12 *on or after January 1, 2021, with the exception of the supplemental benefit*
13 *component established by Section 2 of this Act and retiree health benefits*
14 *established by KRS 161.675.*
- 15 *(2) Notwithstanding KRS 161.220 to 161.716, the actuary designated by the board of*
16 *trustees under Section 9 of this Act shall, as part of the annual valuation of the*
17 *pension fund, assess the funding levels, unfunded liabilities, and the actuarially*
18 *required employer contribution rates payable solely on behalf of individuals who*
19 *first become university members on or after January 1, 2021. Computation of the*
20 *employer contribution rate payable shall be based upon amortizing unfunded*
21 *liabilities using the level-dollar amortization method.*
- 22 *(3) If, on the basis of the valuation assessment required under subsection (2) of this*
23 *section, the funding level for the foundational benefit component payable on*
24 *behalf of individuals who first become university members on or after January 1,*
25 *2021, falls below ninety percent (90%), the board shall, notwithstanding any*
26 *other provision of KRS 161.220 to 161.716 to the contrary, make one (1) or more*
27 *of the following changes to maintain the funding level and to contain pension*

1 and life insurance benefit costs within the maximum statutory employer
2 contribution rate for the foundational benefit component of five and seven
3 hundred seventy-five one thousandths percent (5.775%) of annual compensation
4 as provided by subsection (1)(a)3.a. of Section 5 of this Act:

5 (a) Utilize moneys from the stabilization reserve account for university
6 membership and employers established by subsection (10) of Section 10 of
7 this Act;

8 (b) Utilize prospective mandatory employee and employer contributions to the
9 supplemental benefit component as provided by Section 2 of this Act to
10 provide funding for the foundational benefit component; or

11 (c) Prospectively adjust for individuals who become university members on or
12 after January 1, 2021, one (1) or more of the following parts of the
13 foundational benefit component:

14 1. Regular interest rate established by subsection (13)(c) of Section 3 of
15 this Act;

16 2. The benefit factors established by subsection (1)(f) of Section 7 of this
17 Act;

18 3. The age and service requirements to retire as established by subsection
19 (2) of Section 6 of this Act;

20 4. The cost-of-living adjustment established by subsection (2) of Section
21 7 of this Act; or

22 5. The age and service requirements and the retirement allowance
23 provided during the entitlement period under Section 34 of this Act.

24 Notwithstanding any other provision of KRS 161.220 to 161.716 to the
25 contrary, the board of trustees may utilize any of the above adjustments at
26 any time on all individuals who become university members on or after
27 January 1, 2021, in order to maintain the funding level of the foundational

1 benefit component and employer costs as provided by this subsection.

2 (4) For purposes of this section, "funding level" means the actuarial value of assets
 3 divided by the actuarially accrued liability expressed as a percentage that is
 4 determined and reported by the system's actuary in the system's actuarial
 5 valuation.

6 (5) This section shall only apply to individuals who became university members of
 7 the Teachers' Retirement System on or after January 1, 2021.

8 ➔SECTION 2. A NEW SECTION OF KRS 161.220 TO 161.716 IS CREATED
 9 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

10 (1) An individual who becomes a university member of the Teachers' Retirement
 11 System on or after January 1, 2021, shall receive the retirement benefits provided
 12 by this section in addition to the retirement benefits provided under Section 7 of
 13 this Act. The retirement benefits provided by this section shall be known as the
 14 supplemental benefit component.

15 (2) The supplemental benefit component shall provide a benefit based upon a
 16 member's accumulated account balance which shall include:

17 (a) Mandatory contributions made by the member as provided by subsection
 18 (1)(c)2. of Section 4 of this Act;

19 (b) Voluntary contributions made by the member, which may include lump-
 20 sum payments;

21 (c) Mandatory contributions made by the employer as provided by subsection
 22 (1)(a)3.b. of Section 5 of this Act;

23 (d) Voluntary employer contributions; and

24 (e) Regular interest, which shall be credited to the member's account annually
 25 on June 30 of each fiscal year, by multiplying the member's accumulated
 26 account balance in the supplemental benefit component on June 30 of the
 27 preceding fiscal year by the regular interest rate.

1 (3) (a) Member contributions and employer contributions as provided by
2 subsection (2)(a) to (d) of this section shall be credited to the member's
3 account at least monthly as contributions are reported and posted to the
4 system in accordance with KRS 161.560.

5 (b) No employer contributions or interest shall be provided to a member who
6 has taken a refund of his or her accumulated account balance as provided
7 by Section 11 of this Act or who has retired and annuitized his or her
8 accumulated account balance as authorized by this section.

9 (4) (a) Upon termination of employment, a member who has less than five (5)
10 years of service credited under Section 13 of this Act, who elects to take a
11 refund of his or her accumulated account balance as provided by Section 11
12 of this Act, shall forfeit the accumulated employer contribution, and shall
13 only receive a refund of his or her accumulated contributions.

14 (b) Upon termination of employment, a member who has five (5) or more years
15 of service credited under Section 13 of this Act, who elects to take a refund
16 of his or her accumulated account balance as provided by Section 11 of this
17 Act, shall receive a full refund of his or her accumulated account balance.

18 (5) A university member eligible to retire under subsection (2) of Section 6 of this Act
19 may upon retirement, in addition to the other benefits provided by Section 7 of
20 this Act, elect to:

21 (a) Have his or her accumulated account balance in the supplemental benefit
22 component annuitized into a lifetime monthly retirement allowance by the
23 system in accordance with the actuarial assumptions and actuarial methods
24 adopted by the board for the supplemental benefit component and in effect
25 on the member's retirement date;

26 (b) Receive the actuarial equivalent of his or her retirement allowance
27 calculated under paragraph (a) of this subsection payable under one (1) of

- 1 the options established by the board pursuant to Section 33 of this Act;
 2 (c) Take a distribution of the accumulated account balance in the supplemental
 3 benefit component over a period certain as authorized by the board; or
 4 (d) Take a refund of his or her accumulated account balance as provided by
 5 Section 11 of this Act.

6 A member participating in the supplemental benefit component shall not be
 7 required to take a distribution or annuitize his or her accumulated account
 8 balance in the supplemental benefit component when he or she begins drawing a
 9 retirement allowance from the foundational benefit component and may instead
 10 choose to begin drawing a distribution or annuitize his or her accumulated
 11 account balance in the supplemental benefit component at any date following his
 12 or her retirement date from the foundational benefit component.

13 (6) This section only applies to individuals who become university members of the
 14 Teachers' Retirement System on or after January 1, 2021.

15 (7) The board of trustees shall have the authority to utilize or establish any plan or
 16 plans authorized under the Internal Revenue Code to provide the benefits set
 17 forth in this section.

18 ➔Section 3. KRS 161.220 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as follows:

19 As used in KRS 161.220 to 161.716 and 161.990:

- 20 (1) "Retirement system" means the arrangement provided for in KRS 161.220 to
 21 161.716 and 161.990 for payment of allowances to members;
- 22 (2) "Retirement allowance" means the amount annually payable during the course of his
 23 natural life to a member who has been retired by reason of service;
- 24 (3) "Disability allowance" means the amount annually payable to a member retired by
 25 reason of disability;
- 26 (4) "Member" means the commissioner of education, deputy commissioners, associate
 27 commissioners, and all division directors in the State Department of Education,

1 employees participating in the system pursuant to KRS 196.167(3)(b)1., and any
2 full-time teacher or professional occupying a position requiring certification or
3 graduation from a four (4) year college or university, as a condition of employment,
4 and who is employed by public boards, institutions, or agencies as follows:

5 (a) Local boards of education;

6 (b) Eastern Kentucky University, Kentucky State University, Morehead State
7 University, Murray State University, Western Kentucky University, and any
8 community colleges established under the control of these universities;

9 (c) State-operated secondary area vocational education or area technology centers,
10 Kentucky School for the Blind, and Kentucky School for the Deaf;

11 (d) The Education Professional Standards Board, other public education agencies
12 as created by the General Assembly, and those members of the administrative
13 staff of the Teachers' Retirement System of the State of Kentucky whom the
14 board of trustees may designate by administrative regulation;

15 (e) Regional cooperative organizations formed by local boards of education or
16 other public educational institutions listed in this subsection, for the purpose
17 of providing educational services to the participating organizations;

18 (f) All full-time members of the staffs of the Kentucky Association of School
19 Administrators, Kentucky Education Association, Kentucky Vocational
20 Association, Kentucky High School Athletic Association, Kentucky Academic
21 Association, and the Kentucky School Boards Association who were members
22 of the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System or were qualified for a position
23 covered by the system at the time of employment by the association in the
24 event that the board of directors of the respective association petitions to be
25 included. The board of trustees of the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System
26 may designate by resolution whether part-time employees of the petitioning
27 association are to be included~~[, except as limited by KRS 161.612]~~. The state

1 shall make no contributions on account of these employees, either full-time or
2 part-time. The association shall make the employer's contributions, including
3 any contribution that is specified under KRS 161.550. The provisions of this
4 paragraph shall be applicable to persons in the employ of the associations on
5 or subsequent to July 1, 1972;

6 (g) Employees of the Council on Postsecondary Education who were employees
7 of the Department for Adult Education and Literacy and who were members
8 of the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System at the time the department was
9 transferred to the council pursuant to Executive Order 2003-600;

10 (h) The Office of Career and Technical Education, except that the executive
11 director shall not be a member;

12 (i) The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation;

13 (j) The Kentucky Educational Collaborative for State Agency Children;

14 (k) The Governor's Scholars Program;

15 (l) Any person who is retired for service from the retirement system and is
16 reemployed by an employer identified in this subsection in a position that the
17 board of trustees deems to be a member~~], except that any person who retires~~
18 ~~on or after January 1, 2019, shall upon reemployment after retirement not earn~~
19 ~~a second retirement account];~~

20 (m) Employees of the former Cabinet for Workforce Development who are
21 transferred to the Kentucky Community and Technical College System and
22 who occupy positions covered by the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System
23 shall remain in the Teachers' Retirement System. New employees occupying
24 these positions, as well as newly created positions qualifying for Teachers'
25 Retirement System coverage that would have previously been included in the
26 former Cabinet for Workforce Development, shall be members of the
27 Teachers' Retirement System;

- 1 (n) Effective January 1, 1998, employees of state community colleges who are
2 transferred to the Kentucky Community and Technical College System shall
3 continue to participate in federal old age, survivors, disability, and hospital
4 insurance, and a retirement plan other than the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement
5 System offered by Kentucky Community and Technical College System. New
6 employees occupying positions in the Kentucky Community and Technical
7 College System as referenced in KRS 164.5807(5) that would not have
8 previously been included in the former Cabinet for Workforce Development,
9 shall participate in federal old age, survivors, disability, and hospital insurance
10 and have a choice at the time of employment of participating in a retirement
11 plan provided by the Kentucky Community and Technical College System,
12 including participation in the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System, on the
13 same basis as faculty of the state universities as provided in KRS ~~[161.235,]~~
14 161.540~~[,]~~ and 161.620;
- 15 (o) Employees of the Office of General Counsel, the Office of Budget and
16 Administrative Services, and the Office of Quality and Human Resources
17 within the Office of the Secretary of the former Cabinet for Workforce
18 Development and the commissioners of the former Department for Adult
19 Education and Literacy and the former Department for Technical Education
20 who were contributing to the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System as of
21 July 15, 2000;
- 22 (p) Employees of the Kentucky Department of Education only who are graduates
23 of a four (4) year college or university, notwithstanding a substitution clause
24 within a job classification, and who are serving in a professional job
25 classification as defined by the department;
- 26 (q) The Governor's School for Entrepreneurs Program; and
- 27 (r) Employees of the Office of Adult Education within the Department of

1 Workforce Investment in the Education and Workforce Development Cabinet
2 who were employees of the Council on Postsecondary Education, Kentucky
3 Adult Education Program and who were members of the Kentucky Teachers'
4 Retirement System at the time the Program was transferred to the cabinet
5 pursuant to Executive Orders 2019-0026 and 2019-0027.

6 (5) "Present teacher" means any teacher who was a teacher on or before July 1, 1940,
7 and became a member of the retirement system created by 1938 (1st Extra. Sess.)
8 Ky. Acts ch. 1, on the date of the inauguration of the system or within one (1) year
9 after that date, and any teacher who was a member of a local teacher retirement
10 system in the public elementary or secondary schools of the state on or before July
11 1, 1940, and continued to be a member of the system until he, with the membership
12 of the local retirement system, became a member of the state Teachers' Retirement
13 System or who becomes a member under the provisions of KRS 161.470(4);

14 (6) "New teacher" means any member not a present teacher;

15 (7) "Prior service" means the number of years during which the member was a teacher
16 in Kentucky prior to July 1, 1941, except that not more than thirty (30) years' prior
17 service shall be allowed or credited to any teacher;

18 (8) "Subsequent service" means the number of years during which the teacher is a
19 member of the Teachers' Retirement System after July 1, 1941;

20 (9) "Final average salary" means the average of the five (5) highest annual salaries
21 which the member has received for service in a covered position and on which the
22 member has made contributions, or on which the public board, institution, or
23 agency has picked-up member contributions pursuant to KRS 161.540(2), or the
24 average of the five (5) years of highest salaries as defined in KRS 61.680(2)(a),
25 which shall include picked-up member contributions. Additionally, the board of
26 trustees may, *except for those individuals who become university members on or*
27 *after January 1, 2021,* approve a final average salary based upon the average of the

1 three (3) highest salaries for members who are at least fifty-five (55) years of age
2 and have a minimum of twenty-seven (27) years of Kentucky service credit.
3 However, if any of the five (5) or three (3) highest annual salaries used to calculate
4 the final average salary was paid within the three (3) years immediately prior to the
5 date of the member's retirement, the amount of salary to be included for each of
6 those three (3) years for the purpose of calculating the final average salary shall be
7 limited to the lesser of:

- 8 (a) The member's actual salary; or
9 (b) The member's annual salary that was used for retirement purposes during each
10 of the prior three (3) years, plus a percentage increase equal to the percentage
11 increase received by all other members employed by the public board,
12 institution, or agency, or for members of school districts, the highest
13 percentage increase received by members on any one (1) rank and step of the
14 salary schedule of the school district. The increase shall be computed on the
15 salary that was used for retirement purposes.

16 This limitation shall not apply if the member receives an increase in salary in a
17 percentage exceeding that received by the other members, and this increase was
18 accompanied by a corresponding change in position or in length of employment.

19 This limitation shall also not apply to the payment to a member for accrued annual
20 leave if the individual becomes a member before July 1, 2008, or accrued sick leave
21 which is authorized by statute and which shall be included as part of a retiring
22 member's annual compensation for the member's last year of active service~~as~~
23 ~~provided by KRS 161.155];~~

- 24 (10) "Annual compensation" means the total salary received by a member as
25 compensation for all services performed in employment covered by the retirement
26 system during a fiscal year. Annual compensation shall not include payment for any
27 benefit or salary adjustments made by the public board, institution, or agency to the

1 member or on behalf of the member which is not available as a benefit or salary
2 adjustment to other members employed by that public board, institution, or agency.
3 Annual compensation shall not include the salary supplement received by a member
4 under KRS 157.197(2)(c), 158.6455, or 158.782 on or after July 1, 1996. Under no
5 circumstances shall annual compensation include compensation that is earned by a
6 member while on assignment to an organization or agency that is not a public board,
7 institution, or agency listed in subsection (4) of this section. In the event that federal
8 law requires that a member continue membership in the retirement system even
9 though the member is on assignment to an organization or agency that is not a
10 public board, institution, or agency listed in subsection (4) of this section, the
11 member's annual compensation for retirement purposes shall be deemed to be the
12 annual compensation, as limited by subsection (9) of this section, last earned by the
13 member while still employed solely by and providing services directly to a public
14 board, institution, or agency listed in subsection (4) of this section. The board of
15 trustees shall determine if any benefit or salary adjustment qualifies as annual
16 compensation. For an individual who becomes a member on or after July 1, 2008,
17 annual compensation shall not include lump-sum payments upon termination of
18 employment for accumulated annual or compensatory leave;

19 (11) "Age of member" means the age attained on the first day of the month immediately
20 following the birthdate of the member. This definition is limited to retirement
21 eligibility and does not apply to tenure of members;

22 (12) "Employ," and derivatives thereof, means relationships under which an individual
23 provides services to an employer as an employee, as an independent contractor, as
24 an employee of a third party, or under any other arrangement as long as the services
25 provided to the employer are provided in a position that would otherwise be covered
26 by the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System and as long as the services are being
27 provided to a public board, institution, or agency listed in subsection (4) of this

1 section;

2 (13) "Regular interest" means:

3 (a) For an individual who becomes a member prior to July 1, 2008, interest at
4 three percent (3%) per annum;~~[-, except]:~~

5 ~~(b)(a)~~ For an individual who becomes a member on or after July 1, 2008,
6 except as provided by paragraph (c) of this subsection,~~[but prior to January~~
7 ~~1, 2019, "regular interest" means]~~interest at two and one-half percent (2.5%)
8 per annum for purposes of crediting interest to the teacher savings account or
9 any other contributions made by the employee that are refundable to the
10 employee upon termination of employment; and

11 ~~(c)(b)~~ For an individual who becomes a university member on or after January
12 1, 2021~~[2019], [who is participating in the hybrid cash balance plan, "regular~~
13 ~~interest" means]~~the yield on a thirty (30) year United States Treasury bond
14 as of the end of the most recently completed fiscal year, except that:

15 1. Once the university member has at least sixty (60) months of service in
16 the system, it shall mean interest at two and one-half percent (2.5%)
17 per annum for purposes of crediting interest to employee contributions
18 in the foundational benefit component or any other contributions
19 made by the employee to the foundational benefit component that are
20 refundable to the employee upon termination of employment; and

21 2. The board shall have the authority to adjust the regular interest rate
22 for individuals who become university members on or after January 1,
23 2021, in accordance with Section 1 of this Act~~[the regular interest~~
24 ~~credited to the member's accumulated account balance as provided by~~
25 ~~KRS 161.235];~~

26 (14) "Accumulated contributions" means the contributions of a member to the teachers'
27 savings fund, including picked-up member contributions as described in KRS

- 1 161.540(2), plus accrued regular interest;
- 2 (15) "Annuitant" means a person who receives a retirement allowance or a disability
3 allowance;
- 4 (16) "Local retirement system" means any teacher retirement or annuity system created
5 in any public school district in Kentucky in accordance with the laws of Kentucky;
- 6 (17) "Fiscal year" means the twelve (12) month period from July 1 to June 30. The
7 retirement plan year is concurrent with this fiscal year. A contract for a member
8 employed by a local board of education may not exceed two hundred sixty-one
9 (261) days in the fiscal year;
- 10 (18) "Public schools" means the schools and other institutions mentioned in subsection
11 (4) of this section;
- 12 (19) "Dependent" as used in KRS 161.520 and 161.525 means a person who was
13 receiving, at the time of death of the member, at least one-half (1/2) of the support
14 from the member for maintenance, including board, lodging, medical care, and
15 related costs;
- 16 (20) "Active contributing member" means a member currently making contributions to
17 the Teachers' Retirement System, who made contributions in the next preceding
18 fiscal year, for whom picked-up member contributions are currently being made, or
19 for whom these contributions were made in the next preceding fiscal year;
- 20 (21) "Full-time" means employment in a position that requires services on a continuing
21 basis equal to at least seven-tenths (7/10) of normal full-time service on a fiscal year
22 basis;
- 23 (22) "Full actuarial cost," when used to determine the payment that a member must pay
24 for service credit means the actuarial value of all costs associated with the
25 enhancement of a member's benefits or eligibility for benefit enhancements,
26 including health insurance supplement payments made by the retirement system.
27 The actuary for the retirement system shall determine the full actuarial value costs

- 1 and actuarial cost factor tables as provided in KRS 161.400;
- 2 (23) "Last annual compensation" means the annual compensation, as defined by
3 subsection (10) of this section and as limited by subsection (9) of this section,
4 earned by the member during the most recent period of contributing service, either
5 consecutive or nonconsecutive, that is sufficient to provide the member with one (1)
6 full year of service credit in the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System, and which
7 compensation is used in calculating the member's initial retirement allowance,
8 excluding bonuses, retirement incentives, payments for accumulated sick leave ~~and~~
9 ~~authorized by KRS 161.155~~, annual, personal, and compensatory leave, and any
10 other lump-sum payment. For an individual who becomes a member on or after July
11 1, 2008, payments for annual or compensatory leave shall not be included in
12 determining the member's last annual compensation;
- 13 (24) "Participant" means a member, as defined by subsection (4) of this section, or an
14 annuitant, as defined by subsection (15) of this section;
- 15 (25) "Qualified domestic relations order" means any judgment, decree, or order,
16 including approval of a property settlement agreement, that:
- 17 (a) Is issued by a court or administrative agency; and
- 18 (b) Relates to the provision of child support, alimony payments, or marital
19 property rights to an alternate payee;
- 20 (26) "Alternate payee" means a spouse, former spouse, child, or other dependent of a
21 participant, who is designated to be paid retirement benefits in a qualified domestic
22 relations order;
- 23 (27) "University member" means an individual who becomes a member through
24 employment with an employer specified in subsection (4)(b) and (n) of this section;
- 25 (28) "Nonuniversity member" means an individual who becomes a member through
26 employment with an employer specified under subsection (4) of this section, except
27 for those members employed by an employer specified in subsection (4)(b) and (n)

1 of this section;

2 (29) "Accumulated employer contribution~~[credit]~~" means the employer
3 contribution~~[pay credit]~~ deposited to a university ~~[the]~~ member's account through
4 the supplemental benefit component and regular interest credited on such amounts
5 as provided by Section 2 of this Act for university members~~[KRS 161.235]; [and]~~

6 (30) "Accumulated account balance" means[~~:~~

7 ~~(a) For members who began participating in the system prior to January 1, 2019,]~~
8 the member's accumulated contributions, except that ~~[; or~~

9 ~~(b)]for individuals who become university members [who began participating in~~
10 ~~the system]on or after January 1, 2021~~[2019], 'accumulated account~~~~
11 ~~balance' means[in the hybrid cash balance plan as provided by KRS~~
12 ~~161.235,]~~ the combined sum of the member's accumulated contributions and
13 the member's accumulated employer contributions~~[credit];~~

14 (31) "Foundational benefit component" means the benefits provided by KRS 161.220
15 to 161.716 to individuals who become university members on or after January 1,
16 2021, except for the supplemental benefit component and retiree health benefits
17 set forth in KRS 161.675; and

18 (32) "Supplemental benefit component" means the benefit established pursuant to
19 Section 2 of this Act for individuals who become university members on or after
20 January 1, 2021.

