

1 AN ACT relating to retirement and declaring an emergency.

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

3 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS 61.510 TO 61.705 IS CREATED TO  
4 READ AS FOLLOWS:

5 *(1) Effective April 1, 2021:*

6 *(a) Except as provided by Section 2 of this Act, the administration of the*  
7 *County Employees Retirement System shall be transferred from the*  
8 *Kentucky Retirement Systems board of trustees to the County Employees*  
9 *Retirement System board of trustees established by Section 3 of this Act.*

10 *(b) Except as provided by Section 2 of this Act, the administration of the*  
11 *Kentucky Employees Retirement System and the State Police Retirement*  
12 *System shall continue to be the responsibility of the Kentucky Retirement*  
13 *Systems board of trustees as amended by Section 4 of this Act.*

14 *(c) The Kentucky Public Pensions Authority established by Section 2 of this Act*  
15 *shall provide personnel needs, day-to-day administrative needs, and other*  
16 *duties specified by Section 2 of this Act to the Kentucky Retirement Systems*  
17 *board of trustees and the County Employees Retirement System board of*  
18 *trustees. The staff of the Kentucky Retirement Systems shall become the*  
19 *staff of the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority.*

20 *(2) It is the intent of the General Assembly to enact legislation in the 2021 Regular*  
21 *Session to create separate statutory structures as it relates to benefits for the*  
22 *Kentucky Retirement Systems and the County Employees Retirement System that*  
23 *are currently shared by the Kentucky Employees Retirement System, the County*  
24 *Employees Retirement System, and the State Police Retirement System while*  
25 *retaining shared statutes that relate to administrative provisions that will be the*  
26 *responsibility of the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority.*

27 ➔SECTION 2. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 61 IS CREATED TO

1 READ AS FOLLOWS:

- 2 (1) There is created an eight (8) member Kentucky Public Pensions Authority whose  
3 purpose shall be to administer and operate:
- 4 (a) A single personnel system for the staffing needs of the Kentucky Retirement  
5 Systems and the County Employees Retirement System;
- 6 (b) A system of accounting that is developed by the authority for the Kentucky  
7 Retirement Systems and the County Employees Retirement System;
- 8 (c) Day-to-day administrative needs of the Kentucky Retirement Systems and  
9 the County Employees Retirement System including but not limited to:
- 10 1. Benefit counseling and administration;  
11 2. Information technology and services, including a centralized Web site  
12 for the authority, the Kentucky Retirement Systems, and the County  
13 Employees Retirement System;
- 14 3. Legal services;
- 15 4. Employer reporting and compliance;
- 16 5. Processing and distribution of benefit payments, and other financial,  
17 investment administration, and accounting duties as directed by the  
18 Kentucky Retirement Systems board of trustees or the County  
19 Employees Retirement System board of trustees; and
- 20 6. Completing and compiling financial data and reports.
- 21 (d) Any jointly held assets used for the administration of the Kentucky  
22 Retirement Systems and the County Employees Retirement System,  
23 including but not limited to real estate, office space, equipment, and  
24 supplies. Perimeter Park West Incorporated shall be considered a jointly  
25 held asset;
- 26 (e) Hiring a single actuarial consulting firm who shall serve both the Kentucky  
27 Retirement Systems and the County Employees Retirement System; and

- 1        (f) Other tasks or duties as directed solely or jointly by the boards of the  
2                Kentucky Retirement Systems or the County Employees Retirement System.
- 3        (2) The eight (8) member Kentucky Public Pensions Authority shall be composed of  
4                the following individuals:
- 5                (a) The chair of the Kentucky Retirement Systems board of trustees;  
6                (b) The chair of the County Employees Retirement System board of trustees;  
7                (c) The investment committee chair of the Kentucky Retirement Systems board  
8                of trustees, unless the investment committee chair is also the chair of the  
9                board of trustees in which case the chair of the Kentucky Retirement  
10                Systems shall appoint an individual who serves on the investment  
11                committee;
- 12                (d) The investment committee chair of the County Employees Retirement  
13                System board of trustees, unless the investment committee chair is also the  
14                chair of the County Employees Retirement System board of trustees in  
15                which case the chair of the County Employees Retirement System shall  
16                appoint an individual who serves on the investment committee;
- 17                (e) Two additional (2) trustees of the Kentucky Retirement Systems board of  
18                trustees selected by the chair of the Kentucky Retirement Systems board of  
19                trustees of which one (1) shall be a trustee who was elected by the  
20                membership of one (1) of the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement  
21                Systems and one (1) shall be a trustee of Kentucky Retirement Systems who  
22                was appointed by the Governor; and
- 23                (f) Two additional (2) trustees of the County Employees Retirement System  
24                board of trustees selected by the chair of the County Employees Retirement  
25                System board of trustees of which one (1) shall be a trustee who was elected  
26                by the membership of the County Employees Retirement System and one (1)  
27                shall be a trustee of the County Employees Retirement System who was

1 appointed by the Governor.

2 (3) The Kentucky Public Pensions Authority is hereby granted the powers and  
3 privileges of a corporation, including but not limited to the following powers:

4 (a) To sue and be sued in its corporate name;

5 (b) To make bylaws not inconsistent with the law and in accordance with its  
6 duties as provided by this section;

7 (c) To conduct the business and promote the purposes for which it was formed;

8 (d) To carry out the obligations of the authority subject to KRS Chapters 45,  
9 45A, 56, and 57;

10 (e) To purchase fiduciary liability insurance;

11 (f) The Kentucky Public Pensions Authority shall reimburse any authority  
12 member, officer, or employee for any legal expense resulting from a civil  
13 action arising out of the performance of his or her official duties. The  
14 hourly rate of reimbursement for any contract for legal services under this  
15 paragraph shall not exceed the maximum hourly rate provided in the Legal  
16 Services Duties and Maximum Rate Schedule promulgated by the  
17 Government Contract Review Committee established pursuant to KRS  
18 45A.705, unless a higher rate is specifically approved by the secretary of the  
19 Finance and Administration Cabinet or his or her designee.

20 (4) Any vacancy which may occur in an appointed position on the Kentucky Public  
21 Pensions Authority shall be filled in the same manner which provides for the  
22 selection of the particular member of the authority. No person shall serve in more  
23 than one (1) position as a member of the authority and if a person holds more  
24 than one (1) position as a member of the authority, he or she shall resign a  
25 position.

26 (5) (a) Membership on the authority shall not be incompatible with any other  
27 office unless a constitutional incompatibility exists. No authority member

- 1           shall serve in more than one (1) position as a member of the authority.
- 2           (b) An authority member shall be removed from office upon conviction of a  
3           felony or for a finding of a violation of any provision of KRS 11A.020 or  
4           11A.040 by a court of competent jurisdiction.
- 5           (c) A current or former employee of the County Employees Retirement System,  
6           Kentucky Retirement Systems, or the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority  
7           shall not be eligible to serve as a member of the authority.
- 8           (6) Kentucky Public Pensions Authority members who do not otherwise receive a  
9           salary from the State Treasury shall receive a per diem of eighty dollars (\$80) for  
10           each day they are in session or on official duty, and they shall be reimbursed for  
11           their actual and necessary expenses in accordance with state administrative  
12           regulations and standards, except that the members shall not receive a per diem  
13           or receive reimbursements on the same day they receive a per diem or  
14           reimbursements for service to the Kentucky Retirement Systems board of trustees  
15           or County Employees Retirement Systems board of trustees.
- 16           (7) (a) The authority shall meet at least once in each quarter of the year and may  
17           meet in special session upon the call of the chair or the executive director of  
18           the authority.
- 19           (b) The authority shall elect a chair and a vice chair. The chair shall not serve  
20           more than four (4) consecutive years as chair or vice chair of the authority.  
21           The vice chair shall not serve more than four (4) consecutive years as chair  
22           or vice chair of the authority. A member who has served four (4)  
23           consecutive years as chair or vice chair of the authority may be elected  
24           chair or vice chair of the authority after an absence of two (2) years from  
25           the positions.
- 26           (c) A majority of the authority members shall constitute a quorum and all  
27           actions taken by the authority shall be by affirmative vote of a majority of

1 the authority members present.

2 (d) The authority shall post on the authority's Web site and shall make  
3 available to the public:

4 1. All meeting notices and agendas of the authority. Notices and agendas  
5 shall be posted to the authority's Web site at least seventy-two (72)  
6 hours in advance of the authority's meetings, except in the case of  
7 special or emergency meetings as provided by KRS 61.823;

8 2. All authority minutes or other materials that require adoption or  
9 ratification by the authority. The items listed in this subparagraph  
10 shall be posted within seventy-two (72) hours of adoption or  
11 ratification of the authority;

12 3. All bylaws, policies, or procedures adopted or ratified by the authority;  
13 and

14 4. A listing of the members of the authority and membership on each  
15 committee established by the authority.

16 (8) (a) The Kentucky Public Pensions Authority shall appoint or contract for the  
17 services of an executive director and fix the compensation and other terms  
18 of employment for this position without limitation of the provisions of KRS  
19 Chapter 18A and Section 30 of this Act. The executive director shall be the  
20 chief administrative officer of the authority, the Kentucky Retirement  
21 Systems board of trustees, and the County Employees Retirement System  
22 board of trustees. The executive director shall work cooperatively with the  
23 chief executive officers of the Kentucky Retirement Systems and the County  
24 Employees Retirement System.

25 (b) The Kentucky Public Pensions Authority shall authorize the executive  
26 director to appoint the employees deemed necessary to transact the duties of  
27 the authority for the purposes outlined in subsection (1) of this section.

- 1        (c) Effective April 1, 2021, the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority shall  
2            assume responsibility of administering the staff of the Kentucky Retirement  
3            Systems in order to provide the services established by this section.
- 4        (d) All employees of the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority, except for the  
5            executive director, shall be subject to the state personnel system established  
6            pursuant to KRS 18A.005 to 18A.204 and shall have their salaries  
7            determined by the secretary of the Personnel Cabinet.
- 8        (e) The authority shall annually report to the Public Pension Oversight Board  
9            the number of employees of the authority, the salary paid to each employee,  
10           and the change in the salaries of each individual employed by the authority  
11           over the prior year.
- 12       (f) The authority shall require the executive director and the employees as it  
13           thinks proper to execute bonds for the faithful performance of their duties  
14           notwithstanding the limitations of KRS Chapter 62.
- 15       (g) Notwithstanding any other provision of statute to the contrary, including  
16           but not limited to any provision of KRS Chapter 12, the Governor shall have  
17           no authority to change any provision of this section by executive order or  
18           action including but not limited to reorganizing, replacing, amending, or  
19           abolishing the membership of the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority.
- 20       (9) All employees of the authority shall serve during its will and pleasure.  
21           Notwithstanding any statute to the contrary, employees shall not be considered  
22           legislative agents under KRS 6.611.
- 23       (10) The Attorney General, or an assistant designated by him or her, may attend each  
24           meeting of the authority and may receive the agenda, board minutes, and other  
25           information distributed to authority members upon request. The Attorney  
26           General may act as legal adviser and attorney for the authority, and the authority  
27           may contract for legal services, notwithstanding the limitations of KRS Chapter

1       12 or 13B.

2       (11) All expenses incurred by or on behalf of the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority  
3       shall be paid by the systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems or  
4       the County Employees Retirement System and shall be prorated, assigned, or  
5       allocated to each system as determined by Kentucky Public Pensions Authority.  
6       Any additional initial costs determined by the authority to be attributable solely to  
7       establishing a separate County Employees Retirement System board and the  
8       Kentucky Public Pensions Authority as provided by this section and Section 3 of  
9       this Act, shall be paid by the County Employees Retirement System. Any  
10       additional ongoing annual administrative and investment expenses that occur  
11       after the establishment of a separate County Employees Retirement System board  
12       and the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority that are determined by the authority  
13       to be a direct result of establishing a separate County Employees Retirement  
14       System board and the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority shall be paid by the  
15       County Employees Retirement System.

16       (12) (a) An authority member shall discharge his or her duties as a member of the  
17       authority, including his or her duties as a member of a committee of the  
18       authority:

19               1. In good faith;

20               2. On an informed basis; and

21               3. In a manner he or she honestly believes to be in the best interest of the  
22               County Employees Retirement System and the Kentucky Retirement  
23               Systems, as applicable.

24       (b) An authority member discharges his or her duties on an informed basis if,  
25       when he or she makes an inquiry into the business and affairs of the  
26       authority, system, or systems or into a particular action to be taken or  
27       decision to be made, he or she exercises the care an ordinary prudent



1 person in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances.

2 (c) In discharging his or her duties, an authority member may rely on  
3 information, opinions, reports, or statements, including financial  
4 statements and other financial data, if prepared or presented by:

5 1. One (1) or more officers or employees of the authority whom the  
6 authority member honestly believes to be reliable and competent in the  
7 matters presented;

8 2. Legal counsel, public accountants, actuaries, or other persons as to  
9 matters the authority member honestly believes are within the person's  
10 professional or expert competence; or

11 3. A committee of the authority of which he or she is not a member if the  
12 authority member honestly believes the committee merits confidence.

13 (d) An authority member shall not be considered as acting in good faith if he or  
14 she has knowledge concerning the matter in question that makes reliance  
15 otherwise permitted by paragraph (c) of this subsection unwarranted.

16 (e) Any action taken as a member of the authority, or any failure to take any  
17 action as an authority member, shall not be the basis for monetary damages  
18 or injunctive relief unless:

19 1. The authority member has breached or failed to perform the duties of  
20 the member's office in compliance with this section; and

21 2. In the case of an action for monetary damages, the breach or failure  
22 to perform constitutes willful misconduct or wanton or reckless  
23 disregard for human rights, safety, or property.

24 (f) A person bringing an action for monetary damages under this section shall  
25 have the burden of proving by clear and convincing evidence the provisions  
26 of paragraph (e)1. and 2. of this subsection, and the burden of proving that  
27 the breach or failure to perform was the legal cause of damages suffered by

1 the Kentucky Retirement Systems or County Employees Retirement System,  
 2 as applicable.

3 (g) In discharging his or her administrative duties under this section, an  
 4 authority member shall strive to administer the systems in an efficient and  
 5 cost-effective manner for the taxpayers of the Commonwealth of Kentucky  
 6 and shall take all actions available under the law to contain costs for the  
 7 trusts, including costs for participating employers, members, and retirees.

8 ➔SECTION 3. A NEW SECTION OF KRS 78.510 TO 78.852 IS CREATED TO  
 9 READ AS FOLLOWS:

10 (1) The County Employees Retirement System shall be administered by the board of  
 11 trustees composed of nine (9) members, who shall be selected as follows:

12 (a) Three (3) trustees, who shall be members or retired from the County  
 13 Employees Retirement System, elected by the members and retired members  
 14 of the County Employees Retirement System, of which:

15 1. Two (2) shall have a majority of his or her service credit earned in the  
 16 County Employees Retirement System in a nonhazardous position;

17 and

18 2. One (1) shall have a majority of his or her service credit earned in the  
 19 County Employees Retirement System in a hazardous position;

20 (b) Six (6) trustees appointed by the Governor, subject to Senate confirmation  
 21 in accordance with KRS 11.160 for each appointment or reappointment. Of  
 22 the six (6) trustees appointed by the Governor:

23 1. One (1) trustee with retirement experience shall be appointed from a  
 24 list of three (3) applicants submitted by the Kentucky League of Cities;

25 2. One (1) trustee with investment experience shall be appointed from a  
 26 list of three (3) applicants submitted by the Kentucky League of Cities;

27 3. One (1) trustee with retirement experience shall be appointed from a

1 list of three (3) applicants submitted by the Kentucky Association of  
2 Counties;

3 4. One (1) trustee with investment experience shall be appointed from a  
4 list of three (3) applicants submitted by the Kentucky Association of  
5 Counties;

6 5. One (1) trustee with retirement experience shall be appointed from a  
7 list of three (3) applicants submitted by the Kentucky School Boards  
8 Association; and

9 6. One (1) trustee with investment experience shall be appointed from a  
10 list of three (3) applicants submitted by the Kentucky School Boards  
11 Association.

12 Notwithstanding the provisions of KRS 12.070(3), the Governor shall  
13 appoint each individual trustee described by subparagraphs 1. to 6. of this  
14 paragraph solely from each corresponding individual list required to be  
15 submitted by the Kentucky League of Cities, the Kentucky Association of  
16 Counties, or the Kentucky School Boards Association as provided by  
17 subparagraphs 1. to 6. of this paragraph, and the Governor shall not be able  
18 to reject the list of applicants submitted, request that another list be  
19 provided, or use a list different from the one (1) individual list required to be  
20 submitted for each specific appointment.

21 (c) For purposes of paragraph (b) of this subsection, a trustee with "investment  
22 experience" means an individual who does not have a conflict of interest, as  
23 provided by KRS 61.655, and who has at least ten (10) years of experience  
24 in one (1) of the following areas of expertise:

25 1. A portfolio manager acting in a fiduciary capacity;

26 2. A professional securities analyst or investment consultant;

27 3. A current or retired employee or principal of a trust institution,

1 investment or finance organization, or endowment fund acting in an  
2 investment-related capacity;

3 4. A chartered financial analyst in good standing as determined by the  
4 CFA Institute; or

5 5. A university professor, teaching investment-related studies.

6 (d) For purposes of paragraph (b) of this subsection, a trustee with "retirement  
7 experience" means an individual who does not have a conflict of interest, as  
8 provided by KRS 61.655, and who has at least ten (10) years of experience  
9 in one (1) of the following areas of expertise:

10 1. Experience in retirement or pension plan management;

11 2. A certified public accountant with relevant experience in retirement or  
12 pension plan accounting;

13 3. An actuary with relevant experience in retirement or pension plan  
14 consulting;

15 4. An attorney licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of  
16 Kentucky with relevant experience in retirement or pension plans; or

17 5. A current or former university professor whose primary area of  
18 emphasis is economics or finance.

19 (2) The board is hereby granted the powers and privileges of a corporation, including  
20 but not limited to the following powers:

21 (a) To sue and be sued in its corporate name;

22 (b) To make bylaws not inconsistent with the law;

23 (c) To conduct the business and promote the purposes for which it was formed;

24 (d) Except as provided in subsection (6) of Section 5 of this Act, to contract for  
25 investment counseling, auditing, medical, and other professional or  
26 technical services as required to carry out the obligations of the board  
27 subject to the provisions of KRS Chapters 45, 45A, 56, and 57. Actuarial

1           consulting services shall be provided by a firm hired by the Kentucky Public  
2           Pensions Authority;

3           (e) To purchase fiduciary liability insurance;

4           (f) Except as provided in subsection (6) of Section 5 of this Act, to acquire,  
5           hold, sell, dispose of, pledge, lease, or mortgage, the goods or property  
6           necessary to exercise the board's powers and perform the board's duties  
7           subject to KRS Chapters 45, 45A, and 56; and

8           (g) The board shall reimburse any trustee, officer, or employee for any legal  
9           expense resulting from a civil action arising out of the performance of his  
10           or her official duties. The hourly rate of reimbursement for any contract for  
11           legal services under this paragraph shall not exceed the maximum hourly  
12           rate provided in the Legal Services Duties and Maximum Rate Schedule  
13           promulgated by the Government Contract Review Committee established  
14           pursuant to KRS 45A.705, unless a higher rate is specifically approved by  
15           the secretary of the Finance and Administration Cabinet or his or her  
16           designee.

17           (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, each trustee shall  
18           serve a term of four (4) years or until his or her successor is duly qualified except  
19           as otherwise provided in this section. An elected or appointed trustee, shall not  
20           serve more than three (3) consecutive four (4) year terms. An elected or appointed  
21           trustee who has served three (3) consecutive terms may be elected or appointed  
22           again after an absence of four (4) years from the board.

23           (4) (a) The trustees selected by the membership of the system shall be elected by  
24           ballot. For each trustee to be elected, the board may nominate, not less than  
25           six (6) months before a term of office of a trustee is due to expire, three (3)  
26           constitutionally eligible individuals.

27           (b) Individuals may be nominated by the system members by presenting to the

1 executive director, not less than four (4) months before a term of office of a  
2 trustee is due to expire, a petition, bearing the name, last four digits of the  
3 Social Security number, and signature of no less than one-tenth (1/10) of  
4 the number voting in the last election by the system members.

5 (c) Within four (4) months of the nominations made in accordance with  
6 paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection, the executive director shall cause  
7 to be prepared an official ballot. The ballot shall carry the name, address,  
8 and position title of each individual nominated by the board and by petition.  
9 Provision shall also be made for write-in votes.

10 (d) Except as provided by paragraph (j) of this subsection, the ballots shall be  
11 distributed to the eligible voters by mail to their last known residence  
12 address.

13 (e) The ballots shall be addressed to the County Employees Retirement System  
14 in care of a predetermined box number at a United States Post Office or  
15 submitted electronically as provided by paragraph (j) of this subsection.  
16 Access to this post office box shall be limited to the board's contracted firm.  
17 The individual receiving a plurality of votes shall be declared elected.

18 (f) The eligible voter shall cast his or her ballot by selecting the candidate of  
19 his or her choice. He or she shall sign and mail the ballot or submit the  
20 electronic ballot at least thirty (30) days prior to the date the term to be filled  
21 is due to expire. The latest mailing date, or date of submission in the case of  
22 electronic ballots, shall be provided on the ballot.

23 (g) The board's contracted firm shall report in writing the outcome to the chair  
24 of the board of trustees. Costs of an election shall be payable from the funds  
25 of the system.

26 (h) For purposes of this subsection, an eligible voter shall be a person who was  
27 a member of the system on December 31 of the year preceding the election

1           year.

2           (i) Each individual who submits a request to be nominated by the board under  
3           paragraph (a) of this subsection and each individual who is nominated by  
4           the membership under paragraph (b) of this subsection shall:

5           1. Complete an application developed by the system which shall include  
6           but not be limited to a disclosure of any prior felonies and any  
7           conflicts of interest that would hinder the individual's ability to serve  
8           on the board;

9           2. Submit a resume detailing the individual's education and employment  
10           history and a cover letter detailing the member's qualifications for  
11           servng as trustee to the board; and

12           3. Authorize the system to have a criminal background check performed.  
13           The criminal background check shall be performed by the Department  
14           of Kentucky State Police.

15           (j) In lieu of the ballots mailed to members and retired members as provided by  
16           this subsection, the systems may by promulgation of administrative  
17           regulation pursuant to KRS Chapter 13A conduct trustee elections using  
18           electronic ballots, except that the systems shall mail a paper ballot upon  
19           request of any eligible voter.

20           (5) Any vacancy which may occur in an appointed position shall be filled in the same  
21           manner which provides for the selection of the particular trustee, and any  
22           vacancy which may occur in an elected position shall be filled by appointment by  
23           a majority vote of the remaining elected trustees; however, any vacancy shall be  
24           filled only for the duration of the unexpired term. In the event of a vacancy of an  
25           elected trustee, the system shall notify members of the vacancy and the  
26           opportunity to be considered for the vacant position. Any vacancy shall be filled  
27           within ninety (90) days of the position becoming vacant.

- 1 (6) (a) Membership on the board of trustees shall not be incompatible with any  
2 other office unless a constitutional incompatibility exists. No trustee shall  
3 serve in more than one (1) position as trustee on the board and, if a trustee  
4 holds more than one (1) position as trustee on the board, he shall resign a  
5 position.
- 6 (b) A trustee shall be removed from office upon conviction of a felony or for a  
7 finding of a violation of any provision of KRS 11A.020 or 11A.040 by a  
8 court of competent jurisdiction.
- 9 (c) A current or former employee of the County Employees Retirement System,  
10 Kentucky Retirement Systems, or the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority  
11 shall not be eligible to serve as a member of the board.
- 12 (7) Trustees who do not otherwise receive a salary from the State Treasury shall  
13 receive a per diem of eighty dollars (\$80) for each day they are in session or on  
14 official duty, and they shall be reimbursed for their actual and necessary  
15 expenses in accordance with state administrative regulations and standards.
- 16 (8) (a) The board shall meet at least once in each quarter of the year and may meet  
17 in special session upon the call of the chair or the executive director.
- 18 (b) The board shall elect a chair and a vice chair. The chair shall not serve  
19 more than four (4) consecutive years as chair or vice chair of the board.  
20 The vice chair shall not serve more than four (4) consecutive years as chair  
21 or vice chair of the board. A trustee who has served four (4) consecutive  
22 years as chair or vice chair of the board may be elected chair or vice chair  
23 of the board after an absence of two (2) years from the positions.
- 24 (c) A majority of the trustees shall constitute a quorum, and all actions taken  
25 by the board shall be by affirmative vote of a majority of the trustees  
26 present.
- 27 (9) (a) The board of trustees shall appoint or contract for the services of chief



1 executive officer and fix the compensation and other terms of employment  
2 for this position without limitation of the provisions of KRS Chapters 18A  
3 and 45A and Section 30 of this Act. The chief executive officer shall serve  
4 as the legislative, legal, and executive advisor to the board and shall work  
5 with the executive director of the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority to  
6 carry out the provisions of KRS 78.510 to 78.852. The executive director of  
7 the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority shall be the chief administrative  
8 officer of the board.

9 (b) The board shall require the chief executive officer to execute bonds for the  
10 faithful performance of his or her duties notwithstanding the limitations of  
11 KRS Chapter 62.

12 (c) The board shall have a system of accounting established by the Kentucky  
13 Public Pensions Authority.

14 (d) The board shall do all things, take all actions, and promulgate all  
15 administrative regulations, not inconsistent with the provisions of KRS  
16 78.510 to 78.852, necessary or proper in order to carry out the provisions of  
17 KRS 78.510 to 78.852. Notwithstanding any other evidence of legislative  
18 intent, it is hereby declared to be the controlling legislative intent that the  
19 provisions of KRS 78.510 to 78.852 conform with federal statute or  
20 regulation and meet the qualification requirements under 26 U.S.C. sec.  
21 401(a), applicable federal regulations, and other published guidance.  
22 Provisions of KRS 78.510 to 78.852 which conflict with federal statute or  
23 regulation or qualification under 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(a), applicable federal  
24 regulations, and other published guidance shall not be available. The board  
25 shall have the authority to promulgate administrative regulations to  
26 conform with federal statute and regulation and to meet the qualification  
27 requirements under 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(a), including an administrative

1 regulation to comply with 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(a)(9).

2 (e) Notwithstanding any other provision of statute to the contrary, including  
3 but not limited to any provision of KRS Chapter 12, the Governor shall have  
4 no authority to change any provision of KRS 78.510 to 78.852 by executive  
5 order or action, including but not limited to reorganizing, replacing,  
6 amending, or abolishing the membership of the County Employees  
7 Retirement System board of trustees.

8 (10) The chief executive officer of the board shall serve during its will and pleasure.  
9 Notwithstanding any statute to the contrary, the chief executive officer shall not  
10 be considered a legislative agent under KRS 6.611.

11 (11) The Attorney General, or an assistant designated by him or her, may attend each  
12 meeting of the board and may receive the agenda, board minutes, and other  
13 information distributed to trustees of the board upon request. The Attorney  
14 General may act as legal adviser and attorney for the board, and the board may  
15 contract for legal services, notwithstanding the limitations of KRS Chapter 12 or  
16 13B.

17 (12) (a) The system shall publish an annual financial report showing all receipts,  
18 disbursements, assets, and liabilities. The annual report shall include a copy  
19 of an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing  
20 standards. Except as provided by paragraph (b) of this subsection, the board  
21 may select an independent certified public accountant or the Auditor of  
22 Public Accounts to perform the audit. If the audit is performed by an  
23 independent certified public accountant, the Auditor of Public Accounts  
24 shall not be required to perform an audit pursuant to KRS 43.050(2)(a), but  
25 may perform an audit at his or her discretion. All proceedings and records  
26 of the board shall be open for inspection by the public. The system shall  
27 make copies of the audit required by this subsection available for

1 examination by any member, retiree, or beneficiary in the offices of the  
2 County Employees Retirement System and in other places as necessary to  
3 make the audit available to all members, retirees, and beneficiaries. A copy  
4 of the annual audit shall be sent electronically to the Legislative Research  
5 Commission no later than ten (10) days after receipt by the board.

6 (b) At least once every five (5) years, the Auditor of Public Accounts shall  
7 perform the audit described by this subsection, and the system shall  
8 reimburse the Auditor of Public Accounts for all costs of the audit. The  
9 Auditor of Public Accounts shall determine which fiscal year during the  
10 five (5) year period the audit prescribed by this paragraph will be completed.

11 (13) All expenses incurred by or on behalf of the system and the board in the  
12 administration of the system during a fiscal year shall be paid from the  
13 retirement allowance account.

14 (14) Except as provided under subsection (16) of this section or KRS 61.665, any  
15 person adversely affected by a decision of the board involving KRS 78.510 to  
16 78.852 may appeal the decision of the board to the Franklin Circuit Court within  
17 sixty (60) days of the board action.

18 (15) (a) A trustee shall discharge his or her duties as a trustee, including his or her  
19 duties as a member of a committee:

20 1. In good faith;

21 2. On an informed basis; and

22 3. In a manner he or she honestly believes to be in the best interest of the  
23 County Employees Retirement System.

24 (b) A trustee discharges his or her duties on an informed basis if, when he or  
25 she makes an inquiry into the business and affairs of the system or into a  
26 particular action to be taken or decision to be made, he or she exercises the  
27 care an ordinary prudent person in a like position would exercise under

1           similar circumstances.

2           (c) In discharging his or her duties, a trustee may rely on information,  
3           opinions, reports, or statements, including financial statements and other  
4           financial data, if prepared or presented by:

5           1. One (1) or more officers or employees of the system or authority whom  
6           the trustee honestly believes to be reliable and competent in the  
7           matters presented;

8           2. Legal counsel, public accountants, actuaries, or other persons as to  
9           matters the trustee honestly believes are within the person's  
10           professional or expert competence; or

11           3. A committee of the board of trustees of which he or she is not a  
12           member if the trustee honestly believes the committee merits  
13           confidence.

14           (d) A trustee shall not be considered as acting in good faith if he or she has  
15           knowledge concerning the matter in question that makes reliance otherwise  
16           permitted by paragraph (c) of this subsection unwarranted.

17           (e) Any action taken as a trustee, or any failure to take any action as a trustee,  
18           shall not be the basis for monetary damages or injunctive relief unless:

19           1. The trustee has breached or failed to perform the duties of the  
20           trustee's office in compliance with this section; and

21           2. In the case of an action for monetary damages, the breach or failure  
22           to perform constitutes willful misconduct or wanton or reckless  
23           disregard for human rights, safety, or property.

24           (f) A person bringing an action for monetary damages under this section shall  
25           have the burden of proving by clear and convincing evidence the provisions  
26           of paragraph (e)1. and 2. of this subsection, and the burden of proving that  
27           the breach or failure to perform was the legal cause of damages suffered by

1           the system.

2           (g) In discharging his or her administrative duties under this section, a trustee  
3           shall strive to administer the system in an efficient and cost-effective  
4           manner for the taxpayers of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and shall take  
5           all actions available under the law to contain costs for the trusts, including  
6           costs for participating employers, members, and retirees.

7           (16) When an order by the system substantially impairs the benefits or rights of a  
8           member, retired member, or recipient, except action which relates to entitlement  
9           to disability benefits, the affected member, retired member, or recipient may  
10           request a hearing to be held in accordance with KRS Chapter 13B. The board  
11           may establish an appeals committee whose members shall be appointed by the  
12           chair and who shall have authority to act upon the recommendations and reports  
13           of the hearing officer on behalf of the board. The member, retired member,  
14           recipient, or employer aggrieved by a final order of the board following the  
15           hearing may appeal the decision to the Franklin Circuit Court, in accordance  
16           with KRS Chapter 13B. The board may establish a joint administrative appeals  
17           committee with the Kentucky Retirement Systems and may also establish a joint  
18           disability appeals committee with the Kentucky Retirement Systems.

19           (17) The board shall establish a formal trustee education program for all trustees of  
20           the board. The program shall include but not be limited to the following:

21           (a) A required orientation program for all new trustees elected or appointed to  
22           the board. The orientation program shall include training on:

- 23           1. Benefits and benefits administration;
- 24           2. Investment concepts, policies, and current composition and  
25           administration of system investments;
- 26           3. Laws, bylaws, and administrative regulations pertaining to the system  
27           and to fiduciaries; and

1           4. Actuarial and financial concepts pertaining to the system.

2           If a trustee fails to complete the orientation program within one (1) year  
3           from the beginning of his or her first term on the board, the system shall  
4           withhold payment of the per diem and travel expenses due to the board  
5           member under this section until the trustee has completed the orientation  
6           program;

7           (b) Annual required training for board members on the administration,  
8           benefits, financing, and investing of the system. If a trustee fails to complete  
9           the annual required training during the calendar or fiscal year, the  
10           retirement systems shall withhold payment of the per diem and travel  
11           expenses due to the board member under this section until the board  
12           member has met the annual training requirements; and

13           (c) The system shall incorporate by reference in an administrative regulation,  
14           pursuant to KRS 13A.2251, the trustee education program.

15           (18) In order to improve public transparency regarding the administration of the  
16           system, the board of trustees shall adopt a best practices model by posting the  
17           following information to the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority's Web site and  
18           shall make available to the public:

19           (a) Meeting notices and agendas for all meetings of the board. Notices and  
20           agendas shall be posted to the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority's Web  
21           site at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the board or committee  
22           meetings, except in the case of special or emergency meetings as provided  
23           by KRS 61.823;

24           (b) The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report with the information as  
25           follows:

26           1. A general overview and update on the system by the executive director;  
27           2. A listing of the board of trustees;

- 1           3. A listing of key staff;
- 2           4. An organizational chart;
- 3           5. Financial information, including a statement of plan net assets, a  
4           statement of changes in plan net assets, an actuarial value of assets, a  
5           schedule of investments, a statement of funded status and funding  
6           progress, and other supporting data;
- 7           6. Investment information, including a general overview, a list of the  
8           system's professional consultants, a total net of fees return on system  
9           investments over a historical period, an investment summary,  
10          contracted investment management expenses, transaction  
11          commissions, and a schedule of investments;
- 12          7. The annual actuarial valuation report on the pension benefit and the  
13          medical insurance benefit; and
- 14          8. A general statistical section, including information on contributions,  
15          benefit payouts, and retirement system demographic data;
- 16          (c) All external audits;
- 17          (d) All board minutes or other materials that require adoption or ratification by  
18          the board of trustees. The items listed in this paragraph shall be posted  
19          within seventy-two (72) hours of adoption or ratification of the board;
- 20          (e) All bylaws, policies, or procedures adopted or ratified by the board of  
21          trustees;
- 22          (f) The system's summary plan description;
- 23          (g) A document containing an unofficial copy of the statutes governing the  
24          system;
- 25          (h) A listing of the members of the board of trustees and membership on each  
26          committee established by the board, including any investment committees;
- 27          (i) All investment holdings in aggregate, fees, and commissions for each fund

1 administered by the board, which shall be updated on a quarterly basis for  
2 fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2021. The system shall request  
3 from all managers, partnerships, and any other available sources all  
4 information regarding fees and commissions and shall, based on the  
5 requested information received:

6 1. Disclose the dollar value of fees and commissions paid to each  
7 individual manager or partnership;

8 2. Disclose the dollar value of any profit sharing, carried interest, or any  
9 other partnership incentive arrangements, partnership agreements, or  
10 any other partnership expenses received by or paid to each manager or  
11 partnership; and

12 3. As applicable, report each fee or commission by manager or  
13 partnership consistent with standards established by the Institutional  
14 Limited Partners Association (ILPA).