21 ➔Section 4. KRS 161.540 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as follows:

22 (1) (a) ~~[Effective January 1, 2019,]~~Each individual who is a contributing
23 nonuniversity member, shall contribute to the retirement system twelve and
24 eight hundred fifty-five thousandths percent (12.855%) of annual
25 compensation, of which:

- 26 1. Nine and one hundred five thousandths percent (9.105%) of annual
27 compensation shall be used to fund pension benefits; and

1 2. Three and three-quarters percent (3.75%) of annual compensation shall
2 be used to fund retiree health benefits.

3 (b) ~~[Effective January 1, 2019,]~~Each individual who ***becomes***~~[is]~~ a contributing
4 university member ***prior to January 1, 2021***, shall contribute to the retirement
5 system ten and four-tenths percent (10.4%) of annual compensation, of which:

6 1. Seven and six hundred twenty-five thousandths percent (7.625%) of
7 annual compensation shall be used to fund pension benefits; and

8 2. Two and seven hundred seventy-five thousandths percent (2.775%) of
9 annual compensation shall be used to fund retiree health benefits.

10 (c) ***Each individual who becomes a contributing university member on or after***
11 ***January 1, 2021, shall contribute to the retirement system nine and seven***
12 ***hundred seventy-five thousandths percent (9.775%) of annual***
13 ***compensation, of which:***

14 ***1. Five percent (5%) of annual compensation shall be used to fund***
15 ***pension benefits in the foundational benefit component as described***
16 ***by Section 1 of this Act. The contribution provided by this***
17 ***subparagraph shall not be used to fund the supplemental benefit***
18 ***account as provided by Section 2 of this Act;***

19 ***2. Two percent (2%) of annual compensation shall fund the required***
20 ***employee contribution in the supplemental benefit component in***
21 ***Section 2 of this Act, except that the board may direct these***
22 ***contributions on a prospective basis into the pension and life***
23 ***insurance funds to contain costs of the foundational benefit***
24 ***component within the provisions of Section 1 of this Act; and***

25 ***3. Two and seven hundred and seventy-five thousandths percent***
26 ***(2.775%) of annual compensation shall be used to fund retiree health***
27 ***benefits.***

1 ~~(d)~~~~(e)~~ When the medical insurance fund established under KRS 161.420(5)
2 achieves a sufficient prefunded status as determined by the retirement system's
3 actuary, the board of trustees shall recommend to the General Assembly that
4 the contributions required under paragraph (a)2.~~1-01~~ (b)2., or (c)3. of this
5 subsection shall, in an actuarially accountable manner, be either decreased,
6 suspended, or eliminated.

7 ~~(e)~~~~(d)~~ Payments authorized by statute that are made to retiring members, who
8 became members of the system before July 1, 2008, for not more than sixty
9 (60) days of unused accrued annual leave shall be considered as part of the
10 member's annual compensation, and shall be used only for the member's final
11 year of active service. The contribution of members shall not exceed these
12 applicable percentages on annual compensation. When a member retires, if it
13 is determined that he has made contributions on a salary in excess of the
14 amount to be included for the purpose of calculating his final average salary,
15 any excess contribution shall be refunded to him in a lump sum at the time of
16 the payment of his first retirement allowance. In the event a member is
17 awarded a court-ordered back salary payment the employer shall deduct and
18 remit the member contribution on the salary payment, plus interest to be paid
19 by the employer, to the retirement system unless otherwise specified by the
20 court order.

21 (2) Each public board, institution, or agency listed in KRS 161.220(4) shall, solely for
22 the purpose of compliance with Section 414(h) of the United States Internal
23 Revenue Code, pick up the member contributions required by this section for all
24 compensation earned after August 1, 1982, and the contributions so picked up shall
25 be treated as employer contributions in determining tax treatment under the United
26 States Internal Revenue Code and KRS 141.010. The picked-up member
27 contribution shall satisfy all obligations to the retirement system satisfied prior to

1 August 1, 1982, by the member contribution, and the picked-up member
2 contribution shall be in lieu of a member contribution. Each employer shall pay
3 these picked-up member contributions from the same source of funds which is used
4 to pay earnings to the member. The member shall have no option to receive the
5 contributed amounts directly instead of having them paid by the employer to the
6 system. Member contributions picked-up after August 1, 1982, shall be treated for
7 all purposes of KRS 161.220 to 161.714 in the same manner and to the same extent
8 as member contributions made prior to August 1, 1982.

9 ➔Section 5. KRS 161.550 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as follows:

10 (1) (a) ~~[Effective July 1, 2020, and for each fiscal year occurring thereafter,]~~Each
11 employer, except as provided under KRS 161.555, shall contribute annually to
12 the Teachers' Retirement System a base permanent employer contribution **rate**
13 **on behalf of each employee it employs** equal to:

14 1. Thirteen and one hundred five thousandths percent (13.105%) of the
15 total annual compensation of nonuniversity members. **Of this base**
16 **permanent employer contributions rate**~~[it employs, of which]:~~

17 a. Twelve and three hundred fifty-five thousandths percent
18 (12.355%) of the total annual compensation shall be used to fund
19 pension and life insurance benefits; and

20 b. Three-quarters of a percent (0.75%) of annual compensation shall
21 be used to provide funding to the medical insurance fund as
22 provided under KRS 161.420(5). If the board of trustees
23 establishes a trust fund under 26 U.S.C. sec. 115, the board may
24 deposit the employer contribution provided in this subparagraph in
25 that trust fund; ~~[and]~~

26 2. Thirteen and sixty-five hundredths percent (13.65%) of the total annual
27 compensation of university members **who become members prior to**

1 January 1, 2021. Of this base permanent employer contribution
 2 rate~~[of the retirement system it employs, of which]:~~

- 3 a. Ten and eight hundred seventy-five thousandths percent (10.875%)
 4 of the total annual compensation shall be used to fund pension and
 5 life insurance benefits; and
- 6 b. Two and seven hundred seventy-five thousandths percent
 7 (2.775%) of annual compensation shall be used to provide funding
 8 to the medical insurance fund as provided under KRS 161.420(5).
 9 If the board of trustees establishes a trust fund under 26 U.S.C. sec.
 10 115, the board may deposit the employer contribution provided in
 11 this subparagraph in that trust fund ; and~~[]~~

12 3. Nine and seven hundred seventy-five thousandths percent (9.775%) of
 13 total annual compensation of university members who become
 14 members on or after January 1, 2021. Of this base permanent
 15 employer contribution rate:

16 a. Five and seven hundred seventy-five thousandths percent
 17 (5.775%) of the total annual compensation shall be used to fund
 18 pension and life insurance benefits. The contribution provided
 19 by this subdivision shall not be used to fund the supplemental
 20 benefit account as provided by Section 2 of this Act;

21 b. Two percent (2%) of the total annual compensation shall be used
 22 to fund the mandatory employer contribution of the
 23 supplemental benefit component, except that the board may
 24 direct these contributions on a prospective basis into the pension
 25 and life insurance funds to contain costs within the provisions of
 26 Section 1 of this Act; and

27 c. Two percent (2%) of annual compensation shall be used to

1 *provide funding to the medical insurance fund as provided under*
 2 *subsection (5) of Section 10 of this Act. If the board of trustees*
 3 *establishes a trust fund under 26 U.S.C. sec. 115, the board may*
 4 *deposit the employer contribution provided in this subparagraph*
 5 *in that trust fund.*

6 ~~(b) Effective July 1, 2020, and for each year thereafter, each employer shall pay~~
 7 ~~the additional contributions needed to fund the Teachers' Retirement System~~
 8 ~~pension fund and life insurance fund on an actuarially sound basis as~~
 9 ~~determined by the system's actuarial valuation completed in accordance with~~
 10 ~~KRS 161.400 and as specified by this section. The amount payable under the~~
 11 ~~provisions of this paragraph shall:~~

12 ~~1. Be in addition to the amounts provided under paragraph (a)1.a. and~~
 13 ~~(a)2.a. of this subsection;~~

14 ~~2. Not include the cost or funding of benefits established by KRS 161.553;~~
 15 ~~and~~

16 ~~3. Shall be prorated to each employer based upon the individual employer's~~
 17 ~~average percentage of the total compensation reported by all employers~~
 18 ~~in the system in fiscal years 2014-2015, 2015-2016, and 2016-2017,~~
 19 ~~except that the amount shall be paid by state appropriation only for those~~
 20 ~~employers who cover memberships specified by KRS 161.220(4)(a).~~

21 ~~(c) The contributions payable under paragraphs (a)1.a., (a)2.a., and (b) of~~
 22 ~~this subsection by employers and the state shall be equal to the sum of~~
 23 ~~the "normal cost" contribution and the "actuarially accrued liability~~
 24 ~~contribution," except that the minimum contribution to fund pension and~~
 25 ~~life insurance benefits shall not be less than the combined employer~~
 26 ~~contribution to fund pension and life insurance benefits specified by~~
 27 ~~paragraph (a) of this subsection and subsection (3) of this section.~~

1 ~~(d) For purposes of this subsection, the normal cost contribution shall be~~
2 ~~computed as a percentage of payroll and shall be an annual amount that~~
3 ~~is sufficient when combined with employee contributions to fund~~
4 ~~pension and life insurance benefits earned during the year, including~~
5 ~~costs for members participating in the hybrid cash balance plan.~~

6 ~~(e) For purposes of this subsection, the actuarially accrued liability~~
7 ~~contribution shall be an annual amount that is sufficient to amortize the~~
8 ~~total unfunded actuarially accrued liability over a closed period of thirty~~
9 ~~(30) years using:~~

10 ~~1. The level percentage of payroll amortization method in the 2018~~
11 ~~actuarial valuation with a payroll growth assumption of two and six~~
12 ~~hundred twenty five thousandths percent (2.625%);~~

13 ~~2. The level percentage of payroll amortization method in the 2019~~
14 ~~actuarial valuation with a payroll growth assumption of one and seventy~~
15 ~~five hundredths percent (1.75%);~~

16 ~~3. The level percentage of payroll amortization method in the 2020~~
17 ~~actuarial valuation with a payroll growth assumption of eight hundred~~
18 ~~seventy five thousandths percent (0.875%); and~~

19 ~~4. The level dollar amortization method in the 2021 actuarial valuation and~~
20 ~~for each valuation occurring thereafter.~~

21 ~~— The amortization period shall be reset to a new thirty (30) year closed~~
22 ~~period beginning with the 2018 actuarial valuation.~~

23 ~~(f) Effective with the 2018 actuarial valuation, which determines the~~
24 ~~employer rates payable on or after July 1, 2020, the employer~~
25 ~~contributions computed under this section shall be determined using:~~

26 ~~1. The entry age normal cost funding method;~~

27 ~~2. An asset smoothing method that smooths gains and losses over a five (5)~~

1 ~~year period; and~~

2 ~~3. Other funding methods and assumptions established by the board in~~
 3 ~~accordance with KRS 161.400.]~~

4 (2) In addition to the required contributions in subsection (1) of this section, the state
 5 shall contribute annually to the ~~[Kentucky]~~Teachers' Retirement System a
 6 percentage of the total salaries of the state-funded and federally funded members it
 7 employs to pay the cost of health insurance coverage for retirees who are not
 8 eligible for Medicare and who retire on or after July 1, 2010, less the amounts that
 9 are otherwise required to be paid by the retirees under KRS 161.675. ~~[The Kentucky~~
 10 ~~Teachers' Retirement System may also request an additional amount necessary to~~
 11 ~~ensure payment of medical insurance costs through fiscal year 2015-2016 which~~
 12 ~~shall not be subject to the limitations of paragraph (c) of this subsection.]~~The board
 13 shall deposit funds in the medical insurance fund unless the board of trustees has
 14 established a trust fund under 26 U.S.C. sec. 115 for this purpose. In this case, the
 15 board may deposit the employer contribution in that trust fund. This contribution
 16 shall be known as the state medical insurance fund stabilization contribution. The
 17 percentage to be contributed by the state under this subsection:

18 (a) Shall be determined by the retirement system's actuary for each biennial
 19 budget period;

20 (b) May be suspended or adjusted by the General Assembly if in its judgment the
 21 welfare of the Commonwealth so demands; and

22 (c) Shall not exceed the lesser of the actual benefit cost for retirees not eligible for
 23 Medicare who retire on or after July 1, 2010, or the amount contributed by
 24 employers under subsection (3) of this section.

25 (3) ~~[Effective January 1, 2019,]~~All employers who employ nonuniversity members
 26 shall make a contribution for each payroll on behalf of their active employees who
 27 participate in the Teachers' Retirement System in an amount equal to~~±~~

1 ~~{(a)}~~ three percent (3%) of payroll of those active employees. The contribution
 2 specified by this **subsection** ~~{paragraph that is paid on or after January 1,~~
 3 ~~2019,}~~ shall be used to fund retiree health benefits~~}; and~~

4 ~~(b) Two percent (2%) of payroll for those members who participate in the hybrid~~
 5 ~~cash balance plan as provided by KRS 161.235. The amount of funding~~
 6 ~~provided by this paragraph shall be used to offset any additional costs paid~~
 7 ~~under subsection (1)(b) of this section}.~~

8 (4) **Each employer shall remit the required employer contributions to the retirement**
 9 **system under the terms and conditions specified for member contributions under**
 10 **KRS 161.560. The state shall provide annual appropriations based upon**
 11 **estimated funds needed to meet the requirements of KRS 161.155, 161.168,**
 12 **161.507(4), 161.515, 161.545, 161.553, 161.605, 161.612, and 161.620(1), (3), (5),**
 13 **(6), and (7).** In the event an annual appropriation ~~{for the amounts specified by~~
 14 ~~subsection (1)(a)1. of this section}~~ is less than the amount of these requirements, the
 15 state shall make up the deficit in the next biennium budget appropriation to the
 16 retirement system. Employer contributions to the retirement system are for the
 17 exclusive purpose of providing benefits to members and annuitants and these
 18 contributions shall be considered deferred compensation to the members. **The**
 19 **provisions of this subsection shall not apply to costs applicable to individuals who**
 20 **become university members on or after January 1, 2021.**

21 ➔Section 6. KRS 161.600 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as follows:

22 (1) ~~{Effective July 1, 1988,}~~ **Except as provided by subsection (2) of this section,** a
 23 member of the retirement system may qualify for service retirement by meeting one
 24 (1) of the following requirements:

25 (a) Attainment of age sixty (60) years and completion of five (5) years of
 26 Kentucky service;

27 (b) 1. For an individual who becomes a member before July 1, 2008,

1 attainment of age fifty-five (55) years and completion of a minimum of
2 five (5) years of Kentucky service with an actuarial reduction of the
3 basic allowance of five percent (5%) for each year the member's age is
4 less than sixty (60) years or for each year the member's years of
5 Kentucky service credit is less than twenty-seven (27), whichever is the
6 lesser number; and

7 2. For an individual who becomes a member on or after July 1, 2008,
8 attainment of age fifty-five (55) years and completion of a minimum of
9 ten (10) years of Kentucky service with an actuarial reduction of the
10 basic retirement allowance of six percent (6%) for each year the
11 member's age is less than sixty (60) years or for each year the member's
12 years of Kentucky service credit is less than twenty-seven (27),
13 whichever is the lesser number;

14 (c) Completion of twenty-seven (27) years of Kentucky service. Out-of-state
15 service earned in accordance with the provisions of KRS 161.515(2) may be
16 used to meet this requirement; or

17 (d) Completion of the necessary years of service under provisions of KRS
18 61.559(2)(c) if the member is retiring under the reciprocity provisions of KRS
19 61.680. A member retiring under this paragraph who has not attained age
20 fifty-five (55) shall incur an actuarial reduction of the basic allowance
21 determined by the system's actuary for each year the member's service credit is
22 less than twenty-seven (27).

23 (2) *An individual who becomes a university member of the retirement system on or*
24 *after January 1, 2021, shall, except as adjusted by the board pursuant to Section*
25 *1 of this Act, be eligible to retire upon attainment of:*

26 *(a) Age sixty-five (65) and completion of a minimum of five (5) years of*
27 *Kentucky service; or*

1 (b) Age fifty-five (55) and completion of a minimum of ten (10) years of
 2 Kentucky service.

3 (3) Any person who has been a member in Kentucky for twenty-seven (27) years or
 4 more and who withdraws from covered employment may continue to pay into the
 5 fund each year until the end of the fiscal year in which he reaches the age of sixty-
 6 five (65) years, the current contribution rate based on the annual compensation
 7 received during the member's last full year in covered employment, less any
 8 payment received for accrued sick leave or accrued leave from an employer. The
 9 member shall be entitled to receive a retirement allowance as provided in KRS
 10 161.620 at any time after withdrawing from covered employment and payment of
 11 contributions under this subsection. No member shall make contributions as
 12 provided for in this subsection if the member is at the same time making
 13 contributions to another retirement system in Kentucky supported wholly or in part
 14 by public funds.

15 ~~(4)~~~~(3)~~ Service credit in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System, the State Police
 16 Retirement System, the Legislators' Retirement Plan, the County Employees
 17 Retirement System, or the Judicial Retirement System may be used in meeting the
 18 service requirements of subsections~~[subsection]~~ (1)(a) ~~to~~~~[(b), and]~~ (c) and (2) of
 19 this section, provided the service is subsequent to July 1, 1956.

20 ~~(5)~~~~(4)~~ Upon death, disability, or service retirement, a member's accounts under all
 21 state supported retirement systems shall be consolidated, as provided by this section
 22 and by KRS 61.680, for the purpose of determining eligibility and amount of
 23 benefits, which shall include medical benefits. Upon determination of benefits, each
 24 system shall pay the applicable percentage of total benefits. The effective date of
 25 retirement under this subsection shall be determined by each retirement system for
 26 the portion of the payments that will be made.

27 ~~(6)~~~~(5)~~ No retirement annuity shall be effective until written application and option

1 election forms are filed with the retirement office in accordance with administrative
2 regulations of the board of trustees. A member may withdraw his or her retirement
3 application, postpone his or her effective retirement date, or change his or her
4 retirement option if these elections are made no later than the fifteenth day of the
5 month in which the member has made application for retirement.

6 ~~(7)~~⁽⁶⁾ The surviving spouse of an active contributing member, if named as
7 beneficiary of the member's account, may purchase retirement credit that the
8 member was eligible to purchase prior to the member's death.

9 ~~[(7) Effective January 1, 2019, subsections (1) to (3) of this section do not apply to~~
10 ~~individuals who become members of the Teachers' Retirement System on or after~~
11 ~~January 1, 2019. Individuals who become members of the Teachers' Retirement~~
12 ~~System on or after January 1, 2019, shall receive the retirement benefits prescribed~~
13 ~~by KRS 161.235.]~~

14 ➔Section 7. KRS 161.620 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as follows:

15 (1) The retirement allowance, in the form of a life annuity with refundable balance, of a
16 member retiring for service shall be calculated as follows:

17 (a) For retirements effective July 1, 1998, and thereafter, except as otherwise
18 provided by this section, the annual allowance for each year of service shall be
19 two percent (2%) of the final average salary for service performed prior to
20 July 1, 1983, and two and one-half percent (2.5%) of the final average salary
21 for service performed after July 1, 1983, for all nonuniversity members. The
22 annual retirement allowance for each year of service performed by members
23 of the Teachers' Retirement System who are university members shall be two
24 percent (2%) of the final average salary. Actuarial discounts due to age or
25 service credit at retirement may be applied as provided in this section;

26 (b) For individuals who become nonuniversity members of the Teachers'
27 Retirement System on or after July 1, 2002, and before July 1, 2008, who

1 upon retirement have earned less than ten (10) full years of service credit, the
2 retirement allowance shall be two percent (2%) of the member's final average
3 salary for each year of service. For individuals who become nonuniversity
4 members of the Teachers' Retirement System on or after July 1, 2002, and
5 before July 1, 2008, and who upon retirement have earned at least ten (10) full
6 years of service credit, the annual allowance for each year of service shall be
7 two and one-half percent (2.5%) of the member's final average salary;

- 8 (c) The board of trustees may approve for members who initially retire on or after
9 July 1, 2004, and who become nonuniversity members before July 1, 2008, a
10 retirement allowance of three percent (3%) of the member's final average
11 salary for each year of service credit earned in excess of thirty (30) years.