15 In addition to the requirements of this paragraph, the system shall also  
16 disclose the name and address of all individual underlying managers or  
17 partners in any fund of funds in which system assets are invested;

18 (j) An update of net of fees investment returns, asset allocations, and the  
19 performance of the funds against benchmarks adopted by the board for  
20 each fund, for each asset class administered by the board, and for each  
21 manager. The update shall be posted on a quarterly basis for fiscal years  
22 beginning on or after July 1, 2021;

23 (k) A searchable database of the system's expenditures and a listing of each  
24 individual employed by the system along with the employee's salary or  
25 wages. In lieu of posting the information required by this paragraph to the  
26 Kentucky Public Pensions Authority's Web site, the system may provide the  
27 information through a Web site established by the executive branch to



1 inform the public about public employee salaries and wages;

2 (l) All contracts or offering documents for services, goods, or property  
3 purchased or utilized by the system for contracts or offering documents  
4 entered into on or after July 1, 2021; and

5 (m) Information regarding the system's financial and actuarial condition that is  
6 easily understood by the members, retired members, and the public.

7 (19) Notwithstanding the requirements of subsection (18) of this section, the system  
8 shall not be required to furnish information that is protected under KRS 61.661,  
9 exempt under KRS 61.878, or that, if disclosed, would compromise the system's  
10 ability to competitively invest in real estate or other asset classes, except that no  
11 provision of this section or KRS 61.878 shall exclude disclosure and review of all  
12 contracts, including investment contracts, by the board, the Auditor of Public  
13 Accounts, and the Government Contract Review Committee established pursuant  
14 to KRS 45A.705 or the disclosure of investment fees and commissions as provided  
15 by this section. If any public record contains material which is not excepted  
16 under this section, the system shall separate the excepted material by removal,  
17 segregation, or redaction, and make the nonexcepted material available for  
18 examination.

19 (20) Notwithstanding any other provision of KRS 78.510 to 78.852 to the contrary, no  
20 funds of the County Employees Retirement System, including fees and  
21 commissions paid to an investment manager, private fund, or company issuing  
22 securities, who manages systems assets, shall be used to pay fees and  
23 commissions to placement agents. For purposes of this subsection, "placement  
24 agent" means a third-party individual, who is not an employee, or firm, wholly or  
25 partially owned by the entity being hired, who solicits investments on behalf of an  
26 investment manager, private fund, or company issuing securities.

27 ➔Section 4. KRS 61.645 is amended to read as follows:

- 1 (1) The ~~{County Employees Retirement System, }~~Kentucky Employees Retirement  
 2 System~~},~~ and State Police Retirement System shall be administered by the board of  
 3 trustees of the Kentucky Retirement Systems composed of nine (9)~~[seventeen (17)]~~  
 4 members, who shall be selected as follows:
- 5 (a) ~~{The secretary of the Personnel Cabinet shall serve as trustee for as long as he~~  
 6 ~~occupies the position of secretary under KRS 18A.015, except as provided~~  
 7 ~~under subsections (5) and (6) of this section;~~
- 8 (b) ~~Three (3) trustees, who shall be members or retired from the County~~  
 9 ~~Employees Retirement System, elected by the members and retired members~~  
 10 ~~of the County Employees Retirement System;~~
- 11 (c) ~~One (1) trustee, who shall be a member or retired from the State Police~~  
 12 ~~Retirement System, elected by the members and retired members of the State~~  
 13 ~~Police Retirement System;~~
- 14 (b)~~(d)~~ Two (2) trustees, who shall be members or retired from the Kentucky  
 15 Employees Retirement System, elected by the members and retired members  
 16 of the Kentucky Employees Retirement System; and
- 17 (c)~~(e)~~ Six (6)~~[Ten (10)]~~ trustees, appointed by the Governor of the  
 18 Commonwealth, subject to Senate confirmation in accordance with KRS  
 19 11.160 for each appointment or reappointment. Of the six (6)~~[ten (10)]~~  
 20 trustees appointed by the Governor, *three (3) trustees shall have investment*  
 21 *experience and three (3) trustees shall have retirement experience*~~;~~
- 22 1. ~~One (1) trustee shall be knowledgeable about the impact of pension~~  
 23 ~~requirements on local governments;~~
- 24 2. ~~One (1) trustee shall be appointed from a list of three (3) applicants~~  
 25 ~~submitted by the Kentucky League of Cities;~~
- 26 3. ~~One (1) trustee shall be appointed from a list of three (3) applicants~~  
 27 ~~submitted by the Kentucky Association of Counties;~~



1                                    **emphasis is economics or finance.**

- 2        (2) The board is hereby granted the powers and privileges of a corporation, including  
3           but not limited to the following powers:
- 4           (a) To sue and be sued in its corporate name;
  - 5           (b) To make bylaws not inconsistent with the law;
  - 6           (c) To conduct the business and promote the purposes for which it was formed;
  - 7           (d) Except as provided in KRS 61.650(6), to contract for investment counseling,  
8           ~~actuarial,~~ auditing, medical, and other professional or technical services as  
9           required to carry out the obligations of the board subject to KRS Chapters 45,  
10           45A, 56, and 57. **Actuarial consulting services shall be provided by a firm**  
11           **hired by the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority;**
  - 12           (e) To purchase fiduciary liability insurance;
  - 13           (f) Except as provided in KRS 61.650(6), to acquire, hold, sell, dispose of,  
14           pledge, lease, or mortgage, the goods or property necessary to exercise the  
15           board's powers and perform the board's duties subject to KRS Chapters 45,  
16           45A, and 56; and
  - 17           (g) The board shall reimburse any trustee, officer, or employee for any legal  
18           expense resulting from a civil action arising out of the performance of his  
19           official duties. The hourly rate of reimbursement for any contract for legal  
20           services under this paragraph shall not exceed the maximum hourly rate  
21           provided in the Legal Services Duties and Maximum Rate Schedule  
22           promulgated by the Government Contract Review Committee established  
23           pursuant to KRS 45A.705, unless a higher rate is specifically approved by the  
24           secretary of the Finance and Administration Cabinet or his or her designee.
- 25        (3) (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, each trustee  
26           shall serve a term of four (4) years or until his successor is duly qualified  
27           except as otherwise provided in this section. An elected trustee or a trustee

1 appointed by the Governor under subsection ~~(1)(c)(1)(e)~~ of this section, shall  
2 not serve more than three (3) consecutive four (4) year terms. An elected  
3 trustee or a trustee appointed by the Governor under subsection ~~(1)(c)(1)(e)~~  
4 of this section, who has served three (3) consecutive terms may be elected or  
5 appointed again after an absence of four (4) years from the board.

6 (b) The term limits established by paragraph (a) of this subsection shall apply to  
7 trustees serving on or after July 1, 2012, and all terms of office served prior to  
8 July 1, 2012, shall be used to determine if the trustee has exceeded the term  
9 limits provided by paragraph (a) of this subsection.

10 (4) (a) The trustees selected by the membership of each of the various retirement  
11 systems shall be elected by ballot. For each trustee to be elected, the board  
12 may nominate, not less than six (6) months before a term of office of a trustee  
13 is due to expire, three (3) constitutionally eligible individuals.

14 (b) Individuals may be nominated by the retirement system members which are to  
15 elect the trustee by presenting to the executive director, not less than four (4)  
16 months before a term of office of a trustee is due to expire, a petition, bearing  
17 the name, last four digits of the Social Security number, and signature of no  
18 less than one-tenth (1/10) of the number voting in the last election by the  
19 retirement system members.

20 (c) Within four (4) months of the nominations made in accordance with  
21 paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection, the executive director shall cause to  
22 be prepared an official ballot. The ballot shall include the name, address, and  
23 position title of each individual nominated by the board and by petition.  
24 Provisions shall also be made for write-in votes.

25 (d) Except as provided by paragraph (j) of this subsection, the ballots shall be  
26 distributed to the eligible voters by mail to their last known residence address.

27 (e) The ballots shall be addressed to the Kentucky Retirement Systems in care of

1 a predetermined box number at a United States Post Office~~[located within~~  
2 ~~Kentucky]~~ or submitted electronically as provided by paragraph (j) of this  
3 subsection. Access to this post office box shall be limited to the board's  
4 contracted~~[auditing]~~ firm. The individual receiving a plurality of votes shall  
5 be declared elected.

6 (f) The eligible voter shall cast his ballot by selecting~~[checking a square opposite~~  
7 ~~the name of]~~ the candidate of his choice. He shall sign and mail the ballot or  
8 submit the electronic ballot at least thirty (30) days prior to the date the term  
9 to be filled is due to expire. The latest mailing date, or date of submission in  
10 the case of electronic ballots, shall be provided on the ballot.

11 (g) The board's contracted~~[auditing]~~ firm shall report in writing the outcome to  
12 the chair of the board of trustees. Cost of an election shall be payable from the  
13 funds of the system for which the trustee is elected.

14 (h) For purposes of this subsection, an eligible voter shall be a person who was a  
15 member of the retirement system on December 31 of the year preceding the  
16 election year.

17 (i) Each individual who submits a request to be nominated by the board under  
18 paragraph (a) of this subsection and each individual who is nominated by the  
19 membership under paragraph (b) of this subsection shall:

- 20 1. Complete an application developed by the retirement systems which  
21 shall include but not be limited to a disclosure of any prior felonies and  
22 any conflicts of interest that would hinder the individual's ability to  
23 serve on the board;
- 24 2. Submit a resume detailing the individual's education and employment  
25 history and a cover letter detailing the member's qualifications for  
26 serving as trustee to the board; and
- 27 3. Authorize the systems to have a criminal background check performed.

1           The criminal background check shall be performed by the Department of  
2           Kentucky State Police.

3       (j) In lieu of the ballots mailed to members and retired members as provided by  
4       this subsection, the systems may by promulgation of administrative regulation  
5       pursuant to KRS Chapter 13A conduct trustee elections using electronic  
6       ballots, except that the systems shall mail a paper ballot upon request of any  
7       eligible voter.

8       (5) Any vacancy which may occur in an appointed position shall be filled in the same  
9       manner which provides for the selection of the particular trustee, and any vacancy  
10      which may occur in an elected position shall be filled by appointment by a majority  
11      vote of the remaining elected trustees with a person selected from the system in  
12      which the vacancy occurs, and if the secretary of the Personnel Cabinet resigns his  
13      position as trustee, it shall be filled by appointment made by the Governor;  
14      however, any vacancy shall be filled only for the duration of the unexpired term. In  
15      the event of a vacancy of an elected trustee, Kentucky Retirement Systems shall  
16      notify members of the system in which the vacancy occurs of the vacancy and the  
17      opportunity to be considered for the vacant position. Any vacancy shall be filled  
18      within ninety (90) days of the position becoming vacant.

19      (6) (a) Membership on the board of trustees shall not be incompatible with any other  
20      office unless a constitutional incompatibility exists. No trustee shall serve in  
21      more than one (1) position as trustee on the board; and if a trustee holds more  
22      than one (1) position as trustee on the board, he shall resign a position.

23      (b) A trustee shall be removed from office upon conviction of a felony or for a  
24      finding of a violation of any provision of KRS 11A.020 or 11A.040 by a court  
25      of competent jurisdiction.

26      (c) A current or former employee of Kentucky Retirement Systems, County  
27      Employees Retirement System, or the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority

1 shall not be eligible to serve as a member of the board.

2 (7) Trustees who do not otherwise receive a salary from the State Treasury shall receive  
3 a per diem of eighty dollars (\$80) for each day they are in session or on official  
4 duty, and they shall be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses in  
5 accordance with state administrative regulations and standards.

6 (8) (a) The board shall meet at least once in each quarter of the year and may meet in  
7 special session upon the call of the chair or the executive director.

8 (b) The board shall elect a chair and a vice chair. The chair shall not serve more  
9 than four (4) consecutive years as chair or vice-chair of the board. The vice-  
10 chair shall not serve more than four (4) consecutive years as chair or vice-  
11 chair of the board. A trustee who has served four (4) consecutive years as  
12 chair or vice-chair of the board may be elected chair or vice-chair of the board  
13 after an absence of two (2) years from the positions.

14 (c) A majority of the trustees shall constitute a quorum and all actions taken by  
15 the board shall be by affirmative vote of a majority of the trustees present.

16 (9) (a) The board of trustees shall appoint or contract for the services of ***a chief***  
17 ***executive officer***~~[an executive director]~~ and fix the compensation and other  
18 terms of employment for this position without limitation of the provisions of  
19 KRS Chapters 18A and KRS 64.640. ***The chief executive officer shall serve***  
20 ***as the legislative, legal, and executive advisor to the board and shall work***  
21 ***with the executive director of the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority to***  
22 ***carry out the provisions of KRS 16.505 to 16.652 and 61.510 to 61.705.*** The  
23 executive director ***of the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority*** shall be the  
24 chief administrative officer of the board.

25 (b) ***Prior to April 1, 2021,*** the board of trustees shall authorize the executive  
26 director to appoint the employees deemed necessary to transact the business of  
27 the system. ***Prior to July 1, 2021,*** all employees of the systems, except for the



1 executive director, shall be subject to the state personnel system established  
 2 pursuant to KRS 18A.005 to 18A.204 and shall have their salaries determined  
 3 by the secretary of the Personnel Cabinet. *Effective April 1, 2021, the*  
 4 *responsibility of appointing employees and managing personnel needs shall*  
 5 *be transferred to the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority established by*  
 6 *Section 2 of this Act.*

7 (c) The board shall require the *chief* executive *officer*~~director and the employees~~  
 8 ~~as it thinks proper~~ to execute bonds for the faithful performance of *his or*  
 9 *her*~~their~~ duties notwithstanding the limitations of KRS Chapter 62.

10 (d) The board shall *have*~~establish~~ a system of accounting *established by the*  
 11 *Kentucky Public Pensions Authority.*

12 (e) The board shall do all things, take all actions, and promulgate all  
 13 administrative regulations, not inconsistent with the provisions of KRS 16.505  
 14 to 16.652 *and*~~,~~ 61.510 to 61.705~~, and 78.510 to 78.852~~, necessary or  
 15 proper in order to carry out the provisions of KRS 16.505 to 16.652 *and*~~,~~  
 16 61.510 to 61.705~~, and 78.510 to 78.852~~. Notwithstanding any other evidence  
 17 of legislative intent, it is hereby declared to be the controlling legislative intent  
 18 that the provisions of KRS 16.505 to 16.652 *and*~~,~~ 61.510 to 61.705~~, and~~  
 19 ~~78.510 to 78.852~~ conform with federal statute or regulation and meet the  
 20 qualification requirements under 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(a), applicable federal  
 21 regulations, and other published guidance. Provisions of KRS 16.505 to  
 22 16.652 *and*~~,~~ 61.510 to 61.705~~, and 78.510 to 78.852~~ which conflict with  
 23 federal statute or regulation or qualification under 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(a),  
 24 applicable federal regulations, and other published guidance shall not be  
 25 available. The board shall have the authority to promulgate administrative  
 26 regulations to conform with federal statute and regulation and to meet the  
 27 qualification requirements under 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(a), including an

1 administrative regulation to comply with 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(a)(9).

2 **(f) Notwithstanding any other provision of statute to the contrary, including**  
3 **but not limited to any provision of KRS Chapter 12, the Governor shall have**  
4 **no authority to change any provision of KRS 16.505 to 16.652 and 61.510 to**  
5 **61.705 by executive order or action, including but not limited to**  
6 **reorganizing, replacing, amending, or abolishing the membership of the**  
7 **Kentucky Retirement Systems board of trustees.**

8 (10) Notwithstanding any statute to the contrary, employees shall not be considered  
9 legislative agents under KRS 6.611.

10 (11) The Attorney General, or an assistant designated by him, may attend each meeting  
11 of the board and may receive the agenda, board minutes, and other information  
12 distributed to trustees of the board upon request. The Attorney General may act as  
13 legal adviser and attorney for the board, and the board may contract for legal  
14 services, notwithstanding the limitations of KRS Chapter 12 or 13B.

15 (12) (a) The system shall publish an annual financial report showing all receipts,  
16 disbursements, assets, and liabilities. The annual report shall include a copy of  
17 an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.  
18 Except as provided by paragraph (b) of this subsection, the board may select  
19 an independent certified public accountant or the Auditor of Public Accounts  
20 to perform the audit. If the audit is performed by an independent certified  
21 public accountant, the Auditor of Public Accounts shall not be required to  
22 perform an audit pursuant to KRS 43.050(2)(a), but may perform an audit at  
23 his discretion. All proceedings and records of the board shall be open for  
24 inspection by the public. The system shall make copies of the audit required  
25 by this subsection available for examination by any member, retiree, or  
26 beneficiary in the office of the executive director of the Kentucky Retirement  
27 Systems and in other places as necessary to make the audit available to all

1 members, retirees, and beneficiaries. A copy of the annual audit shall be sent  
2 to the Legislative Research Commission no later than ten (10) days after  
3 receipt by the board.

4 (b) At least once every five (5) years, the Auditor of Public Accounts shall  
5 perform the audit described by this subsection, and the system shall reimburse  
6 the Auditor of Public Accounts for all costs of the audit. The Auditor of  
7 Public Accounts shall determine which fiscal year during the five (5) year  
8 period the audit prescribed by this paragraph will be completed.

9 (13) All expenses incurred by or on behalf of the system and the board in the  
10 administration of the system during a fiscal year shall be paid from the retirement  
11 allowance account. Any other statute to the contrary notwithstanding, authorization  
12 for all expenditures relating to the administrative operations of the system shall be  
13 contained in the biennial budget unit request, branch budget recommendation, and  
14 the financial plan adopted by the General Assembly pursuant to KRS Chapter 48.

15 (14) Any person adversely affected by a decision of the board, except as provided under  
16 subsection (16) of this section or KRS 61.665, involving KRS 16.505 to 16.652  
17 and 61.510 to 61.705~~, and 78.510 to 78.852~~, may appeal the decision of the  
18 board to the Franklin Circuit Court within sixty (60) days of the board action.

19 (15) (a) A trustee shall discharge his duties as a trustee, including his duties as a  
20 member of a committee:

- 21 1. In good faith;
- 22 2. On an informed basis; and
- 23 3. In a manner he honestly believes to be in the best interest of the  
24 Kentucky Retirement Systems.

25 (b) A trustee discharges his duties on an informed basis if, when he makes an  
26 inquiry into the business and affairs of the Kentucky Retirement Systems or  
27 into a particular action to be taken or decision to be made, he exercises the

1 care an ordinary prudent person in a like position would exercise under similar  
2 circumstances.

3 (c) In discharging his duties, a trustee may rely on information, opinions, reports,  
4 or statements, including financial statements and other financial data, if  
5 prepared or presented by:

6 1. One (1) or more officers or employees of the Kentucky Retirement  
7 Systems whom the trustee honestly believes to be reliable and competent  
8 in the matters presented;

9 2. Legal counsel, public accountants, actuaries, or other persons as to  
10 matters the trustee honestly believes are within the person's professional  
11 or expert competence; or

12 3. A committee of the board of trustees of which he is not a member if the  
13 trustee honestly believes the committee merits confidence.

14 (d) A trustee shall not be considered as acting in good faith if he has knowledge  
15 concerning the matter in question that makes reliance otherwise permitted by  
16 paragraph (c) of this subsection unwarranted.

17 (e) Any action taken as a trustee, or any failure to take any action as a trustee,  
18 shall not be the basis for monetary damages or injunctive relief unless:

19 1. The trustee has breached or failed to perform the duties of the trustee's  
20 office in compliance with this section; and

21 2. In the case of an action for monetary damages, the breach or failure to  
22 perform constitutes willful misconduct or wanton or reckless disregard  
23 for human rights, safety, or property.

24 (f) A person bringing an action for monetary damages under this section shall  
25 have the burden of proving by clear and convincing evidence the provisions of  
26 paragraph (e)1. and 2. of this subsection, and the burden of proving that the  
27 breach or failure to perform was the legal cause of damages suffered by the

1 Kentucky Retirement Systems.

2 (g) Nothing in this section shall eliminate or limit the liability of any trustee for  
3 any act or omission occurring prior to July 15, 1988.

4 (h) In discharging his or her administrative duties under this section, a trustee  
5 shall strive to administer the retirement system in an efficient and cost-  
6 effective manner for the taxpayers of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and  
7 shall take all actions available under the law to contain costs for the trusts,  
8 including costs for participating employers, members, and retirees.

9 (16) When an order by the system substantially impairs the benefits or rights of a  
10 member, retired member, or recipient, except action which relates to entitlement to  
11 disability benefits, or when an employer disagrees with an order of the system as  
12 provided by KRS 61.598, the affected member, retired member, recipient, or  
13 employer may request a hearing to be held in accordance with KRS Chapter 13B.  
14 The board may establish an appeals committee whose members shall be appointed  
15 by the chair and who shall have authority to act upon the recommendations and  
16 reports of the hearing officer on behalf of the board. The member, retired member,  
17 recipient, or employer aggrieved by a final order of the board following the hearing  
18 may appeal the decision to the Franklin Circuit Court, in accordance with KRS  
19 Chapter 13B. The board may establish a joint administrative appeals committee  
20 with the County Employees Retirement System and may also establish a joint  
21 disability appeals committee with the County Employees Retirement System.

22 (17) The board shall give the Kentucky Education Support Personnel Association  
23 twenty-four (24) hours notice of the board meetings, to the extent possible.

24 (18) The board shall establish a formal trustee education program for all trustees of the  
25 board. The program shall include but not be limited to the following:

26 (a) A required orientation program for all new trustees elected or appointed to the  
27 board. The orientation program shall include training on:

- 1           1.   Benefits and benefits administration;
- 2           2.   Investment concepts, policies, and current composition and
- 3                 administration of retirement systems investments;
- 4           3.   Laws, bylaws, and administrative regulations pertaining to the
- 5                 retirement systems and to fiduciaries; and
- 6           4.   Actuarial and financial concepts pertaining to the retirement systems.

7           If a trustee fails to complete the orientation program within one (1) year from  
8           the beginning of his or her first term on the board, the retirement systems shall  
9           withhold payment of the per diem and travel expenses due to the board  
10          member under this section and KRS 16.640 ~~and 78.780~~ until the trustee has  
11          completed the orientation program;

12          (b) Annual required training for board members on the administration, benefits,  
13          financing, and investing of the retirement systems. If a trustee fails to  
14          complete the annual required training during the calendar or fiscal year, the  
15          retirement systems shall withhold payment of the per diem and travel  
16          expenses due to the board member under this section and KRS 16.640 ~~and~~  
17          78.780 until the board member has met the annual training requirements; and

18          (c) The retirement systems shall incorporate by reference in an administrative  
19          regulation, pursuant to KRS 13A.2251, the trustee education program.

20          (19) In order to improve public transparency regarding the administration of the systems,  
21          the board of trustees shall adopt a best practices model by posting the following  
22          information to the *Kentucky Public Pensions Authority's*~~retirement systems~~ Web  
23          site and shall make available to the public:

24          (a) Meeting notices and agendas for all meetings of the board. Notices and  
25          agendas shall be posted to the *Kentucky Public Pensions Authority's*  
26          ~~retirement systems~~ Web site at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of  
27          the board or committee meetings, except in the case of special or emergency

- 1 meetings as provided by KRS 61.823;
- 2 (b) The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report with the information as follows:
- 3 1. A general overview and update on the retirement systems by the
- 4 executive director;
- 5 2. A listing of the board of trustees;
- 6 3. A listing of key staff;
- 7 4. An organizational chart;
- 8 5. Financial information, including a statement of plan net assets, a
- 9 statement of changes in plan net assets, an actuarial value of assets, a
- 10 schedule of investments, a statement of funded status and funding
- 11 progress, and other supporting data;
- 12 6. Investment information, including a general overview, a list of the
- 13 retirement system's professional consultants, a total net of fees return on
- 14 retirement systems investments over a historical period, an investment
- 15 summary, contracted investment management expenses, transaction
- 16 commissions, and a schedule of investments;
- 17 7. The annual actuarial valuation report on the pension benefit and the
- 18 medical insurance benefit; and
- 19 8. A general statistical section, including information on contributions,
- 20 benefit payouts, and retirement systems' demographic data;
- 21 (c) All external audits;
- 22 (d) All board minutes or other materials that require adoption or ratification by
- 23 the board of trustees. The items listed in this paragraph shall be posted within
- 24 seventy-two (72) hours of adoption or ratification of the board;
- 25 (e) All bylaws, policies, or procedures adopted or ratified by the board of trustees;
- 26 (f) The retirement systems' summary plan description;
- 27 (g) A document containing an unofficial copy of the statutes governing the

1 systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems;

2 (h) A listing of the members of the board of trustees and membership on each  
3 committee established by the board, including any investment committees;

4 (i) All investment holdings in aggregate, fees, and commissions for each fund  
5 administered by the board, which shall be updated on a quarterly basis for  
6 fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2017. The systems shall request from  
7 all managers, partnerships, and any other available sources all information  
8 regarding fees and commissions and shall, based on the requested information  
9 received:

10 1. Disclose the dollar value of fees and commissions paid to each  
11 individual manager or partnership;

12 2. Disclose the dollar value of any profit sharing, carried interest, or any  
13 other partnership incentive arrangements, partnership agreements, or any  
14 other partnership expenses received by or paid to each manager or  
15 partnership; and

16 3. As applicable, report each fee or commission by manager or partnership  
17 consistent with standards established by the Institutional Limited  
18 Partners Association (ILPA).

19 In addition to the requirements of this paragraph, the systems shall also  
20 disclose the name and address of all individual underlying managers or  
21 partners in any fund of funds in which system assets are invested;

22 (j) An update of net of fees investment returns, asset allocations, and the  
23 performance of the funds against benchmarks adopted by the board for each  
24 fund, for each asset class administered by the board, and for each manager.  
25 The update shall be posted on a quarterly basis for fiscal years beginning on or  
26 after July 1, 2017;

27 (k) A searchable database of the systems' expenditures and a listing of each



1 individual employed by the systems along with the employee's salary or  
2 wages. In lieu of posting the information required by this paragraph to the  
3 Kentucky Public Pensions Authority's~~systems'~~ Web site, the systems may  
4 provide the information through a Web site established by the executive  
5 branch to inform the public about executive branch agency expenditures and  
6 public employee salaries and wages;

7 (l) All contracts or offering documents for services, goods, or property purchased  
8 or utilized by the systems; and

9 (m) Information regarding the systems' financial and actuarial condition that is  
10 easily understood by the members, retired members, and the public.

11 (20) Notwithstanding the requirements of subsection (19) of this section, the retirement  
12 systems shall not be required to furnish information that is protected under KRS  
13 61.661, exempt under KRS 61.878, or that, if disclosed, would compromise the  
14 retirement systems' ability to competitively invest in real estate or other asset  
15 classes, except that no provision of this section or KRS 61.878 shall exclude  
16 disclosure and review of all contracts, including investment contracts, by the board,  
17 the Auditor of Public Accounts, and the Government Contract Review Committee  
18 established pursuant to KRS 45A.705 or the disclosure of investment fees and  
19 commissions as provided by this section. If any public record contains material  
20 which is not excepted under this section, the systems shall separate the excepted  
21 material by removal, segregation, or redaction, and make the nonexcepted material  
22 available for examination.

23 (21) Notwithstanding any other provision of KRS 16.505 to 16.652 and~~+~~ 61.510 to  
24 61.705~~], and 78.510 to 78.852]~~ to the contrary, no funds of the systems  
25 administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems, including fees and commissions  
26 paid to an investment manager, private fund, or company issuing securities, who  
27 manages systems assets, shall be used to pay fees and commissions to placement

1 agents. For purposes of this subsection, "placement agent" means a third-party  
2 individual, who is not an employee, or firm, wholly or partially owned by the entity  
3 being hired, who solicits investments on behalf of an investment manager, private  
4 fund, or company issuing securities.

5 ➔Section 5. KRS 78.790 is amended to read as follows:

6 (1) (a) The board shall be the trustee of the several funds created by KRS 78.510 to  
7 78.852, and the County Employees Retirement System insurance trust fund  
8 as provided by Section 27 of this Act, and shall have full and exclusive power  
9 to invest and reinvest such funds in accordance with federal law ~~subject to~~  
10 ~~the limitations that no investments shall be made except upon the exercise of~~  
11 ~~bona fide discretion, in securities which, at the time of making the investment,~~  
12 ~~are, by law, permitted for the investment of funds by fiduciaries in this state~~  
13 ~~except that the board may, at its discretion, purchase common stocks in~~  
14 ~~corporations that do not have a record of paying dividends to their~~  
15 ~~stockholders. Subject to such limitations, the board shall have full power to~~  
16 ~~hold, purchase, sell, assign, transfer or dispose of any of the securities or~~  
17 ~~investments in which any of the funds created herein have been invested, as~~  
18 ~~well as of the proceeds of such investments and any moneys belonging to such~~  
19 ~~funds~~].

20 (b) 1. The board shall establish an investment committee that shall include  
21 members of the board with investment experience, elected members, or  
22 other members as determined by the board chair, and may also  
23 include non-voting members who have investment expertise.

24 2. The investment committee shall have authority to implement the  
25 investment policies adopted by the board and act on behalf of the  
26 board on all investment-related matters and to acquire, sell, safeguard,  
27 monitor, and manage the assets and securities of the several funds.

1        (c) A trustee, officer, employee, employee of the Kentucky Public Pensions  
2        Authority, or other fiduciary shall discharge duties with respect to the  
3        system:

4        1. Solely in the interest of the members and beneficiaries;

5        2. For the exclusive purpose of providing benefits to members and  
6        beneficiaries and paying reasonable expenses of administering the  
7        system;

8        3. With the care, skill, and caution under the circumstances then  
9        prevailing that a prudent person acting in a like capacity and familiar  
10       with those matters would use in the conduct of an activity of like  
11       character and purpose;

12       4. Impartially, taking into account any differing interests of members  
13       and beneficiaries;

14       5. Incurring any costs that are appropriate and reasonable; and

15       6. In accordance with a good-faith interpretation of the law governing  
16       the system.

17       (d) In addition to the standards of conduct prescribed by paragraph (c) of this  
18       subsection:

19       1. All internal investment staff, including investment staff of the  
20       Kentucky Public Pensions Authority, and investment consultants shall  
21       adhere to the Code of Ethics and Standards of Professional Conduct,  
22       and all board trustees shall adhere to the Code of Conduct for  
23       Members of a Pension Scheme Governing Body. All codes cited in this  
24       subparagraph are promulgated by the CFA Institute; and

25       2. Investment managers shall comply with all applicable provisions of  
26       the federal Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended, and the  
27       rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, and shall comply with

1 *all other applicable federal securities statutes and related rules and*  
2 *regulations that apply to investment managers.*

3 (2) All securities acquired under the authority of KRS 78.510 to 78.852 shall be  
4 registered in the name *County Employees Retirement System*~~[Kentucky Retirement~~  
5 ~~Systems]~~ or nominee name as provided by KRS 286.3-225 and every change in  
6 registration, by reason of sale or assignment of such securities, shall be  
7 accomplished pursuant to written policies adopted by the board.

8 (3) The board, in keeping with its responsibility as the trustee and wherever feasible,  
9 shall give priority to the investment of funds in obligations calculated to improve  
10 the industrial development and enhance the economic welfare of the  
11 Commonwealth.

12 (4) The *contents of real estate appraisals, engineering or feasibility estimates, and*  
13 *evaluations made by or for the system relative to the acquisition or disposition of*  
14 *property, until such time as all of the property has been acquired or sold, shall be*  
15 *excluded from the application of KRS 61.870 to 61.884 and shall be subject to*  
16 *inspection only upon order of a court of competent jurisdiction*~~[investment~~  
17 ~~committee established pursuant to KRS 61.650 shall serve as the investment~~  
18 ~~committee of the funds established by KRS 78.510 to 78.852].~~

19 (5) Based upon market value at the time of purchase, the board shall limit the amount  
20 of assets managed by any one (1) active or passive investment manager to fifteen  
21 percent (15%) of the assets in the pension and insurance funds.

22 *(6) All contracts for the investment or management of assets of the system shall not*  
23 *be subject to KRS Chapters 45, 45A, 56, and 57. Instead, the board shall conduct*  
24 *the following process to develop and adopt an investment procurement policy*  
25 *with which all prospective contracts for the investment or management of assets*  
26 *of the system shall comply:*

27 *(a) The board shall consult with the secretary of the Finance and*

- 1           Administration Cabinet or his or her designee to develop an investment  
 2           procurement policy, which shall be written to meet best practices in  
 3           investment management procurement;
- 4           **(b) Thirty (30) days prior to adoption, the board shall tender the preliminary**  
 5           investment procurement policy to the secretary of the Finance and  
 6           Administration Cabinet or his or her designee for review and comment;
- 7           **(c) Upon receipt of comments from the secretary of the Finance and**  
 8           Administration Cabinet or his or her designee, the board shall choose to  
 9           adopt or not adopt any recommended changes;
- 10           **(d) Upon adoption, the board shall tender the final investment procurement**  
 11           policy to the secretary of the Finance and Administration Cabinet or his or  
 12           her designee;
- 13           **(e) No later than thirty (30) days after receipt of the investment procurement**  
 14           policy, the secretary or his or her designee shall certify whether the board's  
 15           investment procurement policy meets or does not meet best practices for  
 16           investment management procurement; and
- 17           **(f) Any amendments to the investment procurement policy shall adhere to the**  
 18           requirements set forth by paragraphs (b) to (e) of this subsection.

19           ➔Section 6. KRS 61.650 is amended to read as follows:

- 20           (1) (a) The board shall be the trustee of the several funds created by KRS 16.510,  
 21           61.515, and 61.701 as it pertains to the trust fund for the Kentucky  
 22           Retirement Systems insurance trust fund~~[, and 78.520]~~, notwithstanding the  
 23           provisions of any other statute to the contrary, and shall have exclusive power  
 24           to invest and reinvest such funds in accordance with federal law.
- 25           (b) 1. The board shall establish an investment committee whose membership  
 26           shall be composed of the following:
- 27           a. The three (3)~~[The six (6)]~~ trustees appointed by the Governor

- 1                   pursuant to Section 4 of this Act who have investment  
2                   experience~~[KRS 61.645(1)(e)5.]~~; and
- 3                   b. Additional~~[Three (3)]~~ trustees appointed by the board chair.
- 4                   2. The investment committee shall have authority to implement the  
5                   investment policies adopted by the board and act on behalf of the board  
6                   on all investment-related matters and to acquire, sell, safeguard,  
7                   monitor, and manage the assets and securities of the several funds.
- 8                   (c) A trustee, officer, employee, employee of the Kentucky Public Pensions  
9                   Authority, or other fiduciary shall discharge duties with respect to the  
10                  retirement system:
- 11                  1. Solely in the interest of the members and beneficiaries;
- 12                  2. For the exclusive purpose of providing benefits to members and  
13                  beneficiaries and paying reasonable expenses of administering the  
14                  system;
- 15                  3. With the care, skill, and caution under the circumstances then prevailing  
16                  that a prudent person acting in a like capacity and familiar with those  
17                  matters would use in the conduct of an activity of like character and  
18                  purpose;
- 19                  4. Impartially, taking into account any differing interests of members and  
20                  beneficiaries;
- 21                  5. Incurring any costs that are appropriate and reasonable; and
- 22                  6. In accordance with a good-faith interpretation of the law governing the  
23                  retirement system.
- 24                  (d) In addition to the standards of conduct prescribed by paragraph (c) of this  
25                  subsection:
- 26                  1. All internal investment staff, including investment staff of the  
27                  Kentucky Public Pensions Authority, and investment consultants shall

- 1                   adhere to the Code of Ethics and Standards of Professional Conduct, and  
2                   all board trustees shall adhere to the Code of Conduct for Members of a  
3                   Pension Scheme Governing Body. All codes cited in this subparagraph  
4                   are promulgated by the CFA Institute; and
- 5                   2. Investment managers shall comply with all applicable provisions of the  
6                   federal Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended, and the rules and  
7                   regulations promulgated thereunder, and shall comply with all other  
8                   applicable federal securities statutes and related rules and regulations  
9                   that apply to investment managers.
- 10               (2) All securities acquired under authority of KRS 61.510 to 61.705 shall be registered  
11               in the name "Kentucky Retirement Systems" or nominee name as provided by KRS  
12               286.3-225 and every change in registration, by reason of sale or assignment of such  
13               securities, shall be accomplished pursuant to written policies adopted by the board.
- 14               (3) The board, in keeping with its responsibility as trustee and wherever consistent with  
15               its fiduciary responsibilities, shall give priority to the investment of funds in  
16               obligation calculated to improve the industrial development and enhance the  
17               economic welfare of the Commonwealth.
- 18               (4) The contents of real estate appraisals, engineering or feasibility estimates, and  
19               evaluations made by or for the system relative to the acquisition or disposition of  
20               property, until such time as all of the property has been acquired or sold, shall be  
21               excluded from the application of KRS 61.870 to 61.884 and shall be subject to  
22               inspection only upon order of a court of competent jurisdiction.
- 23               (5) Based upon market value at the time of purchase, the board shall limit the amount  
24               of assets managed by any one (1) active or passive investment manager to fifteen  
25               percent (15%) of the assets in the pension and insurance funds.
- 26               (6) All contracts for the investment or management of assets of the systems shall not be  
27               subject to KRS Chapters 45, 45A, 56, and 57. Instead, the board shall conduct the

1 following process to develop and adopt an investment procurement policy with  
2 which all prospective contracts for the investment or management of assets of the  
3 systems shall comply:

4 (a) On or before July 1, 2017, the board shall consult with the secretary of the  
5 Finance and Administration Cabinet or his or her designee to develop an  
6 investment procurement policy, which shall be written to meet best practices  
7 in investment management procurement;

8 (b) Thirty (30) days prior to adoption, the board shall tender the preliminary  
9 investment procurement policy to the secretary of the Finance and  
10 Administration Cabinet or his or her designee for review and comment;

11 (c) Upon receipt of comments from the secretary of the Finance and  
12 Administration Cabinet or his or her designee, the board shall choose to adopt  
13 or not adopt any recommended changes;

14 (d) Upon adoption, the board shall tender the final investment procurement policy  
15 to the secretary of the Finance and Administration Cabinet or his or her  
16 designee;

17 (e) No later than thirty (30) days after receipt of the investment procurement  
18 policy, the secretary or his or her designee shall certify whether the board's  
19 investment procurement policy meets or does not meet best practices for  
20 investment management procurement; and

21 (f) Any amendments to the investment procurement policy shall adhere to the  
22 requirements set forth by paragraphs (b) to (e) of this subsection.