12 This three percent (3%) factor shall be in lieu of the two and one-half percent
13 (2.5%) factor provided for in paragraph (b) of this subsection for every year or
14 fraction of a year of service in excess of thirty (30) years. Upon approval of
15 this three percent (3%) retirement factor, the board of trustees may establish
16 conditions of eligibility regarding the type of service credit that will qualify
17 for meeting the requirements of this subsection. This subsection is optional
18 with the board of trustees and shall not be subject to KRS 161.714;

- 19 (d) For individuals who become nonuniversity members of the Teachers'
20 Retirement System on or after July 1, 2008, the retirement allowance shall be:

- 21 1. a. One and seven-tenths percent (1.7%) of the member's final average
22 salary for each year of service if the member has earned ten (10) or
23 less years of service at retirement;
- 24 b. Two percent (2%) of the member's final average salary for each
25 year of service if the member has earned greater than ten (10) but
26 no more than twenty (20) years of service at retirement;
- 27 c. Two and three-tenths percent (2.3%) of the member's final average

- 1 salary for each year of service if the member has earned greater
2 than twenty (20) but no more than twenty-six (26) years of service
3 at retirement; or
- 4 d. Two and one-half percent (2.5%) of the member's final average
5 salary for each year of service if the member has earned greater
6 than twenty-six (26) but no more than thirty (30) years of service at
7 retirement; and
- 8 2. Three percent (3%) of the member's final average salary for each year of
9 service earned in excess of thirty (30) years of service at retirement
10 subject to the same terms and conditions as set forth in paragraph (c)2.
11 of this subsection;
- 12 (e) For individuals who become university members of the Teachers' Retirement
13 System on or after July 1, 2008, *but prior to January 1, 2021*, the retirement
14 allowance shall be:
- 15 1. One and one-half percent (1.5%) of the member's final average salary for
16 each year of service if the member has earned ten (10) or less years of
17 service at retirement;
- 18 2. One and seven-tenths percent (1.7%) of the member's final average
19 salary for each year of service if the member has earned greater than ten
20 (10) but no more than twenty (20) years of service at retirement;
- 21 3. One and eighty-five hundredths percent (1.85%) of the member's final
22 average salary for each year of service if the member has earned greater
23 than twenty (20) but less than twenty-seven (27) years of service at
24 retirement; or
- 25 4. Two percent (2%) of the member's final average salary for each year of
26 service if the member has earned twenty-seven (27) or more years of
27 service at retirement;

1 (f) For individuals who become university members of the Teachers'
 2 Retirement System on or after January 1, 2021, the retirement allowance
 3 shall, except as adjusted by the board pursuant to Section 1 of this Act, be
 4 the following percentage of the member's final average salary for each year
 5 of service:

6 1. Eighty-five hundredths of one percent (0.85%) which shall be
 7 increased incrementally each month the member's age at retirement is
 8 greater than fifty-five (55) so that the incremental increase is four
 9 one-hundredths of one percent (0.04%) for each complete additional
 10 year of age at retirement beyond fifty-five (55), not to exceed a value of
 11 one and one-quarter percent (1.25%) at age sixty-five (65) or greater;
 12 plus

13 2. An additional percentage for each month of service in excess of thirty
 14 three (33) years so that the incremental increase is five hundredths of
 15 one percent (0.05%) for each complete additional year of service at
 16 retirement beyond thirty three (33) years of service, not to exceed a
 17 value of one-quarter of one percent (0.25%) for each year of service at
 18 thirty-eight (38) years of service or greater. The additional percentage
 19 provided by this subparagraph shall be applied to all years of service
 20 at retirement; and

21 (g)~~(f)~~ The retirement allowance of a member at retirement, as measured on a
 22 life annuity, shall not exceed the member's last yearly salary or the member's
 23 final average salary, whichever is the greater amount. For purposes of this
 24 section, "yearly salary" means the compensation earned by a member during
 25 the most recent period of contributing service, either consecutive or
 26 nonconsecutive, preceding the member's effective retirement date and shall be
 27 subject to the provisions of KRS 161.220(9) and (10).

- 1 (2) Effective July 1, 2002, and annually on July 1 thereafter, the retirement allowance
2 of each retired member and of each beneficiary of a retirement option shall be
3 increased in the amount of one and one-half percent (1.5%), provided the retired
4 member had been retired for at least the full twelve (12) months immediately
5 preceding the date that the increase is effective. In the event that the retired member
6 had been retired for less than the full twelve (12) months immediately preceding the
7 date that the increase is effective, then the increase shall be reduced on a pro rata
8 basis by each month that the retired member had not been retired for the full twelve
9 (12) months immediately preceding the effective date of the increase. **This**
10 **subsection shall not apply to benefits from the supplemental benefit component**
11 **,and the board may adjust this value for individuals who become university**
12 **members on or after January 1, 2021, as provided by Section 1 of this Act.**
- 13 (3) Any member qualifying for retirement under a life annuity with refundable balance
14 shall be entitled to receive an annual allowance amounting to not less than four
15 hundred dollars (\$400) effective July 1, 2002, and not less than four hundred forty
16 dollars (\$440) effective July 1, 2003, multiplied by the service credit years of the
17 member. These minimums shall apply to the retired members receiving annuity
18 payments and to those members retiring on or subsequent to the effective dates
19 listed in this subsection, except the following:
- 20 (a) Individuals who become members of the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement
21 System on or after July 1, 2008; or
- 22 (b) Members whose retirement allowance payment is reduced below the
23 minimum allowance as a result of its division in a qualified domestic relations
24 order or any other provision permitted under KRS 161.700.
- 25 (4) The minimum retirement allowance provided in this section shall apply in the case
26 of members retired or retiring under an option other than a life annuity with
27 refundable balance in the same proportion to the benefits of the member and his

1 beneficiary or beneficiaries as provided in the duly-adopted option tables at the time
2 of the member's retirement.

3 (5) Effective July 1, 2008, the monthly allowance of each retired member and each
4 recipient of a retirement option of the retired member may be increased in an
5 amount not to exceed three and one-half percent (3.5%) of the monthly allowance in
6 effect the previous month, provided the retired member had been retired for at least
7 the full twelve (12) months immediately preceding the date that the increase is
8 effective. In the event that the retired member had been retired for less than the full
9 twelve (12) months immediately preceding the date that the increase is effective,
10 then the increase shall be reduced on a pro rata basis by each month that the retired
11 member had not been retired for the full twelve (12) months immediately preceding
12 the effective date of the increase. The level of increase provided for in this
13 subsection shall be determined by the funding provided in the 2008-2010 biennium
14 budget appropriation.

15 (6) Effective July 1, 2009, the monthly allowance of each retired member and each
16 recipient of a retirement option of the retired member may be increased in an
17 amount not to exceed seven-tenths of one percent (0.7%) of the monthly allowance
18 in effect the previous month, provided the retired member had been retired for at
19 least the full twelve (12) months immediately preceding the date that the increase is
20 effective. In the event that the retired member had been retired for less than the full
21 twelve (12) months immediately preceding the date that the increase is effective,
22 then the increase shall be reduced on a pro rata basis by each month that the retired
23 member had not been retired for the full twelve (12) months immediately preceding
24 the effective date of the increase. The level of increase provided for in this
25 subsection shall be determined by the funding provided in the 2008-2010 biennium
26 budget appropriation.

27 (7) Effective July 1, 1990, monthly payments of two hundred dollars (\$200) shall be

1 payable for the benefit of an adult child of a member retired for service when the
2 child's mental or physical condition is sufficient to cause dependency on the
3 member at the time of retirement. Eligibility for this payment shall continue for the
4 life of the child or until the time the mental or physical condition creating the
5 dependency no longer exists or the child marries. Benefits under this subsection
6 shall apply to legally adopted survivors provided the proceedings for the adoption
7 were initiated at least one (1) year prior to the death of the member. The board of
8 trustees shall be the sole judge of eligibility or dependency and may require formal
9 application or information relating thereto.

10 (8) Members of the Teachers' Retirement System shall be subject to the annuity income
11 limitations imposed by Section 415 of the Internal Revenue Service Code.

12 (9) Compensation in excess of the limitations imposed by Section 401(a)(17) of the
13 Internal Revenue Code shall not be used in determining a member's retirement
14 annuity. The limitation on compensation for eligible members shall not be less than
15 the amount which was allowed to be taken into account by the retirement system in
16 effect on July 1, 1993. For this purpose, an eligible member is an individual who
17 was a member of the retirement system before the first plan year beginning after
18 December 31, 1995.

19 ~~[(10) Effective January 1, 2019, subsections (1) to (7) of this section do not apply to~~
20 ~~individuals who become members of the Teachers' Retirement System on or after~~
21 ~~January 1, 2019.]~~

22 ➔Section 8. KRS 161.655 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as follows:

23 (1) Effective July 1, 2000, the Teachers' Retirement System shall ~~for those individuals~~
24 ~~who became members prior to January 1, 2019]:~~

25 (a) Provide a life insurance benefit in a minimum amount of five thousand dollars
26 (\$5,000) for its members who are retired for service or disability, ***except that***
27 ***the minimum amount for an individual who becomes a university member***

- 1 *on or after January 1, 2021, who retires for service or disability shall be ten*
2 *thousand dollars (\$10,000)*. This life insurance benefit shall be payable upon
3 the death of a member retired for service or disability to the member's estate
4 or to a party designated by the member on a form prescribed by the retirement
5 system; and
- 6 (b) Provide a life insurance benefit in a minimum amount of two thousand dollars
7 (\$2,000) for its active contributing members, *except that the minimum*
8 *amount for an individual who becomes a university member on or after*
9 *January 1, 2021, who is an active contributing member shall be five*
10 *thousand dollars (\$5,000)*. This life insurance benefit shall be payable upon
11 the death of an active contributing member to the member's estate or to a party
12 designated by the member on a form prescribed by the retirement system.
- 13 (2) The member may name one (1) primary and one (1) contingent beneficiary for
14 receipt of the life insurance benefit. To the extent permitted by the Internal Revenue
15 Code, a trust may be designated as beneficiary for receipt of the life insurance
16 benefit. Members may designate as beneficiaries only presently identifiable and
17 existing individuals, or trusts where otherwise permitted, without contingency
18 instructions, on forms prescribed by the retirement system. In the event that a
19 member fails to designate a beneficiary, or all designated beneficiaries predecease
20 the member, the member's estate shall be deemed to be the beneficiary. Any
21 beneficiary designation made by the member, including the estate should the estate
22 become the beneficiary by default, shall remain in effect until changed by the
23 member on forms prescribed by the retirement system, except in the event of
24 subsequent marriage or divorce. A valid marriage license shall terminate any
25 previously designated beneficiary, even that of a trust, and establish the spouse as
26 beneficiary unless, subsequent proof of the marriage, the member or retired member
27 redesignates someone other than the new spouse as the beneficiary. A final divorce

1 decree shall terminate the beneficiary status of an ex-spouse unless, subsequent to
2 divorce, the member redesignates the former spouse as a beneficiary. A final
3 divorce decree shall not terminate the designation of a trust as beneficiary regardless
4 of who is designated as beneficiary of the trust.

5 (3) Application for payment of life insurance proceeds shall be made to the Teachers'
6 Retirement System together with acceptable evidence of death and eligibility. The
7 reciprocal provisions of KRS 61.680(2)(a) shall not apply to the coverage and
8 payment of proceeds by the life insurance benefit under this section.

9 (4) Suit or civil action shall not be required for the collection of the proceeds of the life
10 insurance benefit provided for by this section, but nothing in this section shall
11 prevent the maintenance of suit or civil action against the beneficiary or legal
12 representative receiving the proceeds of the life insurance benefit.

13 (5) Upon the death of a member of the Teachers' Retirement System, the life insurance
14 provided pursuant to subsection (1) of this section may be assigned by the
15 designated beneficiary to a bank or licensed funeral home.

16 ➔Section 9. KRS 161.400 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as follows:

17 (1) (a) The board of trustees shall designate as actuary a competent person who shall
18 be a fellow of the Conference of Consulting Actuaries or a member of the
19 American Academy of Actuaries. He shall be the technical adviser of the
20 board on matters regarding the operation of the funds of the system and shall
21 perform such other duties as are required in connection therewith.

22 (b) At least once in each five (5) year period, the actuary shall make an actuarial
23 investigation into the actuarial assumptions and funding methods used,
24 including but not limited to mortality, investment rate of return, and service
25 and compensation of the members and beneficiaries of the retirement system,
26 relative to the actuarial assumptions and funding methods previously adopted
27 by the board. The actuarial investigation shall include at a minimum a

1 summary of the changes in actuarial assumptions and funding methods
2 recommended in the investigation and the projected impact of the
3 recommended changes on funding levels, unfunded liabilities, and actuarially
4 recommended contribution rates for employers over a twenty (20) year period.

5 (c) At least annually the actuary shall make an actuarial valuation of the
6 retirement system. The valuation shall include:

- 7 1. A description of the actuarial assumptions used, and the assumptions
8 shall be reasonably related to the experience of the system and represent
9 the actuary's best estimate of anticipated experience;
- 10 2. A description of any funding methods utilized or required by state law in
11 the development of the actuarial valuation results;
- 12 3. A description of any changes in actuarial assumptions and methods from
13 the previous year's actuarial valuation;
- 14 4. The actuarially recommended contribution rate for employers for the
15 upcoming budget periods;
- 16 5. A twenty (20) year projection of the funding levels, unfunded liabilities,
17 and actuarially recommended contribution rates for employers based
18 upon the actuarial assumptions, funding methods, and experience of the
19 system as of the valuation date; and
- 20 6. A sensitivity analysis that evaluates the impact of changes in system
21 assumptions, including but not limited to the investment return
22 assumption, payroll growth assumption, and medical inflation rates, on
23 employer contribution rates, funding levels, and unfunded liabilities.

24 (d) On the basis of the results of the valuations, the board of trustees shall make
25 necessary changes in the retirement system within the provisions of law and
26 shall establish the contributions payable by employers and the state specified
27 in KRS 161.550, **including changes prescribed by Section 1 of this Act.**

1 (e) For any change in actuarial assumptions, funding methods, retiree health
2 insurance premiums and subsidies, or any other decisions made by the board
3 that impact system liabilities and actuarially recommended contribution rates
4 for employers and that are not made in conjunction with the actuarial
5 investigation required by paragraph (b) of this subsection, an actuarial analysis
6 shall be completed showing the projected impact of the changes on funding
7 levels, unfunded liabilities, and actuarially recommended contribution rates
8 for employers over a twenty (20) year period.

9 (2) Actuarial factors and actuarial cost factor tables in use by the retirement system for
10 all purposes shall be determined by the actuary of the retirement system and
11 approved by the board of trustees by resolution and implemented without the
12 necessity of an administrative regulation.

13 (3) A copy of each five (5) year actuarial investigation, actuarial analysis, and valuation
14 required by subsection (1) of this section shall be forwarded electronically to the
15 Legislative Research Commission no later than ten (10) days after receipt by the
16 board, and the Legislative Research Commission shall distribute the information
17 received to the committee staff and co-chairs of any committee that has jurisdiction
18 over the ~~Kentucky~~ Teachers' Retirement System. The actuarial valuation required
19 by subsection (1)(c) of this section shall be submitted no later than November 15
20 following the close of the fiscal year.

21 ➔Section 10. KRS 161.420 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as
22 follows:

23 All of the assets of the retirement system are for the exclusive purpose of providing
24 benefits to members and annuitants and defraying reasonable expenses of administering
25 the system. The board of trustees shall be the trustee of all funds of the system and shall
26 have full power and responsibility for administering the funds. All the assets of the
27 retirement system shall be credited according to the purpose for which they are held to

1 one (1) of the following funds:

2 (1) The expense fund shall consist of the funds set aside from year to year by the board
3 of trustees to defray the expenses of the administration of the retirement system.
4 Each fiscal year an amount not greater than four percent (4%) of the dividends and
5 interest income earned from investments during the immediate past fiscal year shall
6 be set aside into the expense fund or expended for the administration of the
7 retirement system;

8 (2) (a) The teachers' savings fund shall consist of:

- 9 1. The contributions paid by members of the retirement system into this
10 fund and regular interest assigned by the board of trustees from the
11 guarantee fund~~[or established by KRS 161.235, as applicable]~~; and
- 12 2. For individuals who become **university** members of the Teachers'
13 Retirement System on or after January 1, **2021**~~[2019]~~, who are
14 participating in the **supplemental benefit component**~~[hybrid cash
15 balance plan]~~, the employer **contributions paid into the supplemental**
16 **benefit component**~~[pay credit]~~ and regular interest **on those**
17 **contributions**~~[to the hybrid cash balance plan]~~ as provided by **Section 2**
18 **of this Act**~~[KRS 161.235]~~ that is assigned by the board of trustees from
19 the guarantee fund.

20 **For individuals who become university members on or after January 1,**
21 **2021, the system shall account for funds in the teachers' savings fund**
22 **attributable to the member's foundational benefit component and the**
23 **member's supplemental benefit component.**

24 (b) A member may not borrow any amount of his or her accumulated account
25 balance in the teachers' savings fund, or any regular interest earned thereon.

26 (c) The accumulated contributions or accumulated account balance of a member
27 which are returned to him upon his withdrawal or paid to his estate or

1 designated beneficiary in the event of his death shall be paid from the teachers'
2 savings fund.

3 (d) Any accumulated account balance in the teachers' savings fund forfeited by a
4 failure of a teacher or his estate to claim these contributions shall be
5 transferred from this fund to the guarantee fund.

6 (e) **Except as provided by paragraph (f) of this subsection**~~[For an individual who
7 becomes a member of the Teachers' Retirement System prior to January 1,
8 2019],~~ the accumulated account balance of a member in the teachers' savings
9 fund shall be transferred from this fund to the allowance reserve fund in the
10 event of retirement by reason of service or disability.

11 (f) For an individual who becomes a **university** member of the Teachers'
12 Retirement System on or after January 1, **2021**~~[2019],~~ who is participating in
13 the **supplemental benefit component**~~[hybrid cash balance plan]~~ who elects to
14 annuitize his or her accumulated account balance **in the supplemental benefit**
15 **component** as prescribed by **subsection (5)(a) or (b) of Section 2 of this Act**
16 ~~[KRS 161.235(7)(a) or (b)]~~, the member's accumulated account balance **in the**
17 **supplemental benefit component** shall be transferred **from this fund** to the
18 allowance reserve fund;

19 (3) The state accumulation fund shall consist of funds paid by employers and
20 appropriated by the state for the purpose of providing annuities and survivor
21 benefits, including any sums appropriated for meeting unfunded liabilities, together
22 with regular interest assigned by the board of trustees from the guarantee fund. At
23 the time of retirement or death of a member there shall be transferred from the state
24 accumulation fund to the allowance reserve fund an amount which together with the
25 sum transferred from the teachers' savings fund will be sufficient to provide the
26 member a retirement allowance and provide for benefits under KRS 161.520 and
27 161.525. There shall also be transferred from the state accumulation fund to the

1 teachers' savings fund, the amount needed to fund the mandatory employer
 2 contributions~~[credits]~~ required by Section 2 of this Act~~[KRS 161.235]~~;

3 (4) The allowance reserve fund shall be the fund from which shall be paid all retirement
 4 allowances and benefits provided under KRS 161.520 and 161.525. In addition,
 5 whenever a change in the status of a member results in an obligation on this fund,
 6 there shall be transferred to this fund from the teachers' savings fund and the state
 7 accumulation fund, the amounts as may be held in those funds for the account or
 8 benefit of the member;

9 (5) (a) ~~[Effective January 1, 2019,]~~ The medical insurance fund, which is an account
 10 established according to 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(h), shall consist of amounts
 11 accumulated for the purpose of providing benefits as provided in KRS
 12 161.675, including:

- 13 1. The member contributions required by KRS 161.540(1)(a)2., ~~[and]~~
 14 (1)(b)2., (1)(c)3.;
- 15 2. The employer contribution required by KRS 161.550(1)(a)1.b.,
 16 (1)(a)2.b., (1)(a)3.c. and (3)~~[(a)]~~;
- 17 3. State appropriations as set forth in KRS 161.550(2), unless the
 18 contributions are made to a trust fund under 26 U.S.C. sec. 115
 19 established by the board for this purpose; and
- 20 4. Interest income from the investments of the fund from contributions
 21 received by the fund under subparagraphs 1. to 3. of this paragraph, and
 22 from income earned on those investments.

23 (b) All claims for benefits under KRS 161.675 shall be paid from this fund or
 24 from any trust fund under 26 U.S.C. sec. 115 as established by the board for
 25 this purpose. Any amounts deposited to the fund that are not required to meet
 26 current costs shall be maintained as a reserve in the fund for these benefits.
 27 The board shall take the necessary and appropriate steps, including

- 1 promulgating administrative regulations and procedures to maintain the status
2 of the medical insurance fund as an account subject to 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(h);
- 3 (6) The guarantee fund shall be maintained to facilitate the crediting of uniform interest
4 on the amounts of the other funds, except the expense fund, to finance operating
5 expenses directly related to investment management services, and to provide a
6 contingent fund out of which special requirements of any of the other funds may be
7 covered. All income, interest, and dividends derived from the authorized deposits
8 and investments shall be paid into the guarantee fund. Any funds received from
9 gifts and bequests, which the board is hereby authorized to accept and expend
10 without limitation in a manner either expressed by the donor or deemed to be in the
11 best interest of the membership, shall be credited to the guarantee fund. Any funds
12 transferred from the teachers' savings fund by reason of lack of claimant or because
13 of a surplus in any fund and any other moneys whose disposition is not otherwise
14 provided for, shall also be credited to the guarantee fund. The interest allowed by
15 the board of trustees to each of the other funds shall be paid to these funds from the
16 guarantee fund. Any deficit occurring in any fund that would not be automatically
17 covered shall be met by the payments from the guarantee fund to that fund;
- 18 (7) The school employee annuity fund shall consist of those funds voluntarily
19 contributed under the provisions of Section 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code by
20 a ~~retired~~ member of the Teachers' Retirement System with accounts that existed
21 on or after July 1, 1996. The contributions shall not be picked up as provided in
22 KRS 161.540(2). Separate member accounts shall be maintained for each member.
23 The board of trustees may promulgate administrative regulations pursuant to KRS
24 Chapter 13A to manage this program;
- 25 (8) The supplemental retirement benefit fund shall consist of those funds contributed by
26 the employer for the purpose of constituting a qualified government excess benefit
27 plan as described in Section 415 of the Internal Revenue Code for accounts that

1 existed on or after July 1, 1996. The board of trustees shall promulgate
 2 administrative regulations pursuant to KRS Chapter 13A to administer this
 3 program;~~and~~

4 (9) The life insurance benefit fund shall consist of amounts accumulated for the
 5 purpose of providing benefits provided under KRS 161.655. The board of trustees
 6 may allocate to this fund a percentage of the employer and state contributions as
 7 provided under KRS 161.550. The allocation to this fund will be in an amount that
 8 the actuary determines necessary to fund the obligation of providing the benefits
 9 provided under KRS 161.655 ; and

10 **(10) The stabilization reserve account shall consist of employer contributions as**
 11 **provided by subsection (1)(a)3.a. and b. of Section 5 of this Act that exceed the**
 12 **combined actuarially required employer contribution for the foundational benefit**
 13 **component and the mandatory employer contribution to the supplemental benefit**
 14 **component as provided by Sections 1 and 2 of this Act for those individuals who**
 15 **become university members on or after January 1, 2021. Notwithstanding any**
 16 **other statute to the contrary, funds in this account shall only be used to pay off**
 17 **the unfunded liability of the pension and life insurance funds as it relates to**
 18 **individuals who become university members on or after January 1, 2021.**

19 ➔Section 11. KRS 161.470 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as
 20 follows:

21 (1) The membership of the retirement system shall consist of all new members, all
 22 present teachers, and all persons participating under the retirement system as of
 23 June 30, 1986, except as provided in Acts 1938 (1st Ex. Sess.), Ch. 1, paragraph 29.
 24 The board of trustees of the Teachers' Retirement System shall be responsible for
 25 final determination of membership eligibility and may direct employers to take
 26 whatever action that may be necessary to correct any error relating to membership.