23 ➔SECTION 7. A NEW SECTION OF KRS 78.510 TO 78.852 IS CREATED TO  
24 READ AS FOLLOWS:

25 *(1) (a) As soon as practicable after its organization, the County Employees*  
26 *Retirement System board shall adopt the actuarial tables, assumptions, and*  
27 *methods necessary for the administration of the system and for the annual*



1 determination of actuarial assets, actuarial liabilities, and recommended  
2 employer contribution rates of the system as provided by Sections 8 and 28  
3 of this Act, for the pension and retiree health funds.

4 (b) The board shall cause an actuarial valuation to be made annually. The  
5 valuation shall at a minimum include:

6 1. A description of the actuarial assumptions used in the actuarial  
7 valuation, which shall be reasonably related to the experience of the  
8 system and represent the actuary's best estimate of anticipated  
9 experience;

10 2. A description of any funding methods utilized or required by state law  
11 in the development of the actuarial valuation results;

12 3. A description of any changes in actuarial assumptions and methods  
13 from 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  
17 liabilities, and actuarially recommended contribution rates for  
18 employers based upon the actuarial assumptions, funding methods,  
19 and experience of the 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,  
23 on employer contribution rates, funding levels, and unfunded  
24 liabilities.

25 (c) At least once in each five (5) year period, the board shall cause an actuarial  
26 investigation to be made of all the experience under the system relative to  
27 the actuarial assumptions and funding methods previously adopted by the

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

7 (d) Pursuant to the actuarial investigation the board shall, from time to time,  
8 revise the actuarial tables previously adopted by the board and shall  
9 thereupon revise the bases of the rates of employer contributions required  
10 under KRS 78.510 to 78.852.

11 (e) For any change in actuarial assumptions, funding methods, retiree health  
12 insurance premiums and subsidies, or any other decisions made by the  
13 board that impact system liabilities and actuarially recommended  
14 contribution rates for employers and that are not made in conjunction with  
15 the actuarial investigation required by paragraph (c) of this subsection, an  
16 actuarial analysis shall be completed showing the projected impact of the  
17 changes on funding levels, unfunded liabilities, and actuarially  
18 recommended contribution rates for employers over a twenty (20) year  
19 period.

20 (f) All actuarial investigations, analyses, and valuations shall be certified to the  
21 board by an actuary who shall be a fellow of the Conference of Consulting  
22 Actuaries or a member of the American Academy of Actuaries.

23 (2) A copy of each five (5) year actuarial investigation, actuarial analysis, and  
24 annual valuation required by subsection (1) of this section shall be forwarded  
25 electronically to the Legislative Research Commission no later than ten (10) days  
26 after receipt by the board, and the Legislative Research Commission shall  
27 distribute the information received to the committee staff and co-chairs of any

1 committee that has jurisdiction over the County Employees Retirement System.  
2 The actuarial valuation required by subsection (1)(b) of this section shall be  
3 submitted no later than November 15 following the close of the fiscal year. In  
4 addition, the County Employees Retirement System shall submit a summary of  
5 the actuarial valuation to the Public Pension Oversight Board by December 31  
6 following completion of the actuarial valuation which shall include the employer  
7 contribution rates to be payable by participating employers in the upcoming fiscal  
8 year, key actuarial statistics and trends, any changes in assumptions or methods  
9 since the last valuation, and other pertinent actuarial data and information.

10 ➔SECTION 8. A NEW SECTION OF KRS 78.510 TO 78.852 IS CREATED TO  
11 READ AS FOLLOWS:

12 (1) (a) Except as provided by subsection (5) of this section, each employer  
13 participating in the County Employees Retirement System as provided for in  
14 KRS 78.510 to 78.852 shall contribute annually to the system an amount  
15 equal to the percent, as computed under subsection (2) of this section, of the  
16 creditable compensation of its employees to be known as the "normal  
17 contributions," and an additional amount to be known as the "actuarially  
18 accrued liability contribution" which shall be computed by amortizing the  
19 total unfunded actuarially accrued liability over a period of thirty (30) years  
20 using the level-percentage-of-payroll amortization method. The thirty (30)  
21 year amortization period shall begin with the 2013 actuarial valuation.

22 (b) Any significant increase in the actuarially accrued liability due to benefit  
23 improvements shall be amortized using the level-percentage-of-payroll  
24 amortization method over a separate thirty (30) year period commencing in  
25 the year of the actuarial valuation in which the benefit improvements are  
26 first reflected.

27 (2) The normal contribution rate shall be determined by the entry age normal cost

1 funding method. The actuarially accrued liability shall be determined by  
2 actuarial method consistent with the methods prescribed for determining the  
3 normal contribution rate. Normal contributions and the actuarially accrued  
4 liability contribution shall be determined on actuarial assumptions and methods  
5 adopted by the board.

6 (3) Normal contribution and the actuarially accrued liability contribution rates shall  
7 be determined by the board on the basis of the annual actuarial valuation last  
8 preceding the July 1 of a new fiscal year.

9 (4) Employer contribution rates as provided by this section shall:

10 (a) Be developed separately for employers providing benefits to employees in  
11 nonhazardous positions and for employers providing benefits to employees  
12 in hazardous positions; and

13 (b) Include an employer contribution rate to fund pension benefits and an  
14 employer contribution rate to fund retiree health benefits.

15 (5) The employer contribution rate established by the board for the County  
16 Employees Retirement System that is payable on or after July 1, 2018, and until  
17 June 30, 2028, for the pension and retiree health insurance funds, including the  
18 normal cost contribution and the actuarially accrued liability contribution for  
19 each fund, shall not increase by more than a factor of one and twelve one  
20 hundredths (1.12) over the prior fiscal year's employer contribution rate as  
21 determined by the system's consulting actuary.

22 (6) The system shall advise each employer prior to the beginning of each fiscal year  
23 of any change in the employer contribution rate. Based on the employer  
24 contribution rate, each employer shall include in the budget sufficient funds to  
25 pay the employer contributions as determined by the board under this section.

26 ➔Section 9. KRS 6.350 is amended to read as follows:

27 (1) A bill which would increase or decrease the benefits or increase or decrease

1 participation in the benefits or change the actuarial accrued liability of any state-  
2 administered retirement system shall not be reported from a legislative committee of  
3 either house of the General Assembly for consideration by the full membership of  
4 that house unless the bill is accompanied by an actuarial analysis.

5 (2) (a) An actuarial analysis required by this section shall show the economic effect  
6 of the bill on the state-administered retirement system over a twenty (20) year  
7 period, including:

- 8 1. An estimate of the effect on the unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities  
9 and funding levels of the affected systems; and
- 10 2. A projection of the annual employer costs to the systems of  
11 implementing the legislation over the twenty (20) year period. The  
12 annual employer cost projection shall include the effect on the  
13 contributions of participating employers as a percentage of total payroll  
14 and in total dollars of contributions.

15 (b) If a bill affects more than one (1) state-administered retirement system, the  
16 actuarial analysis shall project costs for each affected state-administered  
17 retirement system.

18 (c) A statement that the cost is negligible or indeterminable shall not be  
19 considered in compliance with this section. If a cost cannot be determined by  
20 the actuary in accordance with paragraph (a) of this subsection, then the  
21 systems shall certify in writing:

- 22 1. The estimated number of individuals affected;
- 23 2. The estimated change in benefit payments;
- 24 3. The estimated change to employer costs; and
- 25 4. The estimated change to administrative expenses.

26 (d) An actuarial analysis shall state the actuarial assumptions and methods of  
27 computation used in the analysis and shall state whether or not the bill or

1 resolution, if enacted, would, in the opinion of the actuary, make the affected  
2 state-administered retirement system actuarially unsound or, in the case of a  
3 system already actuarially unsound, more unsound. Actuarial cost methods  
4 and assumptions that meet actuarial standards of practice established by the  
5 Actuarial Standards Board shall be used in all cost projections.

6 (e) An actuarial analysis required by this section shall be prepared by an actuary  
7 who is a fellow of the Conference of Consulting Actuaries or a member of the  
8 American Academy of Actuaries.

9 (3) (a) An actuary commissioned to make an actuarial analysis that is required by this  
10 section, or for the purpose of seeking appropriations for a state-administered  
11 retirement system, shall include in the analysis a complete definition of each  
12 actuarial term used in the analysis and, either in the analysis or in a separate  
13 actuarial valuation report made available as a public record, an enumeration  
14 and explanation of each actuarial assumption used to complete the actuarial  
15 analysis.

16 (b) If the actuary commissioned to complete the actuarial analysis is relying upon  
17 assumptions that have not been previously established by the actuary in an  
18 actuarial valuation of the affected state-administered retirement system, the  
19 actuary shall clearly note and describe the new assumption and the basis for  
20 selecting the assumption.

21 (4) The actuarial analysis required by this section shall be completed by the actuary  
22 retained by the affected state-administered retirement system. The state-  
23 administered retirement systems shall provide the analysis without cost to the  
24 General Assembly.

25 (5) For purposes of this section, the terms:

26 (a) "State-administered retirement system" shall include:

27 1. The Kentucky Employees Retirement System~~[, the County Employees~~

1           ~~Retirement System,~~] and the State Police Retirement System  
 2           administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems and established under  
 3           the provisions of KRS 16.505 to 16.652 and 61.510 to 61.705~~, and~~  
 4           ~~78.510 to 78.852~~];

5           2. The Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System established under KRS  
 6           161.220 to 161.716;

7           3. The Judicial Retirement Plan established under KRS 21.345 to 21.580;  
 8           ~~and~~]

9           4. The Legislators' Retirement Plan established under KRS 6.500 to 6.577;  
 10          and

11          **5. The County Employees Retirement System established under KRS**  
 12          **78.510 to 78.852; and**

13          (b) "Funding level" means the actuarial value of assets divided by the actuarially  
 14          accrued liability expressed as a percentage.

15          ➔Section 10. KRS 7A.250 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as  
 16          follows:

17          The Public Pension Oversight Board:

18          (1) Shall, from time to time, conduct an impartial review of all the laws governing the  
 19          state-administered retirement systems and recommend any changes it may find  
 20          desirable with respect to benefits and administration, funding of benefits,  
 21          investments of funds, and the improvement of language, structure, and organization  
 22          of the statutes;

23          (2) May, once every five (5) years, review the benefits provided to employees who  
 24          begin participating in the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems or  
 25          **the County Employees Retirement System** on or after January 1, 2014~~, and the~~  
 26          ~~Teachers' Retirement System on or after January 1, 2019~~], and recommend any  
 27          changes to the provisions affecting these employees that are necessary to maintain

- 1 the actuarial soundness of the systems;
- 2 (3) Shall review semiannually the investment programs of the state-administered  
3 retirement systems, including a review of asset allocation targets and ranges, risk  
4 factors, asset class benchmarks, total return objectives, relative volatility,  
5 performance evaluation guidelines, investment policies, and securities litigation  
6 policies and recoveries from fraud or other corporate malfeasance. The board may  
7 establish an advisory committee, as provided by KRS 7A.260, which may include  
8 investment professionals to assist in complying with the provisions of this  
9 subsection;
- 10 (4) May review any benefits, bylaws, policies, or charters established by the state-  
11 administered retirement systems;
- 12 (5) Shall, at the request of the Speaker of the House of Representatives or the President  
13 of the Senate, evaluate proposed changes to laws affecting the state-administered  
14 retirement systems and report to the Speaker or the President on the probable costs,  
15 actuarial implications, and desirability as a matter of public policy;
- 16 (6) May review all new or amended administrative regulations of the state-administered  
17 retirement systems and provide comments to the Administrative Regulation Review  
18 Subcommittee established by KRS 13A.020;
- 19 (7) Shall research issues related to the state-administered retirement systems as directed  
20 by the Legislative Research Commission;
- 21 (8) Shall at least once every five (5) years have an actuarial audit performed for the  
22 state-administered retirement systems to evaluate the reliability of each system's  
23 actuarial assumptions and methods. The actuarial audit shall be performed by an  
24 actuary retained by the Public Pension Oversight Board;
- 25 (9) May prior to each budget biennium occurring on or after July 1, 2020, have an  
26 actuarial review of the funding requests and needs submitted by the state-  
27 administered retirement systems. The review shall be performed by an actuary



1 retained by the Public Pension Oversight Board;~~and~~

2 **(10) Shall once every four (4) years review the administrative expenses of the state-**  
 3 **administered retirement systems. The review shall include but not limited to**  
 4 **evaluating the level and growth of administrative costs, the potential for**  
 5 **legislative changes to reduce administrative costs, and administrative changes the**  
 6 **systems may make to reduce administrative costs and staffing needs; and**

7 ~~(11)~~ Shall publish an annual report covering the board's evaluation and  
 8 recommendations with respect to the operations of the state-administered retirement  
 9 systems. The report shall be submitted to the Legislative Research Commission no  
 10 later than December 31 of each year and shall include at a minimum any legislative  
 11 recommendations made by the board, a summary of the financial and actuarial  
 12 condition of the state-administered retirement systems, and an analysis of the  
 13 adequacy of the current levels of funding.

14 ➔Section 11. KRS 11A.010 is amended to read as follows:

15 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

- 16 (1) "Business" means any corporation, limited liability company, partnership, limited  
 17 partnership, sole proprietorship, firm, enterprise, franchise, association,  
 18 organization, self-employed individual, holding company, joint stock company,  
 19 receivership, trust, or any legal entity through which business is conducted, whether  
 20 or not for profit;
- 21 (2) "Commission" means the Executive Branch Ethics Commission;
- 22 (3) "Compensation" means any money, thing of value, or economic benefit conferred  
 23 on, or received by, any person in return for services rendered, or to be rendered, by  
 24 himself or another;
- 25 (4) "Family" means spouse and children, as well as a person who is related to a public  
 26 servant as any of the following, whether by blood or adoption: parent, brother,  
 27 sister, grandparent, grandchild, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-

1 in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepfather, stepmother, stepson, stepdaughter,  
2 stepbrother, stepsister, half brother, half sister;

3 (5) "Gift" means a payment, loan, subscription, advance, deposit of money, services, or  
4 anything of value, unless consideration of equal or greater value is received; "gift"  
5 does not include gifts from family members, campaign contributions, the waiver of  
6 a registration fee for a presenter at a conference or training described in KRS  
7 45A.097(5), or door prizes available to the public;

8 (6) "Income" means any money or thing of value received or to be received as a claim  
9 on future services, whether in the form of a fee, salary, expense allowance,  
10 forbearance, forgiveness, interest, dividend, royalty, rent, capital gain, or any other  
11 form of compensation or any combination thereof;

12 (7) "Officer" means:

13 (a) All major management personnel in the executive branch of state government,  
14 including the secretary of the cabinet, the Governor's chief executive officers,  
15 cabinet secretaries, deputy cabinet secretaries, general counsels,  
16 commissioners, deputy commissioners, executive directors, executive  
17 assistants, policy advisors, special assistants, administrative coordinators,  
18 executive advisors, staff assistants, and division directors;

19 (b) Members and full-time chief administrative officers of:

- 20 1. The Parole Board;
- 21 2. Kentucky Claims Commission;
- 22 3. Kentucky Retirement Systems board of trustees;
- 23 4. Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System board of trustees;
- 24 5. The Kentucky Public Employees Deferred Compensation Authority  
25 board of trustees;
- 26 6. Public Service Commission;
- 27 7. Worker's Compensation Board and its administrative law judges;

1           8.    The Kentucky Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission;

2           9.    The Kentucky Board of Education; ~~and~~

3           10.   The Council on Postsecondary Education;

4           **11.   County Employees Retirement System board of trustees; and**

5           **12.   Kentucky Public Pensions Authority;**

6           (c)   Salaried members of executive branch boards and commissions; and

7           (d)   Any person who, through a personal service contract or any other contractual  
8           employment arrangement with an agency, performs on a full-time,  
9           nonseasonal basis a function of any major management position listed in this  
10          subsection;

11       (8)   "Official duty" means any responsibility imposed on a public servant by virtue of  
12          his or her position in the state service;

13       (9)   "Public servant" means:

14           (a)   The Governor;