27 (2) Service credit shall be forfeited upon withdrawal. If a member again enters service

1 it shall be as a new member, except that any teacher who withdraws by claiming his
2 deposits may repay the system the amount withdrawn plus interest and reestablish
3 his service credit as provided in subsection (3) of this section.

4 (3) Effective July 1, 1988, and thereafter, an active contributing member of the
5 retirement system with contributing service equal to one (1) year may regain service
6 credit by depositing in the teachers' savings fund the amount withdrawn with
7 interest at the rate to be set by the board of trustees, and computed from the first of
8 the month of withdrawal and including the month of redeposit. ~~Service credit~~
9 ~~regained pursuant to this subsection on or after January 1, 2019, shall not be used to~~
10 ~~determine the date the individual purchasing the service became a member of the~~
11 ~~Teachers' Retirement System.]~~

12 (4) Effective July 1, 1974, any active contributing member with at least two (2) years of
13 contributing service credit who declined membership as provided in Acts 1938 (1st
14 Ex. Sess.), Ch. 1, paragraph 29, may secure service credit for prior service, and for
15 any subsequent service prior to date of membership, by depositing in the teachers'
16 savings fund contributions for each year of subsequent service prior to date of
17 membership, with interest at the rate of eight percent (8%) compounded annually to
18 the date of deposit.

19 (5) Membership in the retirement system shall be terminated:

20 (a) By retirement for service;

21 (b) By death;

22 (c) By withdrawal of the member's accumulated account balance;

23 (d) When a member, having less than five (5) years of Kentucky service is absent
24 from service for more than three (3) consecutive years; or

25 (e) For persons hired on or after August 1, 2000, when a member is convicted, in
26 any state or federal court of competent jurisdiction, of a felony related to his
27 employment as provided in subparagraphs 1. and 2. of this paragraph.

1 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a member hired
2 on or after August 1, 2000, who is convicted, in any state or federal
3 court of competent jurisdiction, of a felony related to his employment
4 shall forfeit rights and benefits earned under the retirement system,
5 except for the return of his accumulated contributions and interest
6 credited on those contributions.

7 2. The payment of retirement benefits ordered forfeited shall be stayed
8 pending any appeal of the conviction. If the conviction is reversed on
9 final judgment, no retirement benefits shall be forfeited.

10 Except for paragraph (e) of this subsection, upon termination of member accounts
11 under this subsection, funds in the account shall be transferred to the guarantee
12 fund. Inactive members may apply for refunds of these funds at any time. The
13 terminated service shall be reinstated, if not withdrawn by the member, in the event
14 that the member returns to active contributing service.

15 (6) In case of withdrawal from service prior to eligibility for retirement, the board of
16 trustees shall on request of the member return all of his accumulated account
17 balance, including any payments made by the member to the state accumulation
18 fund, but the member shall have no claim on any contributions made by the state or
19 employer with a view to his retirement, except as provided by Section 2 of this
20 Act~~[KRS 161.235]~~, or to contributions made to the medical insurance fund. If the
21 member is eligible for an immediate service retirement allowance as provided in
22 KRS 161.600, no withdrawal and refund shall be permitted, unless the allowance
23 would prohibit the member from qualifying for Social Security benefits or the
24 member elects to withdraw part or all of his service for the purpose of obtaining
25 credit in another retirement plan. Requests for refund of contributions by the
26 member must be filed on forms prescribed by the Teachers' Retirement System and
27 the employer shall be financially responsible for all information that is certified on

1 the prescribed form. A member may not withdraw any part of his or her
2 accumulated account balance in the retirement system except as provided by this
3 subsection.

4 (7) Except as provided in KRS 161.520 and 161.525, in case of death prior to
5 retirement, the board of trustees shall pay to the estate of the deceased member,
6 unless a beneficiary was otherwise applicably designated by the deceased member,
7 then to the beneficiary, all of his accumulated account balance, including any
8 payments made by the member to the state accumulation fund, but the estate or
9 beneficiary shall have no claim on any contributions made by the state or employer
10 with a view to the retirement of the member, except as provided by Section 2 of this
11 Act~~[KRS 161.235]~~, or to contributions made to the medical insurance fund.

12 (8) Any active contributing member of the Kentucky Employees Retirement System,
13 the County Employees Retirement System, the State Police Retirement System, or
14 the Judicial Retirement System may use service, under that retirement system for
15 the purpose of meeting the service requirement of subsections (3) and (4) of this
16 section.

17 ➔Section 12. KRS 161.480 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

18 Each person, upon becoming a member of the retirement system, shall file a detailed
19 statement as required by the board of trustees and shall designate a primary beneficiary or
20 two (2) or more cobeneficiaries to receive any benefits accruing from the death of the
21 member. A contingent beneficiary may be designated in addition to the primary
22 beneficiary or cobeneficiaries. The member may name more than one (1) contingent
23 beneficiary. Any beneficiary designation made by the member, including the estate should
24 the estate become the beneficiary by default, shall remain in effect until changed by the
25 member on forms prescribed by the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System, except in the
26 event of subsequent marriage or divorce. Subsequent marriage by the member shall void
27 the primary beneficiary and any cobeneficiary designation, even that of a trust, and the

1 spouse of the member at death shall be considered as the primary beneficiary, unless the
2 member subsequent to marriage designates another beneficiary. A final divorce decree
3 shall terminate an ex-spouse's status as either primary beneficiary, cobeneficiary, or
4 contingent beneficiary, unless subsequent to divorce the member redesignates the former
5 spouse as primary beneficiary, cobeneficiary, or contingent beneficiary. To the extent
6 permitted by the Internal Revenue Code, a trust may be designated as beneficiary for
7 receipt of a member's accumulated account balance in the retirement system as provided
8 under KRS 161.470(7). A final divorce decree shall not terminate the designation of a
9 trust as beneficiary regardless of who is designated as beneficiary of the trust. In the event
10 that a member fails to designate a beneficiary, or all designated beneficiaries predecease
11 the member, the member's estate shall be deemed to be the beneficiary. Members may
12 designate as beneficiaries only presently identifiable and existing individuals, or trusts
13 where otherwise permitted, without contingency instructions, on forms prescribed by the
14 retirement system. The provisions of this section shall be retroactive as they relate to
15 election of beneficiaries by members still in active status on the effective date of this
16 section. The provisions of this section shall not apply to any account from which a
17 member is drawing a retirement allowance or to the life insurance benefit available under
18 KRS 161.655.

19 ➔Section 13. KRS 161.500 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as
20 follows:

21 (1) At the close of each fiscal year, the retirement system shall add service credit to the
22 account of each member who made contributions to his or her account during the
23 year. Members shall be entitled to a full year of service credit if their total paid days
24 were not less than one hundred eighty (180) days of a one hundred eighty-five (185)
25 day contract for a regular school or fiscal year. In the event~~[an individual who~~
26 ~~became]~~a member~~[prior to January 1, 2019,]~~ is paid for less than one hundred
27 eighty (180) days, the member may purchase credit according to administrative

1 regulations established by the board of trustees. In no case shall more than one (1)
2 year of service be credited for all service performed in one (1) fiscal year. Members
3 who complete their employment contract prior to the close of a fiscal year and elect
4 to retire prior to the close of a fiscal year shall have their service credit reduced by
5 eight percent (8%) for each calendar month that the retirement becomes effective
6 prior to July 1.

7 (2) Members who are employed and paid for less than the number of days required in
8 their normal employment year shall be entitled to pro rata service credit for the
9 fractional service. Such credit shall be based upon the number of days employed
10 and the number of days in the member's annual employment agreement or normal
11 employment year.

12 (3) Service credit may not exceed the ratio between the school or fiscal year and the
13 number of months or fraction of a month the member is employed during that year.

14 (4) No service credit shall be granted in the Teachers' Retirement System for service
15 that has been or will be used in qualifying for annuity benefit payments from
16 another retirement system financed wholly or in part by public funds.

17 ➔Section 14. KRS 161.507 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as
18 follows:

19 (1) An active contributing member of the Teachers' Retirement System may receive
20 service credit for active service rendered in the uniformed services of the Armed
21 Forces of the United States, including the commissioned corps of the Public Health
22 Service, subject to the provisions of the Uniformed Services Employment and
23 Reemployment Rights Act of 1994~~[, the provisions of this section as applicable,]~~
24 and the administrative regulations promulgated by the board of trustees. Military
25 service includes service in the uniformed services that occurs before the
26 employment of a member in a position covered by the retirement system or where a
27 member leaves covered employment without giving advance written or verbal

1 notice of performing duty in the uniformed services. Service in the uniformed
2 services also includes uniformed service that occurs after employment in a position
3 covered by the retirement system where the member has given advance written or
4 verbal notice of performing duty in the uniformed services and the member returns
5 directly from uniformed services to covered employment. Military service may be
6 credited only if discharge was honorable or was not terminated upon the occurrence
7 of any of the events listed in 38 U.S.C. sec. 4304. Service shall be considered as
8 Kentucky teaching service, except that service may not be used for meeting the
9 service requirements set forth in KRS 161.600(1)(a) or 161.661(1) or subsection (2)
10 of Section 6 of this Act unless the service occurred after the member gave written
11 or verbal notice of performing duty in the uniformed services and the member
12 returned directly from uniformed services to covered employment. A maximum of
13 six (6) years of military service may be credited, but in no case a greater number of
14 years than the actual years of contributing service in Kentucky.

15 (2) No credit shall be granted for military service which has been or will be used in
16 qualifying for annuity benefit payments from another retirement system financed
17 wholly or in part by public funds.

18 (3) A member having twenty (20) years or more of active duty in the military service,
19 and who is qualified for regular federal retirement benefits based on this military
20 service, may not receive credit for any military service in the Teachers' Retirement
21 System. This subsection shall apply to service presented for credit on July 1, 1975,
22 and after this date.

23 (4) (a) ~~[An individual who became]~~A member receiving~~[prior to January 1, 2019,~~
24 ~~who desires to receive]~~ retirement credit for active duty in the Armed Services
25 of the United States prior to employment in a position covered by the
26 retirement system or where the member leaves covered employment without
27 giving advance written or verbal notice of performing duty in the uniformed

1 services shall pay to the retirement system the full actuarial cost of the service
2 credit purchased as provided under KRS 161.220(22). These contributions
3 shall not be picked up, as described in KRS 161.540(2). In purchasing
4 retirement credit for active duty in the armed services, the latest years of
5 service shall be considered first in allowing credit toward retirement. The
6 board of trustees shall adopt a table of actuarial factors to be used in
7 calculating the amount of contribution required for crediting this service.

8 (b) If military service occurred after the member gave written or verbal notice of
9 performing duty in the uniformed services and the member returns directly
10 from uniformed services to covered employment, the member shall contribute
11 the regular member contribution required by KRS 161.540. The member may
12 make the payment of delayed contributions in a lump sum payment or in
13 installments not to exceed five (5) years beginning with the member's date of
14 reemployment. Interest at the rate of eight percent (8%) per annum shall be
15 charged for delayed contributions beginning with the member's date of
16 reemployment until paid. University members participating in the
17 supplemental benefit component~~[hybrid cash balance plan as provided by~~
18 ~~KRS 161.235]~~ who make the regular member contribution required by this
19 paragraph, shall also receive the mandatory employer contributions in the
20 supplemental benefit component~~[credits]~~ for the period of service purchased.

21 (5) An active contributing member of the Teachers' Retirement System~~[who became a~~
22 ~~member of the system prior to January 1, 2019,]~~ may receive service credit for
23 service in the military reserves of the United States or the National Guard. The
24 member may purchase one (1) month of service for each six (6) months of service
25 in the reserves or the National Guard. Notwithstanding any other statute, regulation,
26 or policy to the contrary, the system shall provide a member, upon request, the
27 estimated actuarial cost of the National Guard or military reserves service purchase

1 based upon the information available at the time of the request. The member shall
 2 be entitled to enter into a contract with the system at the time of the request to
 3 purchase the National Guard or military reserve service by paying to the system the
 4 estimated actuarial cost, either by installments or in lump sum. The member shall
 5 pay the full actuarial cost of this service in the military reserves or the National
 6 Guard as provided in KRS 161.220(22). Service in the military reserves or the
 7 National Guard shall be treated as service earned prior to participation in the system
 8 and shall not be used for meeting the service requirements set forth in KRS
 9 161.600(1)(a) or 161.661(1) or subsection (2) of Section 6 of this Act. The payment
 10 shall not be picked up by the employer, as described in KRS 161.540(2).

11 ➔Section 15. KRS 161.515 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as
 12 follows:

13 (1) For the purposes of this section, "out-of-state service" shall mean service in any
 14 state in a comparable position on a full-time basis, which would be covered if in
 15 Kentucky.

16 (2) (a) An active contributing member who has been a contributing member of the
 17 retirement system for at least one (1) full scholastic year subsequent to the
 18 latest out-of-state service, may present for credit service rendered out of state,
 19 not to exceed ten (10) years actually taught as a certified or licensed teacher.
 20 All members who elect to purchase this service shall pay to the retirement
 21 system the full actuarial cost as provided under KRS 161.220(22). For each
 22 year of which the retirement system shall accept payment, one (1) year of
 23 service credit shall be given. For members who purchased this service under
 24 the cost formula as it existed under this subsection on June 30, 2005, this
 25 credit may not be used to meet the service requirements of KRS 161.525,
 26 161.600, or 161.661, except as provided in paragraph~~subsection (2)~~(c) of
 27 this subsection~~section~~. No credit shall be granted for service which has

1 been or will be used in qualifying for annuity benefit payments from another
2 retirement system financed wholly or in part by public funds.

3 (b) A member of the retirement system having teaching service in the elementary
4 or secondary schools operated by the United States overseas or in this country,
5 or in a public college or university in Kentucky, not included in the Teachers'
6 Retirement System of the State of Kentucky, may present this service for
7 credit in the retirement system on the same basis as provided above for out-of-
8 state service credit; however, no service may be presented which shall be used
9 as a basis for retirement benefits in any program supported wholly or in part
10 by a public institution or governmental agency. This service when added to
11 service credited under paragraph~~subsection (2)~~(a) of this section shall not
12 exceed a total of ten (10) years' service credit.

13 (c) A member having service referred to in subsection~~subsection (2)~~(a) or
14 ~~(2)~~(b) of this subsection~~section~~ who purchased this service under the cost
15 formula as it existed under those subsections on June 30, 2005, may elect to
16 use this service for meeting the requirements of KRS 161.600(1)(c) by making
17 an additional contribution to the state accumulation fund equal to a member
18 contribution rate of eight percent (8%) for each year so used. These payments
19 shall not be picked up as described in KRS 161.540(2). The salary base to be
20 used in determining this additional contribution shall be the final average
21 salary which is used in calculating the member's regular retirement annuity.

22 (3) Members entering the Teachers' Retirement System for the first time, July 1, 1976,
23 and after this date, shall not receive credit for service defined in subsections (2)(a)
24 ~~for (2)~~(b) of this section in excess of one (1) year of credit for each two (2) years of
25 Kentucky service in a covered position or ten (10) years, whichever is the lesser
26 number.

27 (4) A member, having completed service as a volunteer in the Kentucky Peace Corps

1 created by KRS 154.1-720, may purchase service credit for the time served in the
 2 corps on the same basis as provided in this section for the purchase of out-of-state
 3 service credit. A member, having completed service as a federal Peace Corps
 4 volunteer, may purchase up to two (2) years of service credit for time served in the
 5 Peace Corps on the same basis as provided in this section for the purchase of out-of-
 6 state service credit.

7 (5) Service purchased under this section by members **shall be credited based upon the**
 8 **retirement factor established by Section 7 of this Act, as applicable**~~[who at the~~
 9 ~~time of purchase are employed by employers other than those described in KRS~~
 10 ~~161.220(4)(b) or (n) shall be credited, as described in KRS 161.620(1)(a) and (b),~~
 11 ~~with a retirement factor of two and one half percent (2.5%) for each year of service~~
 12 ~~that was originally performed on or after July 1, 1983, and two percent (2.0%) for~~
 13 ~~each year of service performed before July 1, 1983. Service purchased under this~~
 14 ~~section by members who at the time of purchase are employed by employers~~
 15 ~~described in KRS 161.220(4)(b) or (n) shall be credited, as described in KRS~~
 16 ~~161.620(1)(a), with a retirement factor of two percent (2.0%) for each year of~~
 17 ~~service, regardless of when the service was performed].~~

18 ~~[(6) Effective January 1, 2019, this section does not apply to individuals who become~~
 19 ~~members on or after January 1, 2019.]~~

20 ➔Section 16. KRS 161.520 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as
 21 follows:

22 Upon the death of an active contributing member or upon the death of a member retired
 23 for disability, except as provided in KRS 161.661(6), the survivors of the deceased
 24 member in the following named order, may elect to receive a survivor's benefit payable as
 25 follows:

26 (1) Where there is a surviving widow or widower who is named as the primary
 27 beneficiary of the member's retirement account, the benefit shall be:

- 1 (a) One hundred eighty dollars (\$180) per month with no restriction on other
2 income;
- 3 (b) Two hundred forty dollars (\$240) per month when the surviving widow or
4 widower's total income from all sources does not exceed six thousand six
5 hundred dollars (\$6,600) per year or five hundred fifty dollars (\$550) per
6 month; or
- 7 (c) If the deceased member has a minimum of ten (10) years of service credit with
8 the Teachers' Retirement System, the surviving widow or widower may apply
9 for an annuity actuarially equivalent to the annuity that would have been paid
10 to the deceased member when eligibility conditions were met. Eligibility for
11 payments would begin at the time the age of the deceased member would have
12 met the requirements of KRS ~~161.235(6) or~~ 161.600(1) **or subsection (2) of**
13 **Section 6 of this Act**, as applicable. In exercising this right, the surviving
14 widow or widower shall be entitled to receive an annuity for life, except as
15 provided in subsection (6) of this section. This subsection applies to surviving
16 spouses of members who die on or after July 1, 1978. A surviving widow or
17 widower of a member who dies after July 1, 1978, shall be eligible for benefit
18 payments provided under paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection until they
19 begin receiving payments under this provision;
- 20 (2) (a) Where there are surviving unmarried children under age eighteen (18) or
21 under age nineteen (19) if a full-time student in high school, the benefit shall
22 be two hundred dollars (\$200) per month in the case of one (1) child, three
23 hundred forty dollars (\$340) per month in the case of two (2) children, four
24 hundred dollars (\$400) per month in the case of three (3) children, and four
25 hundred forty dollars (\$440) per month in the case of four (4) or more
26 children. Benefits under this subsection shall apply in addition to benefits
27 which may be payable under subsections (1) and (3) of this section.

- 1 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the surviving spouse
2 may elect to receive a lump-sum refund of the member's accumulated account
3 balance in lieu of the survivorship benefits payable under this subsection and
4 subsection (1) of this section only if the surviving spouse is designated as the
5 primary beneficiary and:
- 6 1. Is a biological or adoptive parent of all children eligible for a benefit
7 under this subsection and has not had his or her parental rights
8 terminated; or
 - 9 2. Has been appointed as legal guardian of all of the children eligible under
10 paragraph (a) of this subsection.
- 11 (c) To elect a lump-sum refund of the member's accumulated account balance
12 under paragraph (b) of this subsection, the surviving spouse who is designated
13 as the primary beneficiary must sign a waiver on forms prescribed by the
14 retirement system of his or her rights and the member's children's rights to the
15 survivorship benefits payable under this subsection and subsection (1) of this
16 section. The surviving spouse shall not waive the survivorship benefits
17 available under this subsection or subsections (1) and (6) of this section if any
18 of the member's children have attained age eighteen (18) or older unless all of
19 those children consent in writing on forms prescribed by the retirement system
20 to waive their survivorship benefits available under this subsection;
- 21 (3) (a) Where the survivor is a child age eighteen (18) or older whose mental or
22 physical condition is sufficient to cause his dependency on the deceased
23 member at the time of the member's death, the benefit shall be two hundred
24 dollars (\$200) per month, payable for the life of the child or until the time as
25 the mental or physical condition creating the dependency no longer exists or
26 the child marries. The mental or physical condition of the adult child shall be
27 revealed by a competent examination by a licensed physician and shall be

1 approved by a majority of a medical review committee as defined in KRS
2 161.661(14). Benefits under this subsection shall apply in addition to benefits
3 which may be payable under subsections (1) and (2) of this section.