15           (b)   The Lieutenant Governor;

16           (c)   The Secretary of State;

17           (d)   The Attorney General;

18           (e)   The Treasurer;

19           (f)   The Commissioner of Agriculture;

20           (g)   The Auditor of Public Accounts;

21           (h)   All employees in the executive branch including officers as defined in  
22          subsection (7) of this section and merit employees; and

23           (i)   Any person who, through any contractual arrangement with an agency, is  
24          employed to perform a function of a position within an executive branch  
25          agency on a full-time, nonseasonal basis;

26       (10)  "Agency" means every state office, cabinet, department, board, commission, public  
27          corporation, or authority in the executive branch of state government. A public

- 1       servant is employed by the agency by which his or her appointing authority is  
2       employed, unless his or her agency is attached to the appointing authority's agency  
3       for administrative purposes only, or unless the agency's characteristics are of a  
4       separate independent nature distinct from the appointing authority and it is  
5       considered an agency on its own, such as an independent department;
- 6       (11) "Lobbyist" means any person employed as a legislative agent as defined in KRS  
7       6.611(23) or any person employed as an executive agency lobbyist as defined in  
8       KRS 11A.201(8);
- 9       (12) "Lobbyist's principal" means the entity in whose behalf the lobbyist promotes,  
10       opposes, or acts;
- 11       (13) "Candidate" means those persons who have officially filed candidacy papers or who  
12       have been nominated by their political party pursuant to KRS 118.105, 118.115,  
13       118.325, or 118.760 for any of the offices enumerated in subsections (9)(a) to (g) of  
14       this section;
- 15       (14) "Does business with" or "doing business with" means contracting, entering into an  
16       agreement, leasing, or otherwise exchanging services or goods with a state agency  
17       in return for payment by the state, including accepting a grant, but not including  
18       accepting a state entitlement fund disbursement;
- 19       (15) "Public agency" means any governmental entity;
- 20       (16) "Appointing authority" means the agency head or any person whom he or she has  
21       authorized by law to act on behalf of the agency with respect to employee  
22       appointments;
- 23       (17) "Represent" means to attend an agency proceeding, write a letter, or communicate  
24       with an employee of an agency on behalf of someone else;
- 25       (18) "Directly involved" means to work on personally or to supervise someone who  
26       works on personally;
- 27       (19) "Sporting event" means any professional or amateur sport, athletic game, contest,

1 event, or race involving machines, persons, or animals, for which admission tickets  
2 are offered for sale and that is viewed by the public;

3 (20) "Person" means an individual, proprietorship, firm, partnership, limited partnership,  
4 joint venture, joint stock company, syndicate, business or statutory trust, donative  
5 trust, estate, company, corporation, limited liability company, association, club,  
6 committee, organization, or group of persons acting in concert; and

7 (21) "Salaried" means receiving a fixed compensation or benefit reserved for full-time  
8 employees, which is paid on a regular basis without regard to the actual number of  
9 hours worked.

10 ➔Section 12. KRS 11A.201 is amended to read as follows:

11 As used in KRS 11A.201 to 11A.246 and KRS 11A.990:

12 (1) "Compensation" means any money, thing of value, or economic benefit conferred  
13 on, or received by, any person in return for services rendered, or to be rendered, by  
14 himself or another;

15 (2) (a) "Expenditure" means any of the following that is made to, or for the benefit of  
16 an elected executive official, the secretary of a cabinet listed in KRS 12.250,  
17 an executive agency official, or a member of the staff of any of the officials  
18 listed in this paragraph:

- 19 1. A payment, distribution, loan, advance, deposit, reimbursement, or gift  
20 of money, real estate, or anything of value, including, but not limited to,  
21 food and beverages, entertainment, lodging, transportation, or honoraria;
- 22 2. A contract, promise, or agreement to make an expenditure; or
- 23 3. The purchase, sale, or gift of services or any other thing of value.

24 (b) "Expenditure" does not include a contribution, gift, or grant to a foundation or  
25 other charitable organization that is exempt from federal income taxation  
26 under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. "Expenditure" does not  
27 include the purchase, sale, or gift of services or any other thing of value that is

1 available to the general public on the same terms as it is available to the  
2 persons listed in this subsection. "Expenditure" does not include a payment,  
3 contribution, gift, purchase, or any other thing of value that is made to or on  
4 behalf of any elected executive official, the secretary of a cabinet listed in  
5 KRS 12.250, an executive agency official, or any member of the staff of any  
6 of the officials listed in this paragraph who works for a state agency for which  
7 the executive agency lobbyist is not registered to influence;

8 (3) "Employer" means any person who engages an executive agency lobbyist;

9 (4) "Engage" means to make any arrangement, and "engagement" means arrangement,  
10 whereby an individual is employed or retained for compensation to act for or on  
11 behalf of an employer to influence executive agency decisions or to conduct any  
12 executive agency lobbying activity;

13 (5) (a) "Financial transaction" means a transaction or activity that is conducted or  
14 undertaken for profit and arises from the joint ownership, or the ownership, or  
15 part ownership in common of any real or personal property or any commercial  
16 or business enterprise of whatever form or nature between the following:

17 1. An executive agency lobbyist, his or her employer, a real party in  
18 interest, or a member of the immediate family of the executive agency  
19 lobbyist, his or her employer, or a real party in interest; and

20 2. Any elected executive official, the secretary of a cabinet listed in KRS  
21 12.250, an executive agency official, or any member of the staff of any  
22 of the officials listed in this subparagraph.

23 (b) "Financial transaction" does not include any transaction or activity described  
24 in paragraph (a) of this subsection if it is available to the general public on the  
25 same terms;

26 (6) "Executive agency" means the office of an elected executive official, a cabinet listed  
27 in KRS 12.250, or any other state agency, department, board, or commission

1 controlled or directed by an elected executive official or otherwise subject to his or  
2 her authority. "Executive agency" does not include any court or the General  
3 Assembly;

4 (7) "Executive agency decision" means a decision of an executive agency regarding the  
5 expenditure of funds of the state or of an executive agency with respect to the award  
6 of a contract, grant, lease, or other financial arrangement under which those funds  
7 are distributed or allocated. This shall also include decisions made concerning:

8 (a) The parameters of requests for information and requests for proposals;

9 (b) Drafting, adopting, or implementing a budget provision;

10 (c) Administrative regulations or rules;

11 (d) An executive order;

12 (e) Legislation or amendments thereto; or

13 (f) Other public policy decisions;

14 (8) (a) "Executive agency lobbyist" means any person engaged to influence executive  
15 agency decisions or to conduct executive agency lobbying activity as one (1)  
16 of his or her main purposes regarding a substantial issue, including  
17 associations, coalitions, or public interest entities formed for the purpose of  
18 promoting or otherwise influencing executive agency decisions. The term  
19 "executive agency lobbyist" shall also include placement agents and  
20 unregulated placement agents.

21 (b) "Executive agency lobbyist" does not include an elected or appointed officer  
22 or employee of a federal or state agency, state college, state university, or  
23 political subdivision who attempts to influence or affect executive agency  
24 decisions in his or her fiduciary capacity as a representative of his or her  
25 agency, college, university, or political subdivision;

26 (9) (a) "Executive agency lobbying activity" means contacts made to promote,  
27 advocate, or oppose the passage, modification, defeat, or executive approval

1 or veto of any legislation or otherwise influence the outcome of an executive  
2 agency decision by direct communication with an elected executive official,  
3 the secretary of any cabinet listed in KRS 12.250, any executive agency  
4 official whether in the classified service or not, or a member of the staff of any  
5 one of the officials listed in this paragraph.

6 (b) "Executive agency lobbying activity" does not include any of the following:

- 7 1. The action of any person having a direct interest in executive agency  
8 decisions, if the person acting under Section 1 of the Kentucky  
9 Constitution, assembles together with other persons for their common  
10 good, petitions any person listed in paragraph (a) of this subsection for  
11 the redress of grievances or other proper purposes;
- 12 2. Contacts made for the sole purpose of gathering information contained  
13 in a public record;
- 14 3. Appearances before public meetings of executive agencies;
- 15 4. News, editorial, and advertising statements published in newspapers,  
16 journals, or magazines, or broadcast over radio or television;
- 17 5. The gathering and furnishing of information and news by bona fide  
18 reporters, correspondents, or news bureaus to news media described in  
19 subparagraph 4. of this paragraph;
- 20 6. Publications primarily designed for, and distributed to, members of bona  
21 fide associations or charitable or fraternal nonprofit corporations;
- 22 7. Professional services in preparing executive agency decisions, preparing  
23 arguments regarding executive agency decisions, or in advising clients  
24 and rendering opinions regarding proposed or pending executive agency  
25 decisions, if the services are not otherwise connected to lobbying; or
- 26 8. Public comments submitted to an executive agency during the public  
27 comment period on administrative regulations or rules;



- 1 (10) "Executive agency official" means an officer or employee of an executive agency  
2 whose principal duties are to formulate policy or to participate directly or indirectly  
3 in the preparation, review, or award of contracts, grants, leases, or other financial  
4 arrangements with an executive agency;
- 5 (11) "Aggrieved party" means a party entitled to resort to a remedy;
- 6 (12) "Elected executive official" means the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of  
7 State, Auditor of Public Accounts, State Treasurer, Attorney General, and  
8 Commissioner of Agriculture;
- 9 (13) "Person" means an individual, proprietorship, firm, partnership, limited partnership,  
10 joint venture, joint stock company, syndicate, business or statutory trust, donative  
11 trust, estate, company, corporation, limited liability company, association, club,  
12 committee, organization, or group of persons acting in concert;
- 13 (14) "Staff" means any employee of the office of the Governor, or a cabinet listed in  
14 KRS 12.250, whose official duties are to formulate policy and who exercises  
15 administrative or supervisory authority, or who authorizes the expenditure of state  
16 funds;
- 17 (15) "Real party in interest" means the person or entity on whose behalf an executive  
18 agency lobbyist is acting, if that person or entity is not the employer of the executive  
19 agency lobbyist;
- 20 (16) "Substantial issue" means contacts which are intended to influence a decision that  
21 involves one or more disbursements of state funds in an amount of at least five  
22 thousand dollars (\$5,000) per year, or any budget provision, administrative  
23 regulation or rule, legislative matter, or other public policy matter that financially  
24 impacts the executive agency lobbyist or his or her employer;
- 25 (17) "Placement agent" means an individual or firm who is compensated or hired by an  
26 employer or other real party in interest for the purpose of influencing an executive  
27 agency decision regarding the investment of the Kentucky Retirement Systems, the

1        County Employees Retirement System, or the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement  
2        System assets; and

3        (18) "Unregulated placement agent" means a placement agent who is prohibited by  
4        federal securities laws and regulations promulgated thereunder from receiving  
5        compensation for soliciting a government agency.

6        ➔Section 13. KRS 11A.236 is amended to read as follows:

7        (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, no person shall engage any  
8        persons to influence executive agency decisions or conduct executive agency  
9        lobbying activity for compensation that is contingent in any way on the outcome of  
10       an executive agency decision, including payment based on the awarding of a  
11       contract or payment of a percentage of a government contract awarded, and no  
12       person shall accept any engagement to influence executive agency decisions or  
13       conduct executive agency lobbying activity for compensation that is contingent in  
14       any way on the outcome of an executive agency decision, including payment based  
15       on the awarding of a contract or payment of a percentage of a government contract  
16       awarded. An employer who pays an executive agency lobbyist based on the  
17       awarding of a contract or payment of a percentage of a government contract  
18       awarded shall be barred from doing business with the Commonwealth for a period  
19       of five (5) years from the date on which such a payment is revealed to the Executive  
20       Branch Ethics Commission.

21       (2) Subsection (1) of this section does not prohibit, and shall not be construed to  
22       prohibit:

23       (a) Any person from compensating his or her sales employees pursuant to an  
24       incentive compensation plan, such as commission sales, if the incentive  
25       compensation plan is the same plan used to compensate similarly situated  
26       sales employees who are not executive agency lobbyists; or

27       (b) Any person from engaging a placement agent to influence investment

1 decisions of the Kentucky Retirement Systems, County Employees  
2 Retirement System, and the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System for  
3 compensation that is contingent on the outcome of investment decisions by  
4 the retirement systems' boards of trustees. The provisions of this paragraph  
5 shall not apply to unregulated placement agents.

6 ➔Section 14. KRS 18A.205 is amended to read as follows:

7 (1) The secretary of the Finance and Administration Cabinet, upon the  
8 recommendation of the secretary, may procure from one (1) or more life insurance  
9 companies, authorized to do business in this state, a policy or policies of group life  
10 insurance insuring the lives of all or any class or classes of public employees. The policy  
11 or policies shall be approved by the commissioner of insurance and may contain such  
12 provisions as the commissioner of insurance approves whether or not otherwise permitted  
13 by the insurance laws. It is intended that life insurance may be made available for public  
14 employees, except that the procuring is permissive.

15 (2) (a) As used in KRS 18A.205 to 18A.215, "public employee" shall mean a person  
16 who:

17 1. Is regularly employed by a public employer; and

18 2. Is also:

19 a. A contributing member of any one (1) of the state-administered  
20 retirement systems;

21 b. A retiree of a state-administered retirement system who is  
22 employed in a regular full-time position for purposes of retirement  
23 coverage, but who is not eligible to contribute to one (1) of the  
24 systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems or County  
25 Employees Retirement System pursuant to KRS 61.637(17);

26 c. An individual participating in an optional retirement plan  
27 authorized by KRS 161.567; or

1           d. An individual eligible to participate in a retirement plan  
2           established by an employer who ceases participating in the  
3           Kentucky Employees Retirement System pursuant to KRS 61.522  
4           whose employees participated in the life insurance plans  
5           administered by the Personnel Cabinet prior to the employer's  
6           effective cessation date in the Kentucky Employees Retirement  
7           System.

8           (b) Notwithstanding the definition of "public employee" in this subsection, any  
9           federally funded time-limited employee may receive insurance coverage.

10       (3) As used in this section and KRS 18A.210, "public employer" shall mean the  
11       following employers, if the employer has opted to participate in the state-sponsored  
12       group life insurance program:

13       (a) Any department, office, board, agency, commission, authority, or branch of  
14       state government;

15       (b) A public postsecondary educational institution;

16       (c) Any department, office, board, agency, commission, authority, or branch of a  
17       city, urban-county, charter county, county, unified local government, or  
18       consolidated local government; or

19       (d) Any certified or classified employee or elected member of a local board of  
20       education.

21       (4) As used in KRS 18A.205 to 18A.225, "premiums" shall mean premiums to be paid  
22       on any type of insurance authorized under KRS 18A.205 to 18A.225.

23       ➔Section 15. KRS 18A.225 is amended to read as follows:

24       (1) (a) The term "employee" for purposes of this section means:

25           1. Any person, including an elected public official, who is regularly  
26           employed by any department, office, board, agency, or branch of state  
27           government; or by a public postsecondary educational institution; or by

- 1 any city, urban-county, charter county, county, or consolidated local  
2 government, whose legislative body has opted to participate in the state-  
3 sponsored health insurance program pursuant to KRS 79.080; and who  
4 is either a contributing member to any one (1) of the retirement systems  
5 administered by the state, including but not limited to the Kentucky  
6 Retirement Systems, County Employees Retirement System, Kentucky  
7 Teachers' Retirement System, the Legislators' Retirement Plan, or the  
8 Judicial Retirement Plan; or is receiving a contractual contribution from  
9 the state toward a retirement plan; or, in the case of a public  
10 postsecondary education institution, is an individual participating in an  
11 optional retirement plan authorized by KRS 161.567; or is eligible to  
12 participate in a retirement plan established by an employer who ceases  
13 participating in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System pursuant to  
14 KRS 61.522 whose employees participated in the health insurance plans  
15 administered by the Personnel Cabinet prior to the employer's effective  
16 cessation date in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System;
- 17 2. Any certified or classified employee of a local board of education;
- 18 3. Any elected member of a local board of education;
- 19 4. Any person who is a present or future recipient of a retirement  
20 allowance from the Kentucky Retirement Systems, County Employees  
21 Retirement System, Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System, the  
22 Legislators' Retirement Plan, the Judicial Retirement Plan, or the  
23 Kentucky Community and Technical College System's optional  
24 retirement plan authorized by KRS 161.567, except that a person who is  
25 receiving a retirement allowance and who is age sixty-five (65) or older  
26 shall not be included, with the exception of persons covered under KRS  
27 61.702(4)(c), unless he or she is actively employed pursuant to

- 1                   subparagraph 1. of this paragraph; and
- 2           5. Any eligible dependents and beneficiaries of participating employees
- 3                   and retirees who are entitled to participate in the state-sponsored health
- 4                   insurance program;
- 5           (b) The term "health benefit plan" for the purposes of this section means a health
- 6                   benefit plan as defined in KRS 304.17A-005;
- 7           (c) The term "insurer" for the purposes of this section means an insurer as defined
- 8                   in KRS 304.17A-005; and
- 9           (d) The term "managed care plan" for the purposes of this section means a
- 10                   managed care plan as defined in KRS 304.17A-500.
- 11 (2) (a) The secretary of the Finance and Administration Cabinet, upon the
- 12                   recommendation of the secretary of the Personnel Cabinet, shall procure, in
- 13                   compliance with the provisions of KRS 45A.080, 45A.085, and 45A.090,
- 14                   from one (1) or more insurers authorized to do business in this state, a group
- 15                   health benefit plan that may include but not be limited to health maintenance
- 16                   organization (HMO), preferred provider organization (PPO), point of service
- 17                   (POS), and exclusive provider organization (EPO) benefit plans encompassing
- 18                   all or any class or classes of employees. With the exception of employers
- 19                   governed by the provisions of KRS Chapters 16, 18A, and 151B, all
- 20                   employers of any class of employees or former employees shall enter into a
- 21                   contract with the Personnel Cabinet prior to including that group in the state
- 22                   health insurance group. The contracts shall include but not be limited to
- 23                   designating the entity responsible for filing any federal forms, adoption of
- 24                   policies required for proper plan administration, acceptance of the contractual
- 25                   provisions with health insurance carriers or third-party administrators, and
- 26                   adoption of the payment and reimbursement methods necessary for efficient
- 27                   administration of the health insurance program. Health insurance coverage

1 provided to state employees under this section shall, at a minimum, contain  
2 the same benefits as provided under Kentucky Kare Standard as of January 1,  
3 1994, and shall include a mail-order drug option as provided in subsection  
4 (13) of this section. All employees and other persons for whom the health care  
5 coverage is provided or made available shall annually be given an option to  
6 elect health care coverage through a self-funded plan offered by the  
7 Commonwealth or, if a self-funded plan is not available, from a list of  
8 coverage options determined by the competitive bid process under the  
9 provisions of KRS 45A.080, 45A.085, and 45A.090 and made available  
10 during annual open enrollment.