4 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the surviving spouse
5 shall not elect to receive a lump-sum refund of the member's accumulated
6 account balance in lieu of the survivorship benefits payable under this
7 subsection and subsection (1) of this section unless:

- 8 1. The surviving spouse is designated as the primary beneficiary;
- 9 2. The surviving spouse has been appointed by the court as guardian,
10 conservator, or other fiduciary with sufficient general or specific
11 authority to waive the survivorship benefits available under this
12 subsection for any child or children age eighteen (18) or older who have
13 been adjudicated incompetent to make decisions on their own behalf by
14 a court of law; and
- 15 3. Any child or children age eighteen (18) or older who are mentally
16 competent to make decisions on their own behalf as attested to by two
17 (2) physicians' statements consent in writing on forms prescribed by the
18 retirement system to waive their survivorship benefits available under
19 this subsection.

20 (c) If eligible to elect a lump-sum refund of the member's accumulated account
21 balance, the surviving spouse shall sign a waiver on forms prescribed by the
22 retirement system of his or her rights and the member's children's rights to the
23 survivorship benefits payable under this subsection and subsections (1) and
24 (2) of this section;

25 (4) Where the sole eligible survivors are dependent parents aged sixty-five (65) or over,
26 the benefit shall be two hundred dollars (\$200) per month for one (1) parent or two
27 hundred ninety dollars (\$290) per month for two (2) parents. Dependency of a

- 1 parent shall be established as of the date of the death of the member;
- 2 (5) Where the sole eligible survivor is a dependent brother or sister, the benefit shall be
3 one hundred sixty five dollars (\$165) per month. In order to qualify the brother or
4 sister must have been a resident of the deceased member's household for at least one
5 (1) full year prior to the member's death or must have been receiving care in a
6 hospital, nursing home, or other institution at the member's expense for same
7 period;
- 8 (6) The benefit to a child as defined in subsection (2) of this section shall terminate
9 upon the attainment of age eighteen (18) or upon reaching age nineteen (19), if a
10 full-time student in high school, or upon marriage, except that benefits shall
11 continue until the attainment of age twenty-three (23) for an unmarried child who is
12 a full-time student in a recognized educational program beyond the high school
13 level. The benefit to a widow, widower, dependent parent, or dependent brother or
14 sister or dependent child age eighteen (18) or older shall terminate upon marriage,
15 or upon termination of the condition creating the dependency;
- 16 (7) The board of trustees shall be the sole judge of eligibility or dependency of any
17 beneficiary, and may require formal application or information relating to eligibility
18 or dependency, including proof of annual income satisfactory to the board. The
19 board of trustees may subpoena records and individuals whenever it deems this
20 action necessary;
- 21 (8) No payment of benefits shall be made unless the board of trustees authorizes the
22 payment. The board shall promulgate administrative regulations for the
23 administration of the provisions in this section and in every case the decision of the
24 board of trustees shall be final as to eligibility, dependency, or disability, and the
25 amount of benefits payable;
- 26 (9) In the event that there are no eligible survivors as defined in subsections (1) to (5)
27 of this section, or in the event that the surviving spouse elects not to receive

1 survivorship benefits on his or her own behalf or on behalf of any of the member's
2 children as permitted under subsections (2) and (3) of this section, the board of
3 trustees shall pay to the estate or the designated beneficiaries of the deceased
4 member a refund of his accumulated account balance as provided in KRS
5 161.470(7). If the benefits paid or payable under subsections (1) to (5) of this
6 section and KRS 161.661 shall amount to a sum less than the member's
7 accumulated account balance at the time of death, the board of trustees shall pay to
8 the estate or designated beneficiaries of the deceased member the balance of the
9 accumulated account balance;

10 (10) Any person who is receiving benefits and becomes disqualified from receiving
11 those benefits under this section shall immediately notify the Teachers' Retirement
12 System of this disqualification in writing and shall return all benefits paid after the
13 date of disqualification. Failure to comply with these provisions shall create an
14 indebtedness of that person to the Teachers' Retirement System. Interest at the rate
15 of eight percent (8%) per annum shall be charged if the debt is not repaid within
16 sixty (60) days after the date of disqualification. Failure to repay this debt creates a
17 lien in favor of the Teachers' Retirement System upon all property of the person
18 who improperly receives benefits and does not repay those benefits; and

19 (11) Benefits under subsections (2) and (3) of this section shall apply to a child who is a
20 legally adopted survivor at the time of the death of the member. This provision shall
21 be retroactive to include a child who was born after January 1, 1990, and is a legally
22 adopted survivor of a member whose death occurred prior to July 15, 2008.

23 ➔Section 17. KRS 161.522 is amended to read as follows:

24 Upon the death of a member retired for disability who had a minimum of twenty-seven
25 (27) years of service at the time of death, except as provided in KRS 161.661(6), the
26 spouse, if named as the primary beneficiary of the member's account, shall be entitled to
27 elect, in lieu of a refund of the member's account, an annuity actuarially equivalent to the

1 annuity that would have been paid to the deceased member had retirement for service
2 been effective on the day immediately preceding the member's death. This option shall be
3 available only during the entitlement period described under KRS 161.661(3) and (4)
4 prior to the recalculation of the member's disability allowance under KRS 161.661(5). In
5 selecting this right, the spouse shall be limited to selecting an option providing a straight
6 life annuity with refundable balance or a term certain option. There shall be a monthly
7 minimum allowance of three hundred dollars (\$300) as the basic straight life annuity.
8 This section applies to surviving spouses of members who were receiving benefit
9 payments under KRS 161.520 as of June 30, 1988, and to surviving spouses of members
10 who die on or after July 1, 1984, except that the member shall have been retired for
11 disability with a minimum of thirty (30) years of service if either of these two (2)
12 conditions were met prior to July 1, 1990. ~~[This section does not apply to individuals who
13 become members on or after January 1, 2019.]~~

14 ➔Section 18. KRS 161.525 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as
15 follows:

16 (1) Upon death of a member in active contributing status at the time of death, who was
17 eligible to retire by reason of service, the spouse, if named as the primary
18 beneficiary of the member's retirement account, or in the absence of an eligible
19 spouse a legal dependent of the member, if named as the primary beneficiary, shall
20 be entitled to elect, in lieu of a refund of the member's accumulated account balance
21 or benefits provided in KRS 161.520, an annuity actuarially equivalent at the
22 attained age of the beneficiary to the annuity that would have been paid to the
23 deceased member had retirement been effective on the day immediately preceding
24 the member's death. Under the provisions of KRS 61.680, benefits shall be
25 processed as if the member retired for service. In exercising this right the spouse or
26 legal dependent shall be limited to selecting an option providing either a straight life
27 annuity with refundable balance or a term certain option. A spouse may receive the

1 annuity provided by this section at the same time as children are qualifying for
2 survivors' benefits under the provisions of KRS 161.520; however, a legal
3 dependent, other than a spouse, may not receive these payments if children have
4 qualified for benefits under that section.

5 (2) A spouse qualifying for an annuity under subsection (1) of this section may defer
6 the payments in order to reduce the actuarial discounts to be applied due to age.

7 (3) Upon death of a member in active contributing status at the time of his death, who
8 had a minimum of twenty-seven (27) years of service, the spouse, if named as the
9 primary beneficiary of the member's account shall be entitled to a monthly
10 minimum allowance of three hundred dollars (\$300) as the basic straight life
11 annuity. This provision applies to surviving spouses of members who were
12 receiving benefit payments under KRS 161.520 as of June 30, 1986, and to
13 surviving spouses of members who die on or after July 1, 1986.~~[-This subsection
14 does not apply to individuals who become members on or after January 1, 2019.]~~

15 ➔Section 19. KRS 161.545 is amended to read as follows:

16 (1) (a) Members may make contributions and receive service credit for substitute,
17 part-time, or any service other than regular full-time teaching as provided in
18 the administrative regulations of the board of trustees if contributions were not
19 otherwise made as a result of the service.~~[-This paragraph does not apply to
20 members who retired on or after January 1, 2019, and are reemployed on or
21 after January 1, 2019.]~~

22 (b) Members placed on leave of absence during a period of full-time employment
23 as defined in KRS 161.220(21) may make contributions and receive service
24 credit for this leave only if contributions are made by the end of the fiscal year
25 next succeeding the year in which the leave was effective as provided in
26 administrative regulations promulgated by the board of trustees. Contributions
27 permitted after August 1, 1982, shall not be picked-up pursuant to KRS

1 161.540(2).

2 (2) Active contributing members of the Teachers' Retirement System, or former
3 members who are currently participating in a state-administered retirement system,
4 who were granted leaves of absence during a period of full-time employment as
5 defined in KRS 161.220(21) since July 1, 1964, for reasons of health as defined
6 under the Federal Family Medical Leave Act of 1993, 29 U.S.C. secs. 2601 et seq.,
7 child rearing, or to improve their educational qualifications, and did not purchase
8 the leave of absence as provided in subsection (1) of this section may obtain credit
9 for the leave of absence as provided under the administrative regulations of the
10 board of trustees and under the following conditions:

11 (a) The leave of absence shall be verified by a copy of the board of education
12 minutes which granted the leave of absence or by other documentation that
13 was generated contemporaneously with the leave that is determined by the
14 retirement system to reasonably establish that a leave of absence was granted;
15 and

16 (b) The member shall contribute the required percentage based on the salary
17 received for the year immediately preceding the leave of absence plus interest
18 at the rate of eight percent (8%) compounded annually from the beginning of
19 the school year following the year of the leave of absence, and by depositing
20 in the state accumulation fund an amount equal to this total.

21 (c) The member shall receive credit for no more than two (2) years under the
22 provisions of this subsection.

23 (3) Contributions permitted under this section after August 1, 1982, shall not be picked-
24 up pursuant to KRS 161.540(2).

25 (4) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section to the contrary, purchase of
26 service credit under subsection (2) of this section~~[-:]~~

27 ~~[(a)]~~ for individuals who become members on or after July 1, 2008~~[-, but prior to~~

1 ~~January 1, 2019]~~, shall be purchasable only at the full actuarial cost~~]; and~~

2 ~~(b) Shall not apply to individuals who become members on or after January 1,~~
3 ~~2019].~~

4 ➔Section 20. KRS 161.5465 is amended to read as follows:

5 On or after August 1, 1998, a member of the Teachers' Retirement System in active
6 contributing status who has a minimum of twenty (20) years of service credit may
7 purchase up to a maximum of five (5) years of service credit that is not otherwise
8 purchasable under any of the provisions of KRS 161.220 to 161.716 and that meets the
9 definition of nonqualified service as provided in Section 1526 of the Federal Taxpayer
10 Relief Act of 1997. The member shall pay the full actuarial cost of the service credit as
11 provided in KRS 161.220(22). The payment shall not be picked up by the employer as
12 described in KRS 161.540(2), and the member's payment shall be credited to the
13 member's contribution account and shall be considered accumulated contributions of the
14 member. Payment by the member may be by lump sum or by installment payments as
15 provided in KRS 161.597. Notwithstanding any other statute to the contrary, the
16 Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System shall recognize nonqualified service credit
17 purchased with another retirement system only to the extent that the member had an
18 equivalent number of full months of active employment in the position covered by the
19 other retirement system during the period that the nonqualified service was purchased.
20 This section shall not apply to ~~]:~~

21 ~~(1)]individuals who become members on or after July 1, 2008[, but prior to January 1,~~
22 ~~2019],~~ except that a teacher of a local school board may purchase up to ten (10)
23 months of service under this section if the teacher is retiring and has completed the
24 prior school year with at least twenty-six (26) years and two (2) months of service
25 but less than twenty-seven (27) years of service~~]; and~~

26 ~~(2)]Individuals who become members on or after January 1, 2019].~~

27 ➔Section 21. KRS 161.547 is amended to read as follows:

1 ~~[An individual who became]~~A member of the retirement system ***having***~~[prior to January~~
2 ~~1, 2019, who has]~~ service as a Kentucky legislator which is not credited by any retirement
3 system administered by the Commonwealth of Kentucky may present such service, not to
4 exceed four (4) years, for credit in the retirement system by paying the full actuarial cost
5 of the service as determined by the system actuary. The member may purchase all or part
6 of his service as a legislator, but no less than one (1) year of service. The entire payment
7 shall be placed in the teachers' saving fund.

8 ➔Section 22. KRS 161.548 is amended to read as follows:

9 ~~[An individual who became]~~A member of the Teachers' Retirement System ~~[prior to~~
10 ~~January 1, 2019,]~~who is in an active contributing status with the system, and who was
11 formerly employed in a regional community service program for mental health and
12 individuals with an intellectual disability, organized and operated under the provisions of
13 KRS 210.370 to 210.480, which does not participate in a state-administered retirement
14 system, may obtain credit for the period of his service in the regional community program
15 for mental health and individuals with an intellectual disability by paying to the Teachers'
16 Retirement System the full actuarial cost of the service credit purchased, as provided in
17 KRS 161.220(22). The service credit purchased may not be used for meeting the service
18 requirements set forth in KRS 161.600(1)(a) or 161.661(1) ***or subsection (2) of Section 6***
19 ***of this Act.*** The payment shall not be picked up, as described in KRS 161.540(2), and the
20 entire payment shall be placed in the teachers' savings fund.

21 ➔Section 23. KRS 161.549 is amended to read as follows:

22 ~~[An individual who became]~~A member of the Teachers' Retirement System ~~[prior to~~
23 ~~January 1, 2019,]~~who is in an active contributing status with the system, and who was
24 formerly employed by a Federal Head Start agency, operated under 42 U.S.C. secs. 9831
25 et seq., which does not participate in a state-administered retirement system, may obtain
26 credit for the period of the member's service in the Head Start program by purchasing this
27 service credit under the same conditions that out-of-state service credit may be purchased

1 under KRS 161.515. The service credit purchased may not be used for meeting the
2 service requirements set forth in KRS 161.600(1)(a), subsection (2) of Section 6 of this
3 Act, or 161.661(1). Payment for the service credit purchased may be made in installments
4 in lieu of a lump-sum payment. The payment shall not be picked up, as described in KRS
5 161.540(2), and the entire payment shall be placed in the teachers' savings fund.

6 →Section 24. KRS 161.568 is amended to read as follows:

7 (1) Eligibility to participate in the optional retirement plan shall be determined by the
8 board of regents of each of the state public postsecondary education institutions
9 identified in KRS 161.220(4)(b). The employees of these institutions of higher
10 education who are initially employed on or after the implementation date of the
11 optional retirement plan may make an election to participate in the optional
12 retirement plan within thirty (30) days after their employment date. This election
13 shall be irrevocable except as otherwise provided in this subsection. No member of
14 the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System who terminates employment and is
15 subsequently reemployed by the same or another public postsecondary education
16 institution which participates in the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System may be
17 eligible to elect to participate in the optional retirement plan unless the date of
18 reemployment is at least six (6) months after the date of termination. All elections
19 made under this subsection shall be in writing and shall be filed with the
20 appropriate officer of the employer institution. Persons who originally elected to
21 participate in the optional retirement plan may later change their elections only as
22 follows:

23 (a) Any person otherwise eligible for membership in the Kentucky Teachers'
24 Retirement System may irrevocably elect one (1) time during his or her
25 lifetime to change his or her election and to prospectively participate in the
26 Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System. This election to change from the
27 optional retirement plan to Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System shall be

1 effective beginning on the first day of the first month immediately following
2 the date that written application for the election is received in the retirement
3 system's office on forms prescribed by the system. Any person exercising this
4 election shall not be entitled to purchase as service credit in the Kentucky
5 Teachers' Retirement System any prior service with his or her postsecondary
6 education institution employer;

7 (b) Any person otherwise eligible for membership in the Kentucky Teachers'
8 Retirement System who previously elected to participate in the optional
9 retirement plan may irrevocably elect one (1) time within his or her first six
10 (6) years and six (6) months of continuous service in any one (1) or more of
11 the institutions identified in KRS 161.220(4)(b), to change his or her election
12 and to prospectively participate in the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System
13 and also become eligible to purchase as service credit his or her prior service
14 with his or her postsecondary education employer. This election to change
15 from the optional retirement plan to the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement
16 System shall be effective beginning on the first day of the first month
17 immediately following the date that written application for the election is
18 received in the retirement system's office on forms prescribed by the
19 retirement system. Persons electing to change from the optional retirement
20 plan to the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System may purchase service
21 credit only for their prior years of service for a postsecondary education
22 institution identified in KRS 161.220(4)(b) during which they participated in
23 the optional retirement plan. The election to purchase prior service as service
24 credit shall be received in the retirement system's office on forms prescribed
25 by the retirement system within the six (6) year and six (6) month period
26 provided to make the election to begin participation in the Kentucky Teachers'
27 Retirement System. The cost of purchasing this service shall be calculated by

1 adding both the employer and member contributions that would have been
2 paid to the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System had the individual
3 purchasing this service participated in the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement
4 System instead of the optional retirement plan, less the amount contributed to
5 the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System by the postsecondary education
6 institution as provided by KRS 161.569(5), or KRS 161.569(5)(a)2. as it
7 existed on June 30, 2007. Interest at Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System's
8 actuarially assumed rate shall be paid on these net contributions by the person
9 electing to change to the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System from the
10 optional retirement plan. These payments shall not be picked up as described
11 in KRS 161.540(2). Persons who elect to change from the optional retirement
12 plan to the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System may elect to purchase as
13 service credit, beginning with the most recent years, any portion of their prior
14 years of service during which time they participated in the optional retirement
15 plan, or none of those years. Members may purchase service credit for prior
16 years of service by rolling over funds from their optional retirement plan
17 account as provided under KRS 161.5461, or by rolling over or transferring
18 other plan funds as permitted by the rules set forth in the Internal Revenue
19 Code, or by making an after-tax lump-sum cash payment~~]. This paragraph~~
20 ~~does not apply to individuals who become members on or after January 1,~~
21 ~~2019];~~

- 22 (c) Effective July 1, 2008, persons otherwise eligible for membership in the
23 Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System may irrevocably elect one (1) time to
24 change their election and to prospectively participate in the Kentucky
25 Teachers' Retirement System and purchase service credit for their prior years
26 of service during which they participated in the optional retirement plan. This
27 election shall be filed in writing with the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement

1 System no later than December 31, 2008. Persons who change their election
2 prior to July 1, 2008, to prospectively participate in the Kentucky Teachers'
3 Retirement System may purchase service credit for their prior years of service
4 during which they participated in the optional retirement plan. The purchase
5 of prior years of service under this paragraph shall be subject to the same
6 conditions and purchase costs as described in paragraph (b) of this subsection,
7 except that the election to purchase service credit shall be on file with the
8 Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System no later than December 31, 2008[
9 ~~This paragraph does not apply to individuals who become members on or after~~
10 ~~January 1, 2019]~~; and

11 (d) Persons electing to change to the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System
12 under paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of this subsection shall be eligible to
13 participate, based upon their age and allowable service credit, in the disability,
14 survivorship, and medical insurance programs under the conditions and in the
15 degree as they exist on the date that they file their election with the retirement
16 system, but shall be subject to any changes to those programs from that date
17 forward, including any changes that may affect their eligibility for or degree of
18 participation in those programs. Prior service purchased as service credit as
19 permitted under paragraphs (b) and (c) of this subsection shall not be
20 considered for meeting eligibility requirements or determining the extent of
21 participation in these programs. Persons electing to change to the Kentucky
22 Teachers' Retirement System shall not be eligible for the survivorship or
23 disability programs based upon medical conditions that existed prior to the
24 filing of their elections.

25 (2) Elections of eligible employees hired on or after the implementation date of the
26 optional retirement plan at their employer institution shall be effective on the date
27 of their employment. If an eligible employee hired subsequent to the

1 implementation date at the employer institution fails to make the election provided
2 for in this section, the employee shall become a member of the regular retirement
3 plan of the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System.

4 ➔Section 25. KRS 161.580 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

5 (1) The board of trustees shall provide for the maintenance of an individual account for
6 each member showing the amount of the member's accumulated account balance.
7 Such individual accounts shall be identified in the records of the system by name,
8 date of birth, and Social Security number. It shall collect and keep in convenient
9 form such data as is necessary for the preparation of the required mortality and
10 service tables and for the compilation of such other information as is required for
11 the actuarial valuation of the assets and liabilities of the various funds of the
12 retirement system.

13 (2) The board shall prepare and furnish to all active contributing members a summary
14 plan description, written in a manner calculated to be understood by the average
15 member or annuitant, and sufficiently accurate and comprehensive to reasonably
16 apprise them of their rights and obligations under the Teachers' Retirement System.
17 The board may furnish the summary plan description by posting it on the retirement
18 system's Web site.