11 (b) The policy or policies shall be approved by the commissioner of insurance and  
12 may contain the provisions the commissioner of insurance approves, whether  
13 or not otherwise permitted by the insurance laws.

14 (c) Any carrier bidding to offer health care coverage to employees shall agree to  
15 provide coverage to all members of the state group, including active  
16 employees and retirees and their eligible covered dependents and  
17 beneficiaries, within the county or counties specified in its bid. Except as  
18 provided in subsection (20) of this section, any carrier bidding to offer health  
19 care coverage to employees shall also agree to rate all employees as a single  
20 entity, except for those retirees whose former employers insure their active  
21 employees outside the state-sponsored health insurance program.

22 (d) Any carrier bidding to offer health care coverage to employees shall agree to  
23 provide enrollment, claims, and utilization data to the Commonwealth in a  
24 format specified by the Personnel Cabinet with the understanding that the data  
25 shall be owned by the Commonwealth; to provide data in an electronic form  
26 and within a time frame specified by the Personnel Cabinet; and to be subject  
27 to penalties for noncompliance with data reporting requirements as specified

1 by the Personnel Cabinet. The Personnel Cabinet shall take strict precautions  
2 to protect the confidentiality of each individual employee; however,  
3 confidentiality assertions shall not relieve a carrier from the requirement of  
4 providing stipulated data to the Commonwealth.

5 (e) The Personnel Cabinet shall develop the necessary techniques and capabilities  
6 for timely analysis of data received from carriers and, to the extent possible,  
7 provide in the request-for-proposal specifics relating to data requirements,  
8 electronic reporting, and penalties for noncompliance. The Commonwealth  
9 shall own the enrollment, claims, and utilization data provided by each carrier  
10 and shall develop methods to protect the confidentiality of the individual. The  
11 Personnel Cabinet shall include in the October annual report submitted  
12 pursuant to the provisions of KRS 18A.226 to the Governor, the General  
13 Assembly, and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, an analysis of the  
14 financial stability of the program, which shall include but not be limited to  
15 loss ratios, methods of risk adjustment, measurements of carrier quality of  
16 service, prescription coverage and cost management, and statutorily required  
17 mandates. If state self-insurance was available as a carrier option, the report  
18 also shall provide a detailed financial analysis of the self-insurance fund  
19 including but not limited to loss ratios, reserves, and reinsurance agreements.

20 (f) If any agency participating in the state-sponsored employee health insurance  
21 program for its active employees terminates participation and there is a state  
22 appropriation for the employer's contribution for active employees' health  
23 insurance coverage, then neither the agency nor the employees shall receive  
24 the state-funded contribution after termination from the state-sponsored  
25 employee health insurance program.

26 (g) Any funds in flexible spending accounts that remain after all reimbursements  
27 have been processed shall be transferred to the credit of the state-sponsored



1 health insurance plan's appropriation account.

2 (h) Each entity participating in the state-sponsored health insurance program shall  
3 provide an amount at least equal to the state contribution rate for the employer  
4 portion of the health insurance premium. For any participating entity that used  
5 the state payroll system, the employer contribution amount shall be equal to  
6 but not greater than the state contribution rate.

7 (3) The premiums may be paid by the policyholder:

8 (a) Wholly from funds contributed by the employee, by payroll deduction or  
9 otherwise;

10 (b) Wholly from funds contributed by any department, board, agency, public  
11 postsecondary education institution, or branch of state, city, urban-county,  
12 charter county, county, or consolidated local government; or

13 (c) Partly from each, except that any premium due for health care coverage or  
14 dental coverage, if any, in excess of the premium amount contributed by any  
15 department, board, agency, postsecondary education institution, or branch of  
16 state, city, urban-county, charter county, county, or consolidated local  
17 government for any other health care coverage shall be paid by the employee.

18 (4) If an employee moves his place of residence or employment out of the service area  
19 of an insurer offering a managed health care plan, under which he has elected  
20 coverage, into either the service area of another managed health care plan or into an  
21 area of the Commonwealth not within a managed health care plan service area, the  
22 employee shall be given an option, at the time of the move or transfer, to change his  
23 or her coverage to another health benefit plan.

24 (5) No payment of premium by any department, board, agency, public postsecondary  
25 educational institution, or branch of state, city, urban-county, charter county,  
26 county, or consolidated local government shall constitute compensation to an  
27 insured employee for the purposes of any statute fixing or limiting the

1 compensation of such an employee. Any premium or other expense incurred by any  
2 department, board, agency, public postsecondary educational institution, or branch  
3 of state, city, urban-county, charter county, county, or consolidated local  
4 government shall be considered a proper cost of administration.

5 (6) The policy or policies may contain the provisions with respect to the class or classes  
6 of employees covered, amounts of insurance or coverage for designated classes or  
7 groups of employees, policy options, terms of eligibility, and continuation of  
8 insurance or coverage after retirement.

9 (7) Group rates under this section shall be made available to the disabled child of an  
10 employee regardless of the child's age if the entire premium for the disabled child's  
11 coverage is paid by the state employee. A child shall be considered disabled if he  
12 has been determined to be eligible for federal Social Security disability benefits.

13 (8) The health care contract or contracts for employees shall be entered into for a period  
14 of not less than one (1) year.

15 (9) The secretary shall appoint thirty-two (32) persons to an Advisory Committee of  
16 State Health Insurance Subscribers to advise the secretary or his designee regarding  
17 the state-sponsored health insurance program for employees. The secretary shall  
18 appoint, from a list of names submitted by appointing authorities, members  
19 representing school districts from each of the seven (7) Supreme Court districts,  
20 members representing state government from each of the seven (7) Supreme Court  
21 districts, two (2) members representing retirees under age sixty-five (65), one (1)  
22 member representing local health departments, two (2) members representing the  
23 Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System, and three (3) members at large. The  
24 secretary shall also appoint two (2) members from a list of five (5) names submitted  
25 by the Kentucky Education Association, two (2) members from a list of five (5)  
26 names submitted by the largest state employee organization of nonschool state  
27 employees, two (2) members from a list of five (5) names submitted by the

1 Kentucky Association of Counties, two (2) members from a list of five (5) names  
2 submitted by the Kentucky League of Cities, and two (2) members from a list of  
3 names consisting of five (5) names submitted by each state employee organization  
4 that has two thousand (2,000) or more members on state payroll deduction. The  
5 advisory committee shall be appointed in January of each year and shall meet  
6 quarterly.

7 (10) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the policy or policies  
8 provided to employees pursuant to this section shall not provide coverage for  
9 obtaining or performing an abortion, nor shall any state funds be used for the  
10 purpose of obtaining or performing an abortion on behalf of employees or their  
11 dependents.

12 (11) Interruption of an established treatment regime with maintenance drugs shall be  
13 grounds for an insured to appeal a formulary change through the established appeal  
14 procedures approved by the Department of Insurance, if the physician supervising  
15 the treatment certifies that the change is not in the best interests of the patient.

16 (12) Any employee who is eligible for and elects to participate in the state health  
17 insurance program as a retiree, or the spouse or beneficiary of a retiree, under any  
18 one (1) of the state-sponsored retirement systems shall not be eligible to receive the  
19 state health insurance contribution toward health care coverage as a result of any  
20 other employment for which there is a public employer contribution. This does not  
21 preclude a retiree and an active employee spouse from using both contributions to  
22 the extent needed for purchase of one (1) state sponsored health insurance policy for  
23 that plan year.

24 (13) (a) The policies of health insurance coverage procured under subsection (2) of  
25 this section shall include a mail-order drug option for maintenance drugs for  
26 state employees. Maintenance drugs may be dispensed by mail order in  
27 accordance with Kentucky law.

- 1 (b) A health insurer shall not discriminate against any retail pharmacy located  
2 within the geographic coverage area of the health benefit plan and that meets  
3 the terms and conditions for participation established by the insurer, including  
4 price, dispensing fee, and copay requirements of a mail-order option. The  
5 retail pharmacy shall not be required to dispense by mail.
- 6 (c) The mail-order option shall not permit the dispensing of a controlled  
7 substance classified in Schedule II.
- 8 (14) The policy or policies provided to state employees or their dependents pursuant to  
9 this section shall provide coverage for obtaining a hearing aid and acquiring hearing  
10 aid-related services for insured individuals under eighteen (18) years of age, subject  
11 to a cap of one thousand four hundred dollars (\$1,400) every thirty-six (36) months  
12 pursuant to KRS 304.17A-132.
- 13 (15) Any policy provided to state employees or their dependents pursuant to this section  
14 shall provide coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorders  
15 consistent with KRS 304.17A-142.
- 16 (16) Any policy provided to state employees or their dependents pursuant to this section  
17 shall provide coverage for obtaining amino acid-based elemental formula pursuant  
18 to KRS 304.17A-258.
- 19 (17) If a state employee's residence and place of employment are in the same county, and  
20 if the hospital located within that county does not offer surgical services, intensive  
21 care services, obstetrical services, level II neonatal services, diagnostic cardiac  
22 catheterization services, and magnetic resonance imaging services, the employee  
23 may select a plan available in a contiguous county that does provide those services,  
24 and the state contribution for the plan shall be the amount available in the county  
25 where the plan selected is located.
- 26 (18) If a state employee's residence and place of employment are each located in counties  
27 in which the hospitals do not offer surgical services, intensive care services,

1       obstetrical services, level II neonatal services, diagnostic cardiac catheterization  
2       services, and magnetic resonance imaging services, the employee may select a plan  
3       available in a county contiguous to the county of residence that does provide those  
4       services, and the state contribution for the plan shall be the amount available in the  
5       county where the plan selected is located.

6       (19) The Personnel Cabinet is encouraged to study whether it is fair and reasonable and  
7       in the best interests of the state group to allow any carrier bidding to offer health  
8       care coverage under this section to submit bids that may vary county by county or  
9       by larger geographic areas.

10       (20) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the bid for proposals for health  
11       insurance coverage for calendar year 2004 shall include a bid scenario that reflects  
12       the statewide rating structure provided in calendar year 2003 and a bid scenario that  
13       allows for a regional rating structure that allows carriers to submit bids that may  
14       vary by region for a given product offering as described in this subsection:

15       (a) The regional rating bid scenario shall not include a request for bid on a  
16       statewide option;

17       (b) The Personnel Cabinet shall divide the state into geographical regions which  
18       shall be the same as the partnership regions designated by the Department for  
19       Medicaid Services for purposes of the Kentucky Health Care Partnership  
20       Program established pursuant to 907 KAR 1:705;

21       (c) The request for proposal shall require a carrier's bid to include every county  
22       within the region or regions for which the bid is submitted and include but not  
23       be restricted to a preferred provider organization (PPO) option;

24       (d) If the Personnel Cabinet accepts a carrier's bid, the cabinet shall award the  
25       carrier all of the counties included in its bid within the region. If the Personnel  
26       Cabinet deems the bids submitted in accordance with this subsection to be in  
27       the best interests of state employees in a region, the cabinet may award the

1 contract for that region to no more than two (2) carriers; and

2 (e) Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit the Personnel Cabinet from including  
3 other requirements or criteria in the request for proposal.

4 (21) Any fully insured health benefit plan or self-insured plan issued or renewed on or  
5 after July 12, 2006, to public employees pursuant to this section which provides  
6 coverage for services rendered by a physician or osteopath duly licensed under KRS  
7 Chapter 311 that are within the scope of practice of an optometrist duly licensed  
8 under the provisions of KRS Chapter 320 shall provide the same payment of  
9 coverage to optometrists as allowed for those services rendered by physicians or  
10 osteopaths.

11 (22) Any fully insured health benefit plan or self-insured plan issued or renewed on or  
12 after July 12, 2006, to public employees pursuant to this section shall comply with  
13 the provisions of KRS 304.17A-270 and 304.17A-525.

14 (23) Any fully insured health benefit plan or self -insured plan issued or renewed on or  
15 after July 12, 2006, to public employees shall comply with KRS 304.17A-600 to  
16 304.17A-633 pertaining to utilization review, KRS 205.593 and 304.17A-700 to  
17 304.17A-730 pertaining to payment of claims, KRS 304.14-135 pertaining to  
18 uniform health insurance claim forms, KRS 304.17A-580 and 304.17A-641  
19 pertaining to emergency medical care, KRS 304.99-123, and any administrative  
20 regulations promulgated thereunder.

21 (24) Any fully insured health benefit plan or self-insured plan issued or renewed on or  
22 after July 1, 2019, to public employees pursuant to this section shall comply with  
23 KRS 304.17A-138.

24 ➔Section 16. KRS 42.726 is amended to read as follows:

25 (1) The Commonwealth Office of Technology shall be the lead organizational entity  
26 within the executive branch regarding delivery of information technology services,  
27 including application development and delivery, and shall serve as the single

1 information technology authority for the Commonwealth.

2 (2) The roles and duties of the Commonwealth Office of Technology shall include but  
3 not be limited to:

4 (a) Providing technical support and services to all executive agencies of state  
5 government in the application of information technology;

6 (b) Assuring compatibility and connectivity of Kentucky's information systems;

7 (c) Developing strategies and policies to support and promote the effective  
8 applications of information technology within state government as a means of  
9 saving money, increasing employee productivity, and improving state services  
10 to the public, including electronic public access to information of the  
11 Commonwealth;

12 (d) Developing, implementing, and managing strategic information technology  
13 directions, standards, and enterprise architecture, including implementing  
14 necessary management processes to assure full compliance with those  
15 directions, standards, and architecture;

16 (e) Promoting effective and efficient design and operation of all major  
17 information resources management processes for executive branch agencies,  
18 including improvements to work processes;

19 (f) Developing, implementing, and maintaining the technology infrastructure of  
20 the Commonwealth and all related support staff, planning, administration,  
21 asset management, and procurement for all executive branch cabinets and  
22 agencies except:

23 1. Agencies led by a statewide elected official;

24 2. The nine (9) public institutions of postsecondary education;

25 3. The Department of Education's services provided to local school  
26 districts;

27 4. The Kentucky Retirement Systems, *the County Employees Retirement*

- 1                    System, the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority, and the Teachers'  
2                    Retirement System;
- 3                    5. The Kentucky Housing Corporation;
- 4                    6. The Kentucky Lottery Corporation;
- 5                    7. The Kentucky Higher Education Student Loan Corporation; and
- 6                    8. The Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority;
- 7                    (g) Facilitating and fostering applied research in emerging technologies that offer  
8                    the Commonwealth innovative business solutions;
- 9                    (h) Reviewing and overseeing large or complex information technology projects  
10                    and systems for compliance with statewide strategies, policies, and standards,  
11                    including alignment with the Commonwealth's business goals, investment,  
12                    and other risk management policies. The executive director is authorized to  
13                    grant or withhold approval to initiate these projects;
- 14                    (i) Integrating information technology resources to provide effective and  
15                    supportable information technology applications in the Commonwealth;
- 16                    (j) Establishing a central statewide geographic information clearinghouse to  
17                    maintain map inventories, information on current and planned geographic  
18                    information systems applications, information on grants available for the  
19                    acquisition or enhancement of geographic information resources, and a  
20                    directory of geographic information resources available within the state or  
21                    from the federal government;
- 22                    (k) Coordinating multiagency information technology projects, including  
23                    overseeing the development and maintenance of statewide base maps and  
24                    geographic information systems;
- 25                    (l) Providing access to both consulting and technical assistance, and education  
26                    and training, on the application and use of information technologies to state  
27                    and local agencies;



- 1 (m) In cooperation with other agencies, evaluating, participating in pilot studies,  
2 and making recommendations on information technology hardware and  
3 software;
- 4 (n) Providing staff support and technical assistance to the Geographic Information  
5 Advisory Council and the Kentucky Information Technology Advisory  
6 Council;
- 7 (o) Overseeing the development of a statewide geographic information plan with  
8 input from the Geographic Information Advisory Council;
- 9 (p) Developing for state executive branch agencies a coordinated security  
10 framework and model governance structure relating to the privacy and  
11 confidentiality of personal information collected and stored by state executive  
12 branch agencies, including but not limited to:
- 13 1. Identification of key infrastructure components and how to secure them;
  - 14 2. Establishment of a common benchmark that measures the effectiveness  
15 of security, including continuous monitoring and automation of  
16 defenses;
  - 17 3. Implementation of vulnerability scanning and other security  
18 assessments;
  - 19 4. Provision of training, orientation programs, and other communications  
20 that increase awareness of the importance of security among agency  
21 employees responsible for personal information; and
  - 22 5. Development of and making available a cyber security incident response  
23 plan and procedure; and
- 24 (q) Preparing proposed legislation and funding proposals for the General  
25 Assembly that will further solidify coordination and expedite implementation  
26 of information technology systems.
- 27 (3) The Commonwealth Office of Technology may:

- 1 (a) Provide general consulting services, technical training, and support for generic  
2 software applications, upon request from a local government, if the executive  
3 director finds that the requested services can be rendered within the  
4 established terms of the federally approved cost allocation plan;
- 5 (b) Promulgate administrative regulations in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A  
6 necessary for the implementation of KRS 42.720 to 42.742, 45.253, 171.420,  
7 186A.040, 186A.285, and 194A.146;
- 8 (c) Solicit, receive, and consider proposals from any state agency, federal agency,  
9 local government, university, nonprofit organization, private person, or  
10 corporation;
- 11 (d) Solicit and accept money by grant, gift, donation, bequest, legislative  
12 appropriation, or other conveyance to be held, used, and applied in accordance  
13 with KRS 42.720 to 42.742, 45.253, 171.420, 186A.040, 186A.285, and  
14 194A.146;
- 15 (e) Make and enter into memoranda of agreement and contracts necessary or  
16 incidental to the performance of duties and execution of its powers, including,  
17 but not limited to, agreements or contracts with the United States, other state  
18 agencies, and any governmental subdivision of the Commonwealth;
- 19 (f) Accept grants from the United States government and its agencies and  
20 instrumentalities, and from any source, other than any person, firm, or  
21 corporation, or any director, officer, or agent thereof that manufactures or sells  
22 information resources technology equipment, goods, or services. To these  
23 ends, the Commonwealth Office of Technology shall have the power to  
24 comply with those conditions and execute those agreements that are  
25 necessary, convenient, or desirable; and
- 26 (g) Purchase interest in contractual services, rentals of all types, supplies,  
27 materials, equipment, and other services to be used in the research and

1 development of beneficial applications of information resources technologies.