19 (3) The summary plan description shall include:

20 (a) The name of the retirement system, the name and address of the executive
21 secretary, and the name, address, and title of each member of the board of
22 trustees;

23 (b) The name and address of the person designated for the service of legal
24 process;

25 (c) The system's requirements for participation and benefits;

26 (d) A description of retirement formulas for normal, early, and disability
27 retirement, and survivor benefits;

- 1 (e) A description of the requirements for vesting of pension benefits;
- 2 (f) A list of circumstances which would result in disqualification, ineligibility, or
3 denial or loss of benefits;
- 4 (g) The sources of financing retirement benefits, and statutory requirements for
5 funding;
- 6 (h) A statement after each actuarial valuation as to whether funding requirements
7 are being met; and
- 8 (i) The procedures to be followed in presenting claims for benefits under the
9 plan, and the remedies available under the plan for the redress of claims which
10 are denied in whole or in part.
- 11 (4) The board may publish the summary plan description in the form of a
12 comprehensive pamphlet or booklet, or in the form of periodic newsletters which
13 shall incorporate all the information required in the summary plan description
14 within a period of two (2) years. Any changes in statutory requirements or
15 administrative practices which alter the provisions of the plan as described in the
16 summary plan description shall be summarized as required in subsection (2) of this
17 section and furnished to active contributing members in the form of a supplement to
18 a comprehensive booklet, or reported in the periodic newsletter.
- 19 (5) The board shall provide to annuitants so much of the summary plan description as
20 they need to understand changes in benefits which apply to them.
- 21 ➔Section 26. KRS 161.585 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:
- 22 (1) Each member's or annuitant's account shall be administered in a confidential
23 manner, and specific data regarding a member or annuitant shall not be released for
24 publication, except that:
- 25 (a) The member or annuitant may authorize the release of his or her account
26 information;
- 27 (b) The board of trustees may release member or annuitant account information to

1 the employer or to other state and federal agencies as it deems necessary or in
2 response to a lawful subpoena or order issued by a court of law; or

3 (c) 1. Upon request by any person, the system shall release the following
4 information from the accounts of any member or annuitant of the
5 Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System, if the member or annuitant is a
6 current or former officeholder in the Kentucky General Assembly:

7 a. The first and last name of the member or annuitant;

8 b. The status of the member or annuitant, including but not limited to
9 whether he or she is a contributing member, a member who is not
10 contributing but has not retired, a retiree receiving a monthly
11 retirement allowance, or a retiree who has returned to work
12 following retirement with an agency participating in the system;

13 c. If the individual is an annuitant, the monthly retirement allowance
14 that he or she was receiving at the end of the most recently
15 completed fiscal year;

16 d. If the individual is a member who has not yet retired, the estimated
17 monthly retirement allowance that he or she is eligible to receive
18 on the first date he or she would be eligible for an unreduced
19 retirement allowance, using his or her service credit, accumulated
20 account balance, and final average salary at the end of the most
21 recently completed fiscal year; and

22 e. The current or last participating employer of the member or
23 annuitant, if applicable.

24 2. No information shall be disclosed under this paragraph from an account
25 that is paying benefits to a beneficiary due to the death of a member or
26 annuitant.

27 (2) The release of information under subsection (1)(c) of this section shall not

1 constitute a violation of the Open Records Act, KRS 61.870 to 61.884.

2 (3) Medical records which are included in a member's or annuitant's file maintained by
3 the Teachers' Retirement System are confidential and shall not be released unless
4 authorized by the member or annuitant in writing or as otherwise provided by law or
5 in response to a lawful subpoena or order issued by a court of law.

6 (4) (a) When a subpoena is served upon any employee of the Kentucky Teachers'
7 Retirement System requiring the production of any data, information, or
8 records, it is sufficient if the employee of the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement
9 System charged with the responsibility of being custodian of the original, or
10 his or her designated staff, delivers within five (5) working days by certified
11 mail or by personal delivery to the person specified in the subpoena either of
12 the following:

- 13 1. Legible and durable copies of records certified by the employee or
14 designated staff; or
- 15 2. An affidavit stating the information required by the subpoena.

16 (b) The production of records or an affidavit shall be in lieu of any personal
17 testimony of any employee of the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System
18 unless, after the production of records or an affidavit, a separate subpoena is
19 served upon the retirement system specifically directing the testimony of an
20 employee of the retirement system. When a subpoena is served on any
21 employee of the retirement system requiring the employee to give testimony
22 or produce records for any purpose, in the absence of a court order requiring
23 the testimony of or production of records by a specific employee, the system
24 may designate an employee to give testimony or produce records upon the
25 matter referred to in the subpoena. The board of trustees may promulgate an
26 administrative regulation for the recovery of reasonable travel and
27 administrative expenses for those occasions when an employee of the

1 retirement system is required to travel from his or her home or office to
2 provide testimony or records. Recoverable expenses may include the wages,
3 salary, and overtime paid to the employee by the retirement system for the
4 period of time that the employee is away from the office. The cost of these
5 expenses shall be borne by the party issuing the subpoena compelling the
6 employee's travel. The board of trustees may also promulgate an
7 administrative regulation establishing a reasonable fee for the copying,
8 compiling, and mailing of requested records.

9 (c) The certification required by this subsection shall be signed before a notary
10 public by the employee and shall include the full name of the member or
11 annuitant, the member or annuitant identification number assigned to the
12 member or annuitant by the retirement system, and a legend substantially to
13 the following effect: "The records are true and complete reproductions of the
14 original, microfiched, or electronically stored records which are housed in the
15 retirement system's office. This certification is given in lieu of the
16 undersigned's personal appearance."

17 (d) When an affidavit or copies of records are personally delivered, a receipt shall
18 be presented to the person receiving the records for his or her signature and
19 shall be immediately signed and returned to the person delivering the records.
20 When an affidavit or copies of records are sent via certified mail, the receipt
21 used by the postal authorities shall be sufficient to prove receipt of the
22 affidavit or copies of records.

23 (e) When the affidavit or copies of records are delivered to a party for use in
24 deposition they shall, after termination of the deposition, be delivered
25 personally or by certified mail to the clerk of the court or other body before
26 which the action or proceeding is pending.

27 (f) Upon completion of delivery by the retirement system of copies of records by

1 their deposit in the mail or by their personal delivery to the requesting party,
2 the retirement system shall cease to have any responsibility or liability for the
3 records and their continued maintenance in a confidential manner.

4 (g) Records of the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System that are susceptible to
5 reproduction may be proved as to foundation, identity, and authenticity
6 without preliminary testimony, by use of legible and durable copies, certified
7 in accordance with the provisions of this subsection.(h) The provisions of
8 this subsection shall not be construed to prohibit the Kentucky Teachers'
9 Retirement System from asserting any exemption, exception, or relief
10 provided under the Kentucky Rules of Civil Procedure or other applicable
11 law.

12 (5) For purposes of this section, "records" includes retirement estimates, affidavits, and
13 other documents prepared by the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System in
14 response to information requested in a lawful subpoena or order issued by a court of
15 law.

16 ➔Section 27. KRS 161.590 is amended to read as follows:

17 (1) At retirement the total service credited to a teacher shall consist of prior and
18 subsequent service rendered by him for which service credit has been allowed.

19 (2) Kentucky service, presented at the time of retirement, may not be used in
20 calculating benefits under KRS ~~[161.235,]~~161.525, 161.620, or 161.661, if such
21 service has been used to increase benefits in another retirement system, not
22 including Old Age and Survivors Insurance Benefits under the Social Security
23 Administration.

24 (3) No service credit shall be added to a member's account after the effective date of
25 retirement for service.

26 ➔Section 28. KRS 161.595 is amended to read as follows:

27 (1) Upon service retirement, ~~[an individual who becomes]~~ a member of the Teachers'

1 Retirement System [~~prior to January 1, 2019,~~] may obtain credit for all or any part
2 of the service otherwise creditable under the Kentucky Employees Retirement
3 System, the County Employees Retirement System, or in the service of the United
4 States government for which service credit is not otherwise given, upon the
5 payment by the member of the full actuarial cost of the service credit purchased as
6 defined in KRS 161.220(22). Such payments shall not be picked up, as described in
7 KRS 161.540(2).

8 (2) The amount paid under this section shall be considered as accumulated
9 contributions of the individual member.

10 (3) No person shall be allowed credit for the same period of service in more than one
11 (1) of these three (3) retirement systems.

12 ➔Section 29. KRS 161.605 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as
13 follows:

14 Any member retired by reason of service may return to work in a position covered by the
15 Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System and continue to receive his or her retirement
16 allowance under the following conditions:

17 (1) Any member who is retired with thirty (30) or more years of service may return to
18 work in a full-time or a part-time position covered by the Kentucky Teachers'
19 Retirement System and earn up to a maximum of seventy-five percent (75%) of the
20 member's last annual compensation measured on a daily rate to be determined by
21 the board of trustees. For purposes of determining whether the salary of a member
22 returning to work is seventy-five percent (75%) or less of the member's last annual
23 compensation, all remuneration paid and benefits provided to the member, on an
24 actual dollar or fair market value basis as determined by the retirement system, shall
25 be considered. Members who were retired on or before June 30, 2002, shall be
26 entitled to return to work under the provisions of this section as if they had retired
27 with thirty (30) years of service. Nonqualified service credit purchased under the

1 provisions of KRS 161.5465 or elsewhere with any state-administered retirement
2 system shall not be used to meet the thirty (30) year requirement set forth in this
3 subsection. Out-of state teaching service provided in public schools for kindergarten
4 through grade twelve (12) may count toward the thirty (30) year requirement set
5 forth in this subsection even if it is not purchased as service credit, if the member
6 obtains from his or her out-of-state employer certification of this service on forms
7 prescribed by the retirement system;

8 (2) Any member who is retired with less than thirty (30) years of service after June 30,
9 2002, may return to work in a full-time or part-time position covered by the
10 Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System and earn up to a maximum of sixty-five
11 percent (65%) of the member's last annual compensation measured on a daily rate to
12 be determined by the board of trustees. For purposes of determining whether the
13 salary of a member returning to work is sixty-five percent (65%) or less of the
14 member's last annual compensation, all remuneration paid and benefits provided to
15 the member, on an actual dollar or fair market value basis as determined by the
16 retirement system, shall be considered;

17 (3) Reemployment of a retired member under subsection (1) or (2) of this section in a
18 full-time teaching or nonteaching position in a local school district shall be
19 permitted only if the employer certifies to the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement
20 System that there are no other qualified applicants available to fill the teaching or
21 nonteaching position. The employer may use any source considered reliable
22 including but not limited to data provided by the Education Professional Standards
23 Board and the Department of Education to determine whether other qualified
24 applicants are available to fill the teaching or nonteaching position. The Kentucky
25 Board of Education shall promulgate administrative regulations to establish
26 procedures to determine whether other qualified applicants are available to fill a
27 teaching or nonteaching position and, if not, for filling the position with a retired

1 member who will then be permitted to return to work in that position under
2 subsection (1) or (2) of this section. The administrative regulations shall assure that
3 a retired member shall not be hired in a teaching or nonteaching position by a local
4 school district until the superintendent of the school district assures the Kentucky
5 Teachers' Retirement System that every reasonable effort has been made to recruit
6 other qualified applicants for the position on an annual basis;

7 (4) Under this section, an employer may employ full-time a number of retired members
8 not to exceed three percent (3%) of the membership actively employed full-time by
9 that employer. The board of trustees may reduce this three percent (3%) cap upon
10 recommendation of the retirement system's actuary if a reduction is necessary to
11 maintain the actuarial soundness of the retirement system. The board of trustees
12 may increase the three percent (3%) cap upon a determination that an increase is
13 warranted to help address a shortage in the number of available teachers and upon
14 the determination of the retirement system's actuary that the proposed cap increase
15 allows the actuarial soundness of the retirement system to be maintained. For
16 purposes of this subsection, "full-time" means the same as defined by KRS
17 161.220(21). A local school district may exceed the quota established by this
18 subsection by making an annual written request to the Kentucky Department of
19 Education which the department may approve on a year-by-year basis if the
20 statewide quota has not been met. A district's written request to exceed its quota
21 shall be submitted no sooner than two (2) weeks after the start of the school year;

22 (5) (a) ~~Except as provided by subsection (10) of this section,~~ A member returning
23 to work in a full-time or part-time position under subsection (1) or (2) of this
24 section will contribute to an account with the retirement system that will be
25 administered independently from and with no reciprocal impact with the
26 member's original retirement account, or any other account from which the
27 member is eligible to draw a retirement allowance.

- 1 (b) ~~[Except as provided by subsection (10) of this section,]~~A member returning
2 to work under subsection (1) or (2) of this section shall make contributions to
3 the retirement system at the rate provided under KRS 161.540. The new
4 account shall independently meet the five (5) year vesting requirement as well
5 as all other conditions set forth in KRS 161.600(1) or (2), as applicable,
6 before any retirement allowance is payable from this account. The retirement
7 allowance accruing under this new account shall be calculated pursuant to
8 KRS 161.620~~[(1)(b)]~~. This new account shall not entitle the member to a
9 duplication of the benefits offered under KRS 161.620(7) or 161.675, nor
10 shall this new account provide the benefits offered by KRS 161.520, 161.525,
11 161.620(3), 161.655, 161.661, or 161.663.
- 12 (c) A member returning to work under subsection (1) or (2) of this section shall
13 waive his or her medical insurance with the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement
14 System during the period of reemployment and shall receive the medical
15 insurance coverage that is generally provided by the member's active employer
16 to the other members of the retirement system that the active employer
17 employs. If medical insurance coverage is not available from the employer,
18 the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System may provide coverage for the
19 member.
- 20 (d) A member returning to work under subsection (1) or (2) of this section shall
21 not be eligible to purchase service credit for any service provided after the
22 member's effective date of retirement but prior to the date that the member
23 returns to work. A member returning to work under subsection (1) or (2) of
24 this section shall not be eligible to purchase service credit that the member
25 would have otherwise been eligible to purchase prior to the member's initial
26 retirement.
- 27 (e) A member who returns to work under subsection (1) or (2) of this section, or

1 in the event of the death of the member, the member's estate or applicably
2 designated beneficiary, shall be entitled, within ninety (90) days of the posting
3 of the annual report submitted by the employer, to a refund of contributions as
4 permitted and limited by KRS 161.470;

5 (6) The board of trustees may annually, on July 1, adjust the current daily rate of a
6 member's last annual compensation, for each full twelve (12) month period that has
7 elapsed subsequent to the member earning his or her last annual compensation, by
8 the percentage increase in the annual average of the consumer price index for all
9 urban consumers for the calendar year preceding the adjustment as published by the
10 Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, not to exceed five percent (5%) annually. Each
11 annual adjustment shall become part of the member's daily rate base. Failure to
12 comply with the salary limitations set forth in subsections (1) and (2) of this section
13 as may be adjusted by this subsection shall result in a reduction of the member's
14 retirement allowance or any other benefit to which the member would otherwise be
15 entitled on a dollar-for-dollar basis for each dollar that the member exceeds these
16 salary limitations. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a
17 member retiring from a local school district who returns to work for a local school
18 district under subsection (1) or (2) of this section shall be entitled, without any
19 reduction to his or her retirement allowance or any other retirement benefit, to earn
20 a minimum amount equal to one hundred seventy dollars (\$170) per day;

21 (7) (a) A retired member returning to work under subsection (1) or (2) of this section
22 shall have separated from service for a period of at least one (1) year if
23 returning to work for the same employer on a full-time basis, and at least three
24 (3) months if returning to work for a different employer on a full-time basis. A
25 retired member returning to work under subsection (1) or (2) of this section on
26 a part-time basis shall have separated from service for a period of at least three
27 (3) months before returning to work for any employer.

1 (b) As an alternative to the separation-from-service requirements in paragraph (a)
2 of this subsection, a retired member who is returning to work for the same
3 employer in a full-time position under subsections (1) and (2) of this section
4 may elect a separation-from-service of not less than two (2) months followed
5 by a forfeiture of the retired member's retirement allowance on a month-to-
6 month basis for each month that the member has separated from service for
7 less than twelve (12) full months. A retired member returning to work for the
8 same employer in a part-time position, or for a different employer in a full-
9 time position, may elect an alternative separation-from-service requirement of
10 at least two (2) months followed by a forfeiture of the member's retirement
11 allowance for one (1) month. During the period that the member forfeits his or
12 her retirement allowance and thereafter, member and employer contributions
13 shall be made to the retirement system as a result of employment in any
14 position subject to membership in the retirement system. The member shall
15 contribute to an account with the retirement system subject to the conditions
16 set forth in subsection (5) of this section. For purposes of measuring the
17 separation-from-service requirements set forth throughout this section, a
18 member's separation-from-service begins on the first day following the last
19 day of paid employment for the member prior to retirement.

20 (c) Failure to comply with the separation-from-service requirements in this
21 subsection voids a member's retirement and the member shall be required to
22 return all the retirement benefits he or she received, with interest, for the
23 period of time that the member returned to work without a sufficient
24 separation from service;

25 (8) (a) Effective July 1, 2004, local school districts may employ retired members in
26 full-time or part-time teaching or administrative positions without limitation
27 on the compensation of the retired members that is otherwise required by

1 subsections (1) and (2) of this section. Under provisions of this subsection, a
2 local school district may only employ retired members to fill critical shortage
3 positions for which there are no other qualified applicants as determined by
4 the local superintendent. The number of retired members that a local school
5 district may employ under this subsection shall be no more than two (2)
6 members per local school district or one percent (1%) of the total active
7 members employed by the local school district on a full-time basis as defined
8 under KRS 161.220(21), whichever number is greater. Retired members
9 returning to work under this subsection shall be subject to the separation-
10 from-service requirements set forth in subsection (7) of this section. Retired
11 members returning to work under this subsection shall waive their medical
12 insurance coverage with the retirement system during their period of
13 reemployment and receive medical insurance coverage that is offered to other
14 full-time members employed by the local school district. Retired members
15 returning to work under this subsection shall contribute to an account subject
16 to the conditions set forth in subsection (5) of this section. Retired members
17 returning to work under this subsection shall make contributions to the
18 retirement system at the rate provided under KRS 161.540. The employer
19 shall make contributions at the rate provided under KRS 161.550. Local
20 school districts shall make annual payments to the retirement system on the
21 compensation paid to the reemployed retirees at the rates determined by the
22 retirement system's actuary that reflect any accrued liability resulting from the
23 reemployment of these members.

- 24 (b) The Department of Education may employ retired members in full-time or
25 part-time teaching or nonteaching positions without the limitations on
26 compensation otherwise required by subsections (1) and (2) of this section to
27 fill critical shortage areas in the schools it operates, including the Kentucky

1 School for the Blind, the Kentucky School for the Deaf, and the Kentucky
2 Virtual High School, and to serve on audit teams. The department shall be
3 subject to the same requirements as local school districts as provided in
4 paragraph (a) of this subsection, except the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement
5 System shall determine the maximum number of employees that may be
6 employed under this paragraph;

7 (9) The return to work limitations set forth in this section shall apply to retired
8 members who are returning to work in the same position from which they retired, or
9 a position substantially similar to the one from which they retired, or a position
10 described in KRS 161.046 or any position listed in KRS 161.220(4) which requires
11 membership in the retirement system. Positions which generally require certification
12 or graduation from a four (4) year college or university as a condition of
13 employment which are created, or changed to remove the position from coverage
14 under KRS 161.220(4) are also subject to the return to work limitations set forth in
15 this section. The board of trustees shall determine whether employment in a
16 nonteaching position is subject to this subsection;

17 (10) ~~[(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, individuals who retire and~~
18 ~~begin drawing a retirement allowance from one (1) or more of the systems or~~
19 ~~plans administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems, the Teachers'~~
20 ~~Retirement System, or the Judicial Form Retirement System on or after~~
21 ~~January 1, 2019, who are reemployed on or after January 1, 2019, with an~~
22 ~~employer participating in the Teachers' Retirement System shall not be~~
23 ~~eligible to contribute to or earn benefits in a second retirement account during~~
24 ~~the period of reemployment. Employers shall be required to pay the employer~~
25 ~~normal cost for pension benefits established by KRS 161.550 for any period of~~
26 ~~full-time reemployment to help pay down the unfunded liability of the~~
27 ~~Teachers' Retirement System pension fund.~~

1 ~~(b)~~—]The provisions of subsections (1) to (8) of this section are not subject to KRS
2 161.714;

3 (11) Any member retired by reason of service may waive his or her annuity and return to
4 full-time employment in a position covered by the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement
5 System under the following conditions:

6 (a) The member shall receive no annuity payments while employed in a covered
7 position, shall waive his or her medical insurance coverage with the Kentucky
8 Teachers' Retirement System during the period of reemployment, and shall
9 receive the medical insurance coverage that is generally offered by the
10 member's active employer to the other members of the retirement system
11 employed by the active employer. The member's estate or, if there is a
12 beneficiary applicably designated by the member, then the beneficiary, shall
13 continue to be eligible for life insurance benefits as provided in KRS 161.655.
14 Service subsequent to retirement shall not be used to improve an annuity,
15 except as provided in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this subsection;

16 (b) Any member who waives regular annuity benefits and returns to teaching or
17 covered employment shall be entitled to make contributions on the salaries
18 received for this service and have his retirement annuity recalculated as
19 provided in the regular retirement formula in KRS 161.620(1), less any
20 applicable actuarial discount applied to the original retirement allowance due
21 to the election of a joint and last survivor option. Retirement option and
22 beneficiary designation on original retirement shall not be altered by
23 postretirement employment, and dependents and spouses of the members shall
24 not become eligible for benefits under KRS 161.520, 161.525, or 161.661
25 because of postretirement employment;

26 (c) When a member returns to full-time teaching or covered employment as
27 provided in subsection (b) of this section, the employer is required to withhold

1 and remit regular retirement contributions. The member must be employed
2 full-time for at least one (1) consecutive contract year to be eligible to
3 improve an annuity. The member shall be returned to the annuity rolls on July
4 1 following completion of the contract year or on the first day of the month
5 following the month of termination of service if full-time employment
6 exceeds one (1) consecutive contract year. Any discounts applied at the time
7 of the original retirement due to service or age may be reduced or eliminated
8 due to additional employment if full-time employment is for one (1)
9 consecutive contract year or longer; and

10 (d) A member retired by reason of service who has been employed the equivalent
11 of twenty-five (25) days or more during a school year under KRS 161.605
12 may waive the member's retirement annuity and return to regular employment
13 covered by the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System during that school year
14 a maximum of one (1) time during any five (5) year period, beginning with
15 that school year;

16 (12) Retired members may be employed in a part-time teaching capacity by an agency
17 described in KRS 161.220(4)(b) or (n), not to exceed the equivalent of twelve (12)
18 teaching hours in any one (1) fiscal year. Retired members may be employed for a
19 period not to exceed the equivalent of one hundred (100) days in any one (1) fiscal
20 year in a part-time administrative or nonteaching capacity by an agency described in
21 KRS 161.220(4)(b) or (n) in a position that would otherwise be covered by the
22 retirement system. The return to work provisions set forth in subsections (1) to (8)
23 of this section shall not apply to retired members who return to work solely for an
24 agency described in KRS 161.220(4)(b) or (n). Calculation of the number of days
25 and teaching hours for part-time teaching, substitute teaching, or part-time
26 employment in a nonteaching capacity under this section shall not exceed the ratio
27 between a school year and the actual months of retirement for the member during

1 that school year. The board of trustees by administrative regulation may establish
2 fractional equivalents of a day of teaching service. Any member who exceeds the
3 twelve (12) hour or one hundred (100) day limitations of this subsection shall be
4 subject to having his or her retirement voided and be required to return all
5 retirement allowances and other benefits paid to the member or on the member's
6 behalf since the effective date of retirement. In lieu of voiding a member's
7 retirement, the system may reduce the member's retirement allowance or any other
8 benefit to which the member would otherwise be entitled on a dollar-for-dollar basis
9 for each dollar of compensation that the member earns in employment exceeding
10 twelve (12) hours, one hundred (100) days, or any apportionment of the two (2)
11 combined;

12 (13) When a retired member returns to employment in a part-time teaching capacity or in
13 a nonteaching capacity as provided in subsection (12) of this section, the employer
14 shall contribute annually to the retirement system on the compensation paid to the
15 retired member at rates determined by the retirement system actuary that reflect
16 accrued liability for retired members who return to work under subsection (12) of
17 this section; and

18 (14) For retired members who return to work during any one (1) fiscal year in both a
19 position described in KRS 161.220(4)(b) or (n) and in a position described under
20 another provision under KRS 161.220(4), and for retired members who return to
21 work in a position described under KRS 161.220(4)(b) or (n) in both a teaching and
22 an administrative or nonteaching capacity, the board of trustees shall adopt a
23 methodology for a pro rata apportionment of days and hours that the retired member
24 may work in each position.

25 ➔Section 30. KRS 161.612 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as
26 follows:

27 Effective July 1, 2002, any individual occupying a position on a part-time basis that

1 requires certification or graduation from a four (4) year college or university as a
2 condition of employment and any individual providing part-time or substitute teaching
3 services that are the same or similar to those teaching services provided by certified, full-
4 time teachers shall be a member of the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System, according
5 to the conditions and only to the extent set forth in this section, if the individual is
6 employed by one (1) of the public boards, institutions, or agencies set forth in KRS
7 161.220, excluding those public boards, institutions, and agencies described in KRS
8 161.220(4)(b) and (n). Members providing part-time and substitute services shall
9 participate in the retirement system as follows:

10 (1) Members providing part-time and substitute services shall accrue service credit as
11 provided under KRS 161.500 and be entitled to a retirement allowance upon
12 meeting the service retirement conditions of KRS ~~{161.235 or }~~161.600~~, as~~
13 ~~applicable~~. The board of trustees shall adopt a methodology for accrediting service
14 credit to these members on a pro rata basis. The methodology adopted by the board
15 of trustees may be amended as necessary to ensure its actuarial soundness. The
16 retirement allowance for members providing part-time and substitute services shall
17 be calculated pursuant to Section 2 of this Act and KRS ~~{161.235 or }~~161.620, as
18 applicable, except that the provisions of KRS 161.620(3) shall not apply. Members
19 providing part-time and substitute services who meet the service retirement
20 conditions of KRS ~~{161.235 or }~~161.600~~, as applicable~~, may also be eligible to
21 participate as approved by the board of trustees in the medical insurance program
22 provided by the retirement system under KRS 161.675. Members providing part-
23 time and substitute services shall make contributions to the Kentucky Teachers'
24 Retirement System at the rate provided under KRS 161.540. A member who
25 provides part-time or substitute services, or in the event of the death of the member,
26 the member's estate or applicably designated beneficiary, will be entitled, within
27 ninety (90) days of the posting of the annual report submitted by the member's

- 1 employer, to a refund of contributions as permitted and limited by KRS 161.470;
- 2 (2) The board of trustees shall adopt eligibility conditions under which members
3 providing part-time and substitute services may participate in the benefits provided
4 under KRS 161.520, 161.655, 161.661, and 161.663. The board of trustees may
5 permit members providing part-time or substitute services to participate in other
6 benefits offered by the retirement system by promulgating administrative
7 regulations that establish eligibility conditions for participation in these benefits. All
8 eligibility conditions adopted by the board of trustees pursuant to this subsection
9 may be amended as necessary to ensure their actuarial soundness;
- 10 (3) In addition to the pro rata methodology adopted by the board of trustees under
11 subsection (1) of this section, members providing part-time and substitute services
12 shall be subject to all limitations and conditions regarding the accrual, retention,
13 accreditation, and use of service credit that apply to members providing full-time
14 services. In addition to the eligibility conditions set forth by the board of trustees
15 under subsection (2) of this section, members providing part-time and substitute
16 services shall be subject to all limitations and conditions regarding both the
17 eligibility to participate and the extent of participation in any benefit offered under
18 KRS 161.220 to 161.716 that apply to members providing full-time services;
- 19 (4) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section to the contrary, instructional
20 assistants who provide teaching services in the local school districts on a full-time
21 basis in positions covered by the County Employees Retirement System who are
22 used as substitute teachers on an emergency basis for five (5) days or less during
23 any one (1) fiscal year shall not be considered members of the Teachers' Retirement
24 System during that period in which they are serving as substitute teachers for five
25 (5) days or less;
- 26 (5) The board of trustees may adopt a pro rata methodology to determine the annual
27 compensation of members providing part-time and substitute services in order to

1 determine benefits provided under KRS 161.661 and 161.663. Members providing
2 part-time and substitute services who had retirement contributions posted to their
3 accounts during the previous fiscal year and who have not had those contributions
4 refunded to them are eligible to vote for the board of trustees;

5 (6) The board of trustees of the Teachers' Retirement System shall be responsible for
6 final determination of membership eligibility and may direct employers to take
7 whatever action that may be necessary to correct any error relating to membership;

8 *and*

9 (7) ~~Effective January 1, 2019, this section does not apply to any individual who retires~~
10 ~~on or after January 1, 2019, and is reemployed on or after January 1, 2019; and~~

11 ~~(8) The provisions of this section are not subject to KRS 161.714.~~

12 ➔Section 31. KRS 161.615 is amended to read as follows:

13 (1) The board of trustees is authorized to implement a limited defined contribution plan
14 for the sole purpose of providing retirement allowance payments for retired
15 members who have been approved by the retirement system for full-time
16 reemployment as provided in KRS 161.605.

17 (2) The defined contribution plan shall be administered separately from the regular
18 benefits provided for members of the retirement system, except that the
19 contributions to the plan shall be invested in the same manner as other contributions
20 to the retirement system.

21 (3) The provisions of this section apply only to those retired members who were
22 permitted to return to work under the critical shortage provisions of KRS
23 161.605(7) as they existed on June 30, 2002. The provisions of this section shall not
24 apply to any retired member returning to work on or after July 1, 2002.

25 (4) Separate member accounts shall be maintained for participants in this plan which
26 shall reflect the annual contributions made to the participant's account based on the
27 rates and interest levels specified in KRS 161.605.

1 (5) When the retiree's reemployment terminates, the total contributions and accrued
2 interest in the participant's account will be paid in a lump-sum payment or on an
3 actuarial straight life monthly basis to the retiree. If the member dies prior to
4 making application for a retirement allowance under this plan, the beneficiary
5 designated by the participant for this plan shall receive a refund of the funds in the
6 account. If there is a remaining balance in the account at the death of the participant
7 after retirement from this plan, it shall be paid to the beneficiary designated by the
8 participant for this benefit.

9 (6) Retired members shall be eligible to receive their retirement annuity when approved
10 for reemployment and participation in this plan. Service as a reemployed retiree
11 may not be used in any manner for credit under the regular retirement benefit plans
12 provided by the retirement system.

13 ~~[(7) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (1) to (6) of this section, any plan~~
14 ~~established pursuant to this section shall, effective January 1, 2019, be closed to any~~
15 ~~future employee or employer contributions.]~~

16 ➔Section 32. KRS 161.623 is amended to read as follows:

17 (1) Effective July 1, 1982, and thereafter, a district board of education or other
18 employer of members of the Teachers' Retirement System may compensate, at the
19 time of retirement for service, an active contributing member for unused sick-leave
20 days in accordance with this section.

21 (2) Upon the member's application for service retirement, the employer shall certify the
22 retiring member's unused accumulated sick-leave balance to the board of trustees of
23 the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System. The member's sick-leave balance,
24 expressed in days, shall be divided by one hundred eighty-five (185) days to
25 determine the amount of service credit that may be considered for addition to the
26 member's retirement account for the purpose of determining the retirement
27 allowance under KRS 161.620~~[, subject to the limitation of subsection (9)(a) of this~~

- 1 ~~section~~]. Notwithstanding any statute to the contrary, sick-leave credit that is
2 accredited under this section or by one (1) of the other state-administered retirement
3 systems shall not be used for the purpose of determining whether the member is
4 eligible to receive a retirement allowance from the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement
5 System.
- 6 (3) The board shall compute the cost to the retirement system of the sick-leave credit
7 for each retiring member and shall bill the last employer of the retiring member for
8 such cost. The employer shall pay the cost of such service credit to the retirement
9 system within fifteen (15) days after receiving notification of the cost from the
10 board.
- 11 (4) Retiring members who receive service credit under this section shall not be eligible
12 to receive compensation for accrued sick leave under KRS 161.155(10) or any other
13 statutory provision.
- 14 (5) Employer participation is optional and the employer may opt to purchase less
15 service credit than the member is eligible to receive provided the same percentage
16 of reduction is made applicable to all retiring members of the employer during a
17 school fiscal year.
- 18 (6) The board of trustees shall formulate and adopt necessary rules and regulations for
19 the administration of the foregoing provisions.
- 20 (7) Payments to the retirement system for service credit obtained under this section or
21 for compensation credit obtained under KRS 161.155(10) shall be based on the full
22 actuarial cost as defined in KRS 161.220(22).
- 23 (8) For an individual who becomes a member on or after July 1, 2008, the maximum
24 amount of unused accumulated sick leave that may be considered for addition to the
25 member's retirement account for purposes of determining the retirement allowance
26 under KRS 161.620 shall not exceed three hundred (300) days ~~or the amount~~
27 ~~specified by subsection (9)(a) of this section~~].

1 ~~[(9) Notwithstanding any other provision of KRS 161.220 to 161.716 to the contrary:~~

2 ~~(a) The maximum amount of sick leave converted to additional service credit~~
 3 ~~under the provisions of this section shall not exceed the service credit based~~
 4 ~~upon the level of sick leave accumulated on December 31, 2018, by a member~~
 5 ~~whose employer participates in the sick leave program authorized by this~~
 6 ~~section; and~~

7 ~~(b) On or after August 1, 2018, no employers may opt to participate in the sick~~
 8 ~~leave program authorized by this section.]~~

9 ➔Section 33. KRS 161.630 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as
 10 follows:

11 (1) (a) ~~[An individual who became]~~A member~~[prior to January 1, 2019]~~, upon
 12 retirement, shall receive a retirement allowance in the form of a life annuity,
 13 with refundable balance, as provided in KRS 161.620, unless an election is
 14 made before the effective date of retirement to receive actuarially equivalent
 15 benefits under options which the board of trustees approves.

16 (b) An individual who is participating in the **supplemental benefit**
 17 **component**~~[hybrid cash balance plan]~~ as provided by **Section 2 of this**
 18 **Act**~~[KRS 161.235]~~ may, before the effective date of retirement, elect to
 19 receive his or her accumulated account balance **accrued in the supplemental**
 20 **benefit component** annuitized into a monthly payment under one (1) of the
 21 actuarial equivalent payment options approved by the board of trustees.

22 (c) No option shall provide for a benefit with an actuarial value at the age of
 23 retirement greater than that provided in **subsection (5)(a) of Section 2 of this**
 24 **Act**~~[KRS 161.235(7)(a)]~~ or 161.620, as applicable. This section does not
 25 apply to disability allowances as provided in KRS 161.661(1).

26 (2) The retirement option chosen by a retiree at the time of service retirement shall
 27 remain in force unless the retiree ~~[became a member prior to January 1, 2019, and~~

1 jects to make a change under the following conditions:

2 (a) A divorce, annulment, or marriage dissolution following retirement shall, at
3 the election of the retiree, cancel any optional plan selected at retirement that
4 provides continuing benefits to a spousal beneficiary and return the retiree to a
5 single lifetime benefit equivalent as determined by the board; or

6 (b) Following marriage or remarriage, or the death of the designated beneficiary, a
7 retiree may elect a new optional plan of payment based on the actuarial
8 equivalent of a single lifetime benefit at the time of the election, as determined
9 by the board. The plan shall become effective the first of the month following
10 receipt of an application on a form approved by the board.

11 (3) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a beneficiary designation shall not be
12 changed after the effective date of retirement except for retirees who elect the life
13 annuity with refundable balance or the predetermined years certain and life
14 thereafter option. A member may remove a beneficiary at any time, but shall not
15 designate a substitute beneficiary. If a member elects to remove a beneficiary, the
16 member's retirement allowance shall not change regardless of the retirement option
17 selected by the member, even if the removed beneficiary predeceases the member.

18 (4) A member who experiences a qualifying event under subsection (2) of this section
19 and who elects a new optional plan of payment shall make that election within sixty
20 (60) days of the qualifying event.

21 ➔Section 34. KRS 161.661 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as
22 follows:

23 (1) Any member who has completed five (5) or more years of accredited service in the
24 public schools of Kentucky after July 1, 1941, may retire for disability and be
25 granted a disability allowance if found to be eligible as provided in this section.
26 Application for disability benefits shall be made within one (1) year of the last
27 contributing service in Kentucky, and the disability must have occurred during the

1 most recent period of employment in a position covered by the Teachers' Retirement
2 System and subsequent to the completion of five (5) years of teaching service in
3 Kentucky. A disability occurring during the regular vacation immediately following
4 the last period of active service in Kentucky or during an official leave for which
5 the member is entitled to make regular contributions to the retirement system, shall
6 be considered as having occurred during a period of active service. The annual
7 disability allowance shall be equal to sixty percent (60%) of the member's final
8 average salary. ~~Individuals who became~~ **Nonuniversity members and individuals**
9 **who become university** members prior to January 1, ~~2019~~ **2021**, who have twenty-
10 seven (27) or more years of service credit are eligible for service retirement only.
11 Individuals who become **university** members on or after January 1, ~~2019~~ **2021**,
12 who have met the requirements of **subsection (2) of Section 6 of this Act** ~~KRS~~
13 ~~161.235(6)(b)~~ shall be eligible for service retirement only.

14 (2) The provisions of KRS 161.520, 161.525, and subsections (3), (4), and (5) of this
15 section shall not apply to disability retirees whose benefits were calculated on the
16 service retirement formula nor to survivors of these members.

17 (3) Members shall earn one (1) year of entitlement to disability retirement, at sixty
18 percent (60%) of the member's final average salary, for each four (4) years of
19 service in a covered position, but any member meeting the service requirement for
20 disability retirement shall be credited with no less than five (5) years of eligibility.

21 (4) A member retired by reason of disability shall continue to earn service credit at the
22 rate of one (1) year for each year retired for disability. This service shall be credited
23 to the member's account at the expiration of entitlement as defined in subsection (3)
24 of this section, or when the member's eligibility for disability benefits is terminated
25 upon recommendation of a medical review committee, and this service shall be used
26 in calculating benefits as provided in subsection (5) of this section, but under no
27 circumstances shall this service be used to provide the member with more than

1 twenty-seven (27) years of total service credit~~[or the level of service credit needed~~
 2 ~~to meet the requirements of KRS 161.235(6)(b), as applicable]~~. The service credit
 3 shall be valued at the same level as service earned by active members as provided
 4 under KRS ~~[161.235,]~~161.600~~[,]~~ or 161.620, as applicable. ~~[Members participating~~
 5 ~~in the hybrid cash balance plan as provided by KRS 161.235 shall also be credited~~
 6 ~~with employer credits and interest credits for each year of service earned under the~~
 7 ~~provisions of this subsection based upon the salary in which the last employer credit~~
 8 ~~was paid.]~~ Payments during the entitlement period as specified by subsection (3) of
 9 this section shall not reduce the accumulated account balance of a member
 10 participating in the **supplemental benefit component**~~[hybrid cash balance plan]~~.

11 (5) Any member retired by reason of disability and remaining disabled at the expiration
 12 of the entitlement period shall have his disability benefits recalculated using the
 13 service retirement formula with service credit and any additional accumulated
 14 account balance earned as set out in subsection (4) of this section. For
 15 **nonuniversity members and** persons who became **university** members prior to
 16 January 1, ~~2021~~~~[2019]~~, the retirement allowance shall be calculated as set forth in
 17 KRS 161.620, except that those persons less than sixty (60) years of age shall be
 18 considered as sixty (60) years of age. For persons who become **university** members
 19 on or after January 1, ~~2021~~~~[2019]~~, the retirement allowance or benefit **in the**
 20 **supplemental benefit component** shall be calculated as set forth in **Section 2 of this**
 21 **Act**~~[KRS 161.235]~~, **as applicable**, except that those persons less than age **fifty five**
 22 **(55)**~~[sixty five (65)]~~ shall be considered as **fifty-five (55)**~~[sixty five (65)]~~ years of
 23 age. Members having their disability benefits recalculated under this subsection
 24 shall not be entitled to a benefit based upon an average of their three (3) highest
 25 salaries as set forth in KRS 161.220(9), unless approved otherwise by the board of
 26 trustees.

27 (6) Members who have their disability retirement allowance recalculated at the

1 expiration of the entitlement period shall continue to have coverage under the post-
2 retirement medical insurance program. Restrictions on employment shall remain in
3 effect until the member attains age seventy (70) or until the member's eligibility is
4 discontinued. KRS 161.520 and 161.525 shall not apply to survivors of disability
5 retirees whose retirement allowances have been recalculated at the expiration of the
6 entitlement period. Members who have their disability retirement allowance
7 recalculated at the expiration of their entitlement period shall be entitled to a
8 minimum monthly allowance of five hundred dollars (\$500) as the basic straight life
9 annuity. The minimum allowance shall be effective July 1, 1992, and shall apply to
10 those members who have had their allowance recalculated prior to that date and to
11 disability retirees who will have their benefit allowance recalculated on or after that
12 date.

13 (7) Effective July 1, 1992, members retired for disability prior to July 1, 1964, shall be
14 entitled to a minimum monthly allowance of five hundred dollars (\$500) as their
15 basic straight life annuity and their surviving spouse shall be eligible for survivor
16 benefits as provided in KRS 161.520(1)(a) and (b).

17 (8) Any member retired by reason of disability may voluntarily waive disability benefits
18 and return to teaching or any individual who is a nonuniversity member or who
19 became a university member prior to January 1, 2021~~[2019]~~, who is age sixty (60)
20 years or older, may elect to waive disability benefits and retire for service on the
21 basis of service credited to the member on the effective date of the disability
22 retirement, or any individual who becomes a university member on or after January
23 1, 2021~~[2019]~~, who is fifty-five (55)~~[sixty-five (65)]~~ years of age or older, may elect
24 to waive disability benefits and retire for service on the basis of his or her
25 accumulated account balance and service credited to the member on the effective
26 date of disability retirement.

27 (9) In order to qualify for retirement by reason of disability a member must suffer from

1 a physical or mental condition presumed to be permanent in duration and of a nature
2 as to render the member incapable of being gainfully employed in a covered
3 position. The incapability must be revealed by a competent examination by a
4 licensed physician or physicians and must be approved by a majority of a medical
5 review committee.

6 (10) A member retired by reason of disability shall be required to undergo periodic
7 examinations at the discretion of the board of trustees to determine whether the
8 disability allowance shall be continued. When examination and recommendation of
9 a medical review committee indicate the disability no longer exists, the allowance
10 shall be discontinued.

11 (11) Eligibility for payment shall begin on the first day of the month following receipt of
12 the application in the Teachers' Retirement System office, or the first of the month
13 next following the last payment of salary or sick leave benefits by the employer,
14 whichever is the later date.

15 (12) No person who receives a disability allowance may be employed in a position that
16 entails duties or qualification requirements similar to positions subject to
17 participation in the retirement system either within or without the State of
18 Kentucky. So doing shall constitute a misdemeanor and shall result in loss of the
19 allowance from the first date of this service. A member who applies for and is
20 approved for disability retirement on or after July 1, 2002, and whose annual
21 disability benefit is less than forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) may earn income in
22 any occupation other than covered employment only to the extent that the annual
23 income from the other employment when added to the annual disability benefit does
24 not exceed forty thousand dollars (\$40,000). For any member who exceeds this
25 limit as a result of income from other employment, the Kentucky Teachers'
26 Retirement System shall reduce the member's disability benefit on a dollar-for-
27 dollar basis for each dollar that the member's combined annual disability benefit and

1 annual income from other employment exceeds forty thousand dollars (\$40,000).
2 The board of trustees may annually increase the forty thousand dollar (\$40,000)
3 limit by the percentage increase in the annual average of the consumer price index
4 for all urban consumers for the most recent calendar year as published by the
5 Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, not to exceed five percent (5%).

6 (13) All members who applied for disability retirement before July 1, 2002, and were
7 approved as a result of that application shall be subject to the income limitations as
8 they existed on June 30, 2002, until July 1, 2006. Effective July 1, 2006, the twenty-
9 seven thousand dollar (\$27,000) limitation shall be increased to forty thousand
10 dollars (\$40,000) and may be adjusted by the board of trustees by the consumer
11 price index in the manner described in subsection (12) of this section. The recipient
12 of a disability allowance who engages in any gainful occupation other than covered
13 employment must make a report of the duties involved, compensation received, and
14 any other pertinent information required by the board of trustees.

15 (14) The board of trustees shall designate medical review committees, each consisting of
16 three (3) licensed physicians. A medical review committee shall pass upon all
17 applications for disability retirement and upon all applicant statements, medical
18 certifications, and examinations submitted in connection with disability
19 applications. The disposition of each case shall be recommended by a medical
20 review committee in writing to the retirement system. Members of a medical review
21 committee shall follow administrative regulations regarding procedures as the board
22 of trustees may enact and shall be paid reasonable fees and expenses as authorized
23 by the board of trustees in compliance with the provisions of KRS 161.330 and
24 161.340. The retirement system may secure additional medical examinations and
25 information as it deems necessary. A member may appeal any final agency decision
26 denying his or her disability retirement application pursuant to the provisions of
27 KRS 161.250(2).

- 1 (15) A disability may be presumed to be permanent if the condition creating the
2 disability may be reasonably expected to continue for one (1) year or more from the
3 date of application for disability benefits.
- 4 (16) Any member who has voluntarily waived disability benefits or whose disability
5 benefits have been discontinued on recommendation of a medical review
6 committee, may apply for reinstatement of disability benefits. The application for
7 reinstatement must be made to the retirement system within twelve (12) months of
8 the date disability benefits terminated. If the termination of benefits were voluntary,
9 the reinstatement may be made without medical examination if application is made
10 within three (3) months of the termination date. Other applications for reinstatement
11 will be processed in the same manner as new applications for benefits.
- 12 (17) No person who is receiving disability benefits under this section may be employed
13 in a position which qualifies the person for membership in a retirement system
14 financed wholly or in part with public funds. Employment in a position prohibited
15 by this subsection shall result in disqualification for those disability benefits from
16 the date of employment in the prohibited position.
- 17 (18) Any person who is receiving benefits and becomes disqualified from receiving
18 those benefits under this section, or becomes disqualified from receiving a portion
19 of those benefits due to income from other than covered employment, shall
20 immediately notify the Teachers' Retirement System of this disqualification in
21 writing and shall return all benefits paid after the date of disqualification. Failure to
22 comply with these provisions shall create an indebtedness of that person to the
23 Teachers' Retirement System. Interest at the rate of eight percent (8%) per annum
24 shall be charged if the debt is not repaid within sixty (60) days after the date of
25 disqualification. Failure to repay this debt creates a lien in favor of the Teachers'
26 Retirement System upon all property of the person who improperly receives benefits
27 and does not repay those benefits. The Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System may,

1 in order to collect an outstanding debt, reduce or terminate any benefit that a
2 member is otherwise entitled to receive.

3 ➔Section 35. KRS 161.650 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

- 4 (1) In the case of death of a member who has retired by reason of service or disability,
5 any portion of the member's accumulated contributions, including member
6 contributions to the state accumulation fund and regular interest to the date of
7 retirement, that has not, and will not be paid as an allowance or benefit shall be paid
8 to the member's beneficiary in such manner as the board of trustees elects.
- 9 (2) The member may designate a primary beneficiary or two (2) or more cobeneficiaries
10 to receive any remaining accumulated member contributions payable under this
11 section. A contingent beneficiary may be designated in addition to the primary
12 beneficiary or the cobeneficiaries. The member may designate two (2) or more
13 contingent beneficiaries. To the extent permitted by the Internal Revenue Code, a
14 trust may be designated as beneficiary for receipt of any remaining funds of the
15 member's accumulated contributions. Members may designate as beneficiaries only
16 presently identifiable and existing individuals, or trusts where otherwise permitted,
17 without contingency instructions, on forms prescribed by the retirement system.
18 Cobeneficiaries shall be composed of a single class of individuals, or trusts where
19 permitted, who will share in equal proportions in any payment that may become
20 available under this section. Any beneficiary designation made by the member shall
21 remain in effect until changed by the member on forms prescribed by the retirement
22 system, except in the event of subsequent divorce. A final divorce decree shall
23 terminate the beneficiary status of an ex-spouse unless, subsequent to divorce, the
24 member redesignates the former spouse as a beneficiary. A final divorce decree
25 shall not terminate the designation of a trust as beneficiary regardless of who is
26 designated as beneficiary of the trust. In the event that the member fails to designate
27 a beneficiary or all designated beneficiaries predecease the member, any remaining

1 accumulated member contributions shall be payable to the member's estate.

2 ➔Section 36. KRS 161.675 is amended to read as follows:

3 (1) The board of trustees shall arrange by appropriate contract or on a self-insured basis
4 to provide a broad program of group hospital and medical insurance for present and
5 future eligible recipients of a retirement allowance from the Teachers' Retirement
6 System. The board of trustees may also arrange to provide health insurance
7 coverage through an insurer licensed pursuant to Subtitle 38 of KRS Chapter 304
8 and offering a managed care plan as defined in KRS 304.17A-500 as an alternative
9 to group hospital and medical insurance for persons eligible for hospital and
10 medical benefits under this section. The board of trustees may authorize eligible
11 recipients of a retirement allowance from the Teachers' Retirement System who are
12 less than age sixty-five (65) to be included in the state-sponsored health insurance
13 that is provided to active teachers and state employees under KRS 18A.225.
14 Members who are sixty-five (65) or older and retired for service shall not be eligible
15 to participate in the state employee health insurance program as described in KRS
16 18A.225.

17 (2) (a) The coverage provided shall be as set forth in the contracts and the
18 administrative regulations of the board of trustees. The board of trustees may
19 change the levels of coverage and eligibility conditions to meet the changing
20 needs of the annuitants and, when necessary, to contain the expenses of the
21 insurance program within the funds available to finance the insurance
22 program, except as provided by paragraph (b) of this subsection. The contracts
23 and administrative regulations shall provide for but not be limited to hospital
24 room and board, surgical procedures, doctors' care in the hospital, and
25 miscellaneous hospital costs. An annuitant whose effective date of retirement
26 is July 1, 1974, and thereafter, must have a minimum of five (5) years'
27 creditable Kentucky service in the Teachers' Retirement System or five (5)

1 years of combined creditable service in the state-administered retirement
2 systems if the member is retiring under the reciprocity provisions of KRS
3 61.680 and 61.702. An annuitant shall not elect coverage through more than
4 one (1) of the state-administered retirement systems. The board of trustees
5 shall offer coverage to the disabled child of an annuitant regardless of the
6 disabled child's age if the annuitant pays the entire premium for the disabled
7 child's coverage. A child shall be considered disabled if he has been
8 determined to be eligible for federal Social Security disability benefits.

9 (b) Individuals who become members of the ~~[Kentucky]~~ Teachers' Retirement
10 System on or after July 1, 2008, **except as provided by paragraph (c) of this**
11 **subsection,** shall not be eligible for benefits under this section unless the
12 member has at least fifteen (15) or more years of service credited under KRS
13 161.500 or another state-administered retirement system.

14 **(c) Individuals who become university members of the Teachers' Retirement**
15 **System on or after January 1, 2021, shall not be eligible for benefits under**
16 **this section unless the member is at least sixty (60) years of age and has at**
17 **least fifteen (15) or more years of service credited under Section 13 of this**
18 **Act or another state-administered retirement system.**

19 (3) All expenses for benefits under this section shall be paid from the funding
20 provisions contained in KRS 161.420(5), from a trust fund established by the board
21 under 26 U.S.C. sec. 115, premium charges received from the annuitants and the
22 spouses, and from funds that may be appropriated or allocated by statute.

23 (4) (a) The board of trustees shall determine the amount of health insurance
24 supplement payments that the Teachers' Retirement System will provide to
25 assist eligible annuitants in paying the cost of their health insurance, based on
26 the funds available in the medical insurance fund and any trust fund
27 established by the board for this purpose under 26 U.S.C. sec. 115. The board

1 of trustees shall establish the maximum monthly amounts of health insurance
 2 supplement payments that will be made by the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement
 3 System for eligible annuitants. The board of trustees shall annually establish
 4 the percentage of the maximum monthly health insurance supplement
 5 payment that will be made, based on age and years of service credit of eligible
 6 recipients of a retirement allowance. Monthly health insurance supplement
 7 payments made by the retirement system may not exceed the amount of the
 8 single coverage insurance premium chosen by the eligible annuitants. In order
 9 to qualify for health insurance supplements, the annuitant must agree to pay
 10 the difference between the insurance premium and the applicable supplement
 11 payment, by payroll deduction from his retirement allowance, or by a payment
 12 method approved by the retirement system.

13 (b) The board shall, effective July 1, 2010, have the authority to charge retired
 14 members who are not paying the Standard Medicare Part B premium an
 15 amount equal to the Standard Medicare Part B premium in addition to any
 16 other payments determined by the board to be necessary to contain costs
 17 within the available funding. If the board determines that retired members
 18 who are not paying the Standard Medicare Part B premium should pay the
 19 equivalent of the Standard Medicare Part B premium, the board shall phase in
 20 the premium according to the following schedule:

- 21 July 1, 2010.....Thirty-three percent (33%)
- 22 July 1, 2011.....Sixty-seven percent (67%)
- 23 July 1, 2012, and thereafter.....One hundred percent (100%)

24 Nothing in this paragraph shall limit the board's authority to change the levels
 25 of coverage, eligibility conditions, or levels of health insurance supplement
 26 for retirees in order to contain costs within available funding.

27 (c) The board of trustees may offer, on a full-cost basis, health care insurance

1 coverage provided by the retirement system to spouses and dependents of
2 eligible annuitants not otherwise eligible for regular coverage. Recipients of a
3 retirement allowance from the retirement system must agree to pay the cost of
4 this coverage by payroll deduction from their retirement allowance or by a
5 payment method approved by the retirement system.

6 (d) The board of trustees shall offer, on a full-cost basis, health insurance
7 coverage provided by the retirement system to the disabled child of an
8 annuitant, regardless of the age of the disabled child. A child shall be
9 considered disabled for purposes of this section if the child has been
10 determined to be eligible for federal Social Security disability benefits.

11 (5) The board of trustees is empowered to require the annuitant and the annuitant's
12 spouse to pay a premium charge to assist in the financing of the hospital and
13 medical insurance program. The board of trustees is empowered to pay the expenses
14 for insurance coverage from the medical insurance fund, from any trust fund
15 established by the board for this purpose under 26 U.S.C. sec. 115, from the
16 premium charges received from the annuitants and the spouses, and from funds that
17 may be appropriated or allocated by statute. The board may provide insurance
18 coverage by making payment to insurance carriers including health insurance plans
19 that are available to active and retired state employees and active teachers,
20 institutions, and individuals for services performed, or the board of trustees may
21 elect to provide insurance on a "self-insurance" basis or a combination of these
22 provisions.

23 (6) The board of trustees may approve health insurance supplement payments to
24 eligible annuitants who are less than sixty-five (65) years of age, as reimbursement
25 for hospital and medical insurance premiums made by annuitants for their
26 individual coverage. Eligible annuitants or recipients are those annuitants who are
27 not eligible for Medicare and who do not reside in Kentucky or in an area outside of

1 Kentucky where comparable coverage is available. The reimbursement payments
2 shall not exceed the minimum supplement payment that would have been made had
3 the annuitant lived in Kentucky. Eligible annuitants or recipients shall submit proof
4 of payment to the retirement system for hospital and medical insurance that they
5 have obtained. Reimbursement payments shall be made on a quarterly basis.

6 (7) Contracts negotiated may include the provision that a stated amount of hospital cost
7 or period of hospitalization shall incur no obligation on the part of the insurance
8 carrier or the retirement system or any trust fund established for this purpose by the
9 board.

10 (8) The board of trustees is empowered to promulgate administrative regulations to
11 assure efficient operation of the hospital and medical insurance program.

12 (9) Premiums paid for hospital and medical insurance coverage procured under
13 authority of this section shall be exempt from any premium tax which might
14 otherwise be required under KRS Chapter 136. The payment of premiums by the
15 medical insurance fund or another trust fund established by the board for this
16 purpose shall not constitute taxable income to an insured recipient.

17 (10) In the event that a member is providing services on less than a full-time basis under
18 KRS 161.605, the retirement system may pay the full cost of the member's health
19 insurance coverage for the full fiscal year that the member is providing those
20 services, at the conclusion of which, the retirement system may then bill the active
21 employer and the active employer shall reimburse the retirement system for the cost
22 of the health insurance coverage incurred by the retirement system on a pro rata
23 basis for the time that the member was employed by the active employer.

24 ➔Section 37. KRS 161.700 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

25 (1) Except as otherwise provided by this section and KRS 161.655(5), the right of a
26 member to a retirement allowance and to the return of contributions, any benefit or
27 right accrued or accruing to any person under KRS 161.220 to 161.716, and the

1 money in the various funds established pursuant to KRS 161.220 to 161.716 are
2 hereby exempt from any state or municipal tax, and shall not be subject to
3 execution, garnishment, attachment, or other process, and shall not be assigned.

4 (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, retirement benefits accrued or
5 accruing to any person under this retirement system on or after January 1, 1998,
6 shall be subject to the tax imposed by KRS 141.020, to the extent provided in KRS
7 141.010 and 141.0215.

8 (3) Retirement allowance, disability allowance, accumulated account balance, or any
9 other benefit under the retirement system shall not be classified as marital property
10 pursuant to KRS 403.190(1), except to the extent permitted under KRS 403.190(4).
11 Retirement allowance, disability allowance, accumulated contributions, or any other
12 benefit under the retirement system shall not be considered as an economic
13 circumstance during the division of marital property in an action for dissolution of
14 marriage pursuant to KRS 403.190(1)(d), except to the extent permitted under KRS
15 403.190(4).

16 (4) Qualified domestic relations orders issued by a court or administrative agency shall
17 be honored by the retirement system if:

18 (a) The benefits payable pursuant to the order meet the requirements of a
19 qualified domestic relations order as provided by 26 U.S.C. sec. 414(p). The
20 retirement system shall follow applicable provisions of 26 U.S.C. sec. 414(p)
21 in administering qualified domestic relations orders;

22 (b) The order meets the requirements established by the retirement system and by
23 subsections (4) to (12) of this section. The board of trustees of the retirement
24 system shall establish the requirements, procedures, and forms necessary for
25 the administration of qualified domestic relations order by promulgation of
26 administrative regulations in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A; and

27 (c) The order is on the form established by the retirement system pursuant to the

- 1 retirement system's authority provided under paragraph (b) of this subsection.
- 2 (5) A qualified domestic relations order shall not:
- 3 (a) Require the retirement system to take any action not authorized under state or
4 federal law;
- 5 (b) Require the retirement system to provide any benefit, allowance, or other
6 payment not authorized under state or federal law;
- 7 (c) Grant or be construed to grant the alternate payee any separate right, title, or
8 interest in or to any retirement benefit other than to receive payments from the
9 participant's account in accordance with the administrative regulations
10 promulgated by the system and as provided by subsections (4) to (12) of this
11 section; or
- 12 (d) Grant any separate interest to any person other than the participant.
- 13 (6) Any qualified domestic relations order submitted to the retirement system shall
14 specify the dollar amount or percentage amount of the participant's benefit to be
15 paid to the alternate payee. In calculating the amount to be paid to the alternate
16 payee, the court or administrative agency that is responsible for issuing the order
17 shall follow the requirements set forth in the administrative regulations promulgated
18 by the board of trustees. Notwithstanding any other statute to the contrary, the board
19 shall not be required to honor a qualified domestic relations order that does not
20 follow the requirements set forth in the administrative regulations promulgated by
21 the board of trustees.
- 22 (7) If the qualified domestic relations order meets the requirements established by the
23 system and by subsections (4) to (12) of this section, payments to the alternate
24 payee shall be distributed under the following conditions:
- 25 (a) If the participant is retired and is receiving a monthly retirement allowance,
26 the month following the date the retirement system receives a qualified
27 domestic relations order that complies with the administrative regulations

1 promulgated by the retirement system and subsections (4) to (12) of this
2 section; or

3 (b) If the participant is not retired, the month of the participant's effective
4 retirement date in which the first retirement allowance is payable to the
5 participant or the month in which the participant receives a refund of his or
6 her accumulated account balance as provided by KRS 161.470(6).

7 (8) An alternate payee's benefits and rights under a qualified domestic relations order
8 shall terminate upon the earlier of:

9 (a) The death of the participant;

10 (b) The death of the alternate payee; or

11 (c) The termination of benefits to the participant under any provision of KRS
12 161.220 to 161.716.

13 (9) An alternate payee shall not receive a monthly payment under a qualified domestic
14 relations order if the participant is not receiving a monthly retirement allowance.

15 (10) The cost of living adjustment provided to the participant pursuant to KRS 161.620
16 shall be divided between the participant and alternate payee in a qualified domestic
17 relations order as follows:

18 (a) If the order specifies the alternate payee is to receive a percentage of the
19 participant's benefit, then the cost of living adjustment shall be divided
20 between the participant and the alternate payee based upon the percentage of
21 the total benefit each is receiving upon the participant's retirement or upon the
22 date the order is approved by the retirement system, whichever is later; or

23 (b) If the order specifies that the alternate payee is to receive a set dollar amount
24 of the participant's benefit, then the order shall specify that:

25 1. The cost of living adjustment shall be divided between the participant
26 and the alternate payee based upon the percentage of the total benefit
27 each is receiving upon the participant's retirement or upon the date the

1 order is approved by the retirement system, whichever is later; or

2 2. The alternate payee shall receive no cost of living adjustment.

3 If the order does not specify the division of the cost of living adjustment as
4 required by this paragraph, then no cost of living adjustment shall be payable
5 to the alternate payee. If no cost of living adjustment is provided to the
6 alternate payee, then the participant shall receive the full cost of living
7 adjustment he or she would have received if the order had not been applied to
8 the participant's account.

9 (11) Except in cases involving child support payments, the retirement system may charge
10 reasonable and necessary fees and expenses to the recipient and the alternate payee
11 of a qualified domestic relations order for the administration of the qualified
12 domestic relations order by retirement system. All fees and expenses shall be
13 established by the administrative regulations promulgated by the board of trustees
14 of the retirement system. The qualified domestic relations order shall specify
15 whether the fees and expenses provided by this subsection shall be paid:

16 (a) Solely by the participant;

17 (b) Solely by the alternate payee; or

18 (c) Equally shared by the participant and alternate payee.

19 (12) The retirement system shall honor a qualified domestic relations order issued prior
20 to July 15, 2010, for prospective benefit payments if the order or an amended
21 version of the order meets the requirements established by this section and the
22 administrative regulations promulgated by the retirement system. The order shall
23 not apply to benefit payments issued by the retirement system prior to the date the
24 order was approved by the retirement system.

25 ➔Section 38. KRS 161.714 is amended to read as follows:

26 (1) ~~For persons who became members in the Teachers' Retirement System prior to~~
27 ~~January 1, 2019,~~ It is hereby declared that in consideration of the contributions by

1 members and in further consideration of benefits received by the state from the
2 member's employment, KRS 161.220 to 161.710 shall constitute, except as
3 provided in KRS 6.696, an inviolable contract of the Commonwealth, and the
4 benefits provided herein, except as provided in KRS 6.696, shall not be subject to
5 reduction or impairment by alteration, amendment, or repeal. ~~[-except:~~

6 ~~(a) As provided in KRS 6.696; and~~

7 ~~(b) The General Assembly reserves the right to amend, reduce, or suspend any~~
8 ~~legislative changes to the provisions of KRS 161.220 to 161.716 that become~~
9 ~~effective on or after July 1, 2018.~~

10 ~~(2) (a) For persons who become members in the Teachers' Retirement System on or~~
11 ~~after January 1, 2019, the General Assembly reserves the right to amend,~~
12 ~~suspend, or reduce the benefits and rights provided under KRS 161.220 to~~
13 ~~161.716 if, in its judgment, the welfare of the Commonwealth so demands,~~
14 ~~except that the amount of benefits the member has accrued at the time of~~
15 ~~amendment, suspension, or reduction shall not be affected.~~

16 ~~(b) For purposes of this subsection, the amount of benefits the member has~~
17 ~~accrued at the time of any amendment, suspension, or reduction shall be~~
18 ~~limited to the accumulated account balance the member has accrued at the~~
19 ~~time of amendment, suspension, or reduction.~~

20 ~~(c) The provisions of this subsection shall not be construed to limit the General~~
21 ~~Assembly's authority to change any other benefit or right specified by KRS~~
22 ~~161.220 to 161.716, except the benefits specified by paragraph (b) of this~~
23 ~~subsection for members who begin participating in the Teachers' Retirement~~
24 ~~System on or after January 1, 2019.~~

25 ~~(3) The provisions of this section shall not be construed to limit the General Assembly's~~
26 ~~authority to amend, reduce, or suspend the benefits and rights of members of the~~
27 ~~Teachers' Retirement System as provided by KRS 161.220 to 161.716 that the~~

1 ~~General Assembly had the authority to amend, reduce, or suspend, prior to July 1,~~
2 ~~2018.]~~

3 ➔Section 39. The following KRS section is repealed:

4 161.235 Establishment of hybrid cash balance plan for new Teachers' Retirement
5 System members who begin participating on or after January 1, 2019 -- TRS
6 members with fewer than five years of service may elect participation. (Declared
7 void -- See LRC Note Below)

8 ➔Section 40. This Act shall take effect January 1, 2021.