2 Competitive bids may not be required for:

- 3 1. New and emerging technologies as approved by the executive director or
- 4 her or his designee; or
- 5 2. Related professional, technical, or scientific services, but contracts shall
- 6 be submitted in accordance with KRS 45A.690 to 45A.725.

7 (4) Nothing in this section shall be construed to alter or diminish the provisions of KRS  
8 171.410 to 171.740 or the authority conveyed by these statutes to the Archives and  
9 Records Commission and the Department for Libraries and Archives.

10 (5) The Commonwealth Office of Technology shall, on or before October 1 of each  
11 year, submit to the Legislative Research Commission a report in accordance with  
12 KRS 57.390 detailing:

- 13 (a) Any security breaches that occurred within organizational units of the
- 14 executive branch of state government during the prior fiscal year that required
- 15 notification to the Commonwealth Office of Technology under KRS 61.932;
- 16 (b) Actions taken to resolve the security breach, and to prevent additional security
- 17 breaches in the future;
- 18 (c) A general description of what actions are taken as a matter of course to protect
- 19 personal data from security breaches; and
- 20 (d) Any quantifiable financial impact to the agency reporting a security breach.

21 ➔Section 17. KRS 42.728 is amended to read as follows:

22 (1) To accomplish the work of the Commonwealth Office of Technology, all  
23 organizational units and administrative bodies, as defined in KRS 12.010, and all  
24 members of the state postsecondary education system, as defined in KRS 164.001,  
25 shall furnish the Commonwealth Office of Technology necessary assistance,  
26 resources, information, records, and advice as required.

27 (2) The provisions of KRS 42.720 to 42.742, 45.253, 171.420, 186A.040, 186A.285,

1 and 194A.146 shall not be construed to grant any authority over the judicial or  
 2 legislative branches of state government, or agencies thereof, to the Commonwealth  
 3 Office of Technology.

4 (3) The information, technology, personnel, agency resources, and confidential records  
 5 of the Kentucky Retirement Systems, *the County Employees Retirement System,*  
 6 *the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority,* and the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement  
 7 System shall be excluded from the provisions of KRS 42.720 to 42.742, 45.253,  
 8 171.420, 186A.040, 186A.285, and 194A.146 and shall not be under the authority  
 9 of the Commonwealth Office of Technology.

10 ➔Section 18. KRS 66.400 is amended to read as follows:

11 (1) As used in this section:

12 (a) "Bond" has the same meaning as in KRS 66.011 and is issued according to the  
 13 provisions of KRS 66.011 to 66.191;

14 (b) "Lease" has the same meaning as in KRS 65.940 and is entered into under the  
 15 provisions of KRS 65.940 to 65.956; and

16 (c) "Local government" has the same meaning as in KRS 44.001.

17 (2) (a) *Except as otherwise provided by this section,* any *municipality as defined in*  
 18 *the United States Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C., secs. 101 et seq.,*~~taxing~~  
 19 ~~agency or instrumentality as defined in Chapter IX of the Federal Bankruptcy~~  
 20 ~~Act as amended by the Acts of Congress of August 16, 1937, Chapter 657,~~  
 21 ~~June 22, 1938, Chapter 575, March 4, 1940, Chapter 41, June 28, 1940,~~  
 22 ~~Chapter 438]~~ and acts amendatory and supplementary thereto or acts  
 23 extending the date of expiration thereof, as the same may be amended or  
 24 extended from time to time, may file a petition for the composition of its debts  
 25 and to do all things necessary to comply with the provisions of the *United*  
 26 *States Bankruptcy Code*~~[Federal Bankruptcy Act].~~

27 (b) No county shall file a petition as provided in the *United States Bankruptcy*

1            ~~Code~~~~[Federal Bankruptcy Act]~~ unless the proposed plan is first approved by  
 2            the state local debt officer and the state local finance officer, as defined in  
 3            KRS 68.001. No changes or modifications shall be made in the plan of  
 4            composition after the filing of the petition without the approval of the state  
 5            local debt officer and the state local finance officer. The state local debt  
 6            officer and the state local finance officer shall approve or disapprove the  
 7            proposed plan of composition or any changes or modifications thereof under  
 8            the same procedure and for the same reasons as bonds are approved or  
 9            disapproved under KRS 66.280 to 66.390.

10    **(c) No municipality may file for bankruptcy protection under the United States**  
 11    **Bankruptcy Code if it is in default or is delinquent in the payment of**  
 12    **contributions due under KRS 78.510 to 78.852.**

13    (3) (a) The revenues of a tax adopted:

14            1. According to KRS 66.111(1) for the payment of bonds shall be deemed  
 15            pledged for the payment of the principal of and the premium and interest  
 16            on the bonds; and

17            2. According to KRS 65.942(2) for the payment of a lease shall be deemed  
 18            pledged for the payment of the principal and interest portions of a lease  
 19            payment and any prepayment penalties on a lease;

20            whether or not the pledge is stated in the bonds, the lease, or in the  
 21            proceedings authorizing the bonds or the lease.

22            (b) The holders of all bonds issued and leases entered into shall have a first lien  
 23            on those tax revenues.

24            (c) There shall be a statutory lien on the tax revenues pledged in favor of the  
 25            holders of all bonds issued and leases entered into, effective by operation of  
 26            law, that shall apply to all outstanding bonds payable from taxes adopted  
 27            according to KRS 66.111(1) and leases payable from taxes adopted according

1 to KRS 65.942(2), without priority of one (1) bond or lease over another bond  
2 or lease, regardless of when the bonds were issued or the lease was entered  
3 into.

4 (d) No filing need be made under the Uniform Commercial Code or otherwise to  
5 perfect the lien on the tax revenues.

6 (e) The pledge of the tax shall constitute a sufficient appropriation, and the tax  
7 revenues shall be applied as required by the pledge, without the requirement  
8 for further appropriation.

9 (4) Amounts appropriated for the payment of any obligation that is subject to annual  
10 renewal, including but not limited to leases entered into under the provisions of  
11 KRS 58.010 to 58.205 or KRS 65.940 to 65.956, shall be deemed pledged for  
12 payment according to subsection (3)(a) of this section, and the holders of all bonds  
13 issued or leases entered into shall have a first lien on those appropriations  
14 commencing on the date of the appropriation.

15 (5) (a) The public property of any local government, of every character and  
16 description, used for government or public purposes, is exempt from seizure  
17 by attachment, execution, or other legal process, except as provided in  
18 subsections (7) and (8) of this section.

19 (b) A local government's funds in the hands of its treasurer or a depository shall  
20 not be subject to garnishment or other legal process, except as provided in  
21 subsections (6), (7), and (8) of this section.

22 (6) (a) Except for judgments covered under KRS 65.2004, any local government  
23 against which final judgment has been rendered for a claim that is not fully  
24 covered by insurance may make a motion to the Circuit Court to enter an order  
25 for the payment of money damages, in whole or in part, through a periodic  
26 payment schedule for a period of time not to exceed ten (10) years.

27 (b) A court entering an order in response to a motion made by a local government

1 under paragraph (a) of this subsection shall consider the ability of the local  
2 government to pay the judgment without a substantial disruption to the  
3 essential public services provided by the local government. The court shall  
4 consider the following factors in evaluating the motion and in setting a  
5 periodic payment schedule:

- 6 1. The funds available in the local government's current fiscal year and  
7 other funds available to the local government to pay the damages in the  
8 remainder of the local government's fiscal year during which the final  
9 judgment was entered;
- 10 2. The total revenues reasonably expected to be collected by the local  
11 government in subsequent fiscal years based upon the historical  
12 collections in previous fiscal years;
- 13 3. The total expenses of the local government in subsequent years for the  
14 costs associated with the provision of essential public services, the  
15 payment of debt service for the existing obligations of the local  
16 government, and any other expenses reasonably necessary for the  
17 efficient administration of the local government, including personnel,  
18 operation, and maintenance costs associated with existing infrastructure,  
19 and new costs which may be reasonably anticipated for the local  
20 government; and
- 21 4. If the award for damages is an amount that exceeds twenty-five percent  
22 (25%) of the total revenues collected by the local government in the  
23 immediately preceding fiscal year, the court may also consider any  
24 revenue or debt financing options that are reasonably available to the  
25 local government that could be employed to help satisfy the judgment.

- 26 (c) An order entered by the court establishing a periodic payment schedule shall  
27 specify the total amount awarded, the amount of each payment, the interval

- 1 between payments, and the number of payments to be paid under the order.
- 2 (d) Any judgment paid pursuant to the periodic payment schedule established  
3 under this subsection shall bear interest accruing from the date final judgment  
4 is entered at one-half (1/2) the interest rate provided by KRS 360.040.
- 5 (e) Upon petition to the court, the court may modify a periodic payment schedule  
6 established in this subsection for good cause shown by the local government.  
7 The modification may include changes to the amount of payments, the number  
8 of payments, and the period of payments, but in no case shall an adjustment  
9 pursuant to this paragraph alter the total amount of damages to be paid,  
10 exclusive of interest, in the original order.
- 11 (7) Subject to the provisions of subsection (6) of this section, a court may enter an order  
12 providing for the attachment, execution, garnishment, or seizure by other legal  
13 process of public property, including moneys, of a local government only upon a  
14 finding that:
- 15 (a) The local government has failed to comply with an order, modified order, or  
16 judgment entered by the court as provided by subsection (6) of this section or  
17 KRS 65.2004;
- 18 (b) After a period of twenty-four (24) months, the local government did not  
19 petition the court to enter an order for the payment of money damages, in  
20 whole or in part, through a periodic payment schedule as provided by  
21 subsection (6) of this section or KRS 65.2004 and has not paid in full the total  
22 damages awarded under the judgment; or
- 23 (c) The judgment for damages was not of the type that permitted the court to enter  
24 an award of periodic damages, and the local government has failed to pay the  
25 damages due in full after the passage of twenty-four (24) months from the  
26 entry of a final judgment.
- 27 (8) (a) Any order providing for the attachment, execution, garnishment, or seizure by



1 other legal process of public property, including moneys, of a local  
2 government shall not impair the ability of the local government to continue to  
3 provide essential services to the public, including the payment of key  
4 personnel needed for the provision of those services and those employees  
5 necessary for the collection of revenues on behalf of the local government.

6 (b) In making a determination as to the appropriate extent of an order under this  
7 subsection, a court shall consider but shall not be limited to the factors  
8 provided in subsection (6)(b) of this section.

9 (9) Nothing in this section shall:

10 (a) Bar the pursuit of any other remedies that exist to enforce a judgment under  
11 state law; or

12 (b) Prohibit a local government and a judgment creditor from entering into an  
13 agreement for the payment of damages under terms and conditions that differ  
14 from the remedies and process established under this section.

15 ➔Section 19. KRS 61.510 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as follows:

16 As used in KRS 61.510 to 61.705, unless the context otherwise requires:

17 (1) "System" means the Kentucky Employees Retirement System created by KRS  
18 61.510 to 61.705;

19 (2) "Board" means the board of trustees of the system as provided in KRS 61.645;

20 (3) "Department" means any state department or board or agency participating in the  
21 system in accordance with appropriate executive order, as provided in KRS 61.520.

22 For purposes of KRS 61.510 to 61.705, the members, officers, and employees of the  
23 General Assembly and any other body, entity, or instrumentality designated by  
24 executive order by the Governor, shall be deemed to be a department,  
25 notwithstanding whether said body, entity, or instrumentality is an integral part of  
26 state government;

27 (4) "Examiner" means the medical examiners as provided in KRS 61.665;

- 1 (5) "Employee" means the members, officers, and employees of the General Assembly  
2 and every regular full-time, appointed or elective officer or employee of a  
3 participating department, including the Department of Military Affairs. The term  
4 does not include persons engaged as independent contractors, seasonal, emergency,  
5 temporary, interim, and part-time workers. In case of any doubt, the board shall  
6 determine if a person is an employee within the meaning of KRS 61.510 to 61.705;
- 7 (6) "Employer" means a department or any authority of a department having the power  
8 to appoint or select an employee in the department, including the Senate and the  
9 House of Representatives, or any other entity, the employees of which are eligible  
10 for membership in the system pursuant to KRS 61.525;
- 11 (7) "State" means the Commonwealth of Kentucky;
- 12 (8) "Member" means any employee who is included in the membership of the system or  
13 any former employee whose membership has not been terminated under KRS  
14 61.535;
- 15 (9) "Service" means the total of current service and prior service as defined in this  
16 section;
- 17 (10) "Current service" means the number of years and months of employment as an  
18 employee, on and after July 1, 1956, except that for members, officers, and  
19 employees of the General Assembly this date shall be January 1, 1960, for which  
20 creditable compensation is paid and employee contributions deducted, except as  
21 otherwise provided, and each member, officer, and employee of the General  
22 Assembly shall be credited with a month of current service for each month he  
23 serves in the position;
- 24 (11) "Prior service" means the number of years and completed months, expressed as a  
25 fraction of a year, of employment as an employee, prior to July 1, 1956, for which  
26 creditable compensation was paid; except that for members, officers, and employees  
27 of the General Assembly, this date shall be January 1, 1960. An employee shall be

1 credited with one (1) month of prior service only in those months he received  
2 compensation for at least one hundred (100) hours of work; provided, however, that  
3 each member, officer, and employee of the General Assembly shall be credited with  
4 a month of prior service for each month he served in the position prior to January 1,  
5 1960. Twelve (12) months of current service in the system are required to validate  
6 prior service;

7 (12) "Accumulated contributions" at any time means the sum of all amounts deducted  
8 from the compensation of a member and credited to his individual account in the  
9 members' account, including employee contributions picked up after August 1,  
10 1982, pursuant to KRS 61.560(4), together with interest credited~~[, or investment~~  
11 ~~returns earned as provided by KRS 61.5956]~~, on such amounts and any other  
12 amounts the member shall have contributed thereto, including interest credited  
13 thereon~~[ or investment returns earned as provided by KRS 61.5956]~~. **For members**  
14 **who begin participating on or after September 1, 2008,** "accumulated  
15 contributions" shall not include employee contributions that are deposited into  
16 accounts established pursuant to 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(h) within the funds established  
17 in KRS 16.510~~[, 61.515,]~~ and 78.520, as prescribed by KRS 61.702(2)(b);

18 (13) "Creditable compensation":

19 (a) ~~[Except as provided by paragraph (b) or (c) of this subsection,]~~ Means all  
20 salary, wages, tips to the extent the tips are reported for income tax purposes,  
21 and fees, including payments for compensatory time, paid to the employee as  
22 a result of services performed for the employer or for time during which the  
23 member is on paid leave, which are includable on the member's federal form  
24 W-2 wage and tax statement under the heading "wages, tips, other  
25 compensation," including employee contributions picked up after August 1,  
26 1982, pursuant to KRS 61.560(4). For members of the General Assembly, it  
27 shall mean all amounts which are includable on the member's federal form W-

1           2 wage and tax statement under the heading "wages, tips, other  
2           compensation," including employee contributions picked up after August 1,  
3           1982, pursuant to KRS 6.505(4) or 61.560(4);

4           (b) Includes:

- 5           1. Lump-sum bonuses, severance pay, or employer-provided payments for  
6           purchase of service credit, which shall be averaged over the employee's  
7           total service with the system in which it is recorded if it is equal to or  
8           greater than one thousand dollars (\$1,000);
- 9           2. Cases where compensation includes maintenance and other perquisites,  
10          but the board shall fix the value of that part of the compensation not paid  
11          in money;
- 12          3. Lump-sum payments for creditable compensation paid as a result of an  
13          order of a court of competent jurisdiction, the Personnel Board, or the  
14          Commission on Human Rights, or for any creditable compensation paid  
15          in anticipation of settlement of an action before a court of competent  
16          jurisdiction, the Personnel Board, or the Commission on Human Rights,  
17          including notices of violations of state or federal wage and hour statutes  
18          or violations of state or federal discrimination statutes, which shall be  
19          credited to the fiscal year during which the wages were earned or should  
20          have been paid by the employer. This subparagraph shall also include  
21          lump-sum payments for reinstated wages pursuant to KRS 61.569,  
22          which shall be credited to the period during which the wages were  
23          earned or should have been paid by the employer;
- 24          4. Amounts which are not includable in the member's gross income by  
25          virtue of the member having taken a voluntary salary reduction provided  
26          for under applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code; and
- 27          5. Elective amounts for qualified transportation fringes paid or made

1 available on or after January 1, 2001, for calendar years on or after  
2 January 1, 2001, that are not includable in the gross income of the  
3 employee by reason of 26 U.S.C. sec. 132(f)(4); and

4 (c) Excludes:

- 5 1. ~~{Uniform, equipment, or any other expense allowances paid on or after~~  
6 ~~January 1, 2019, }~~Living allowances, expense reimbursements, lump-  
7 sum payments for accrued vacation leave, and other items determined by  
8 the board;
- 9 2. For employees who begin participating on or after September 1, 2008,  
10 lump-sum payments for compensatory time;
- 11 3. ~~{For employees participating in a nonhazardous position who began~~  
12 ~~participating prior to September 1, 2008, and who retire after July 1,~~  
13 ~~2023, lump sum payments for compensatory time upon termination of~~  
14 ~~employment;~~
- 15 4. ~~—~~{For employees who begin participating on or after August 1, 2016,  
16 nominal fees paid for services as a volunteer; and  
17 ~~4.15.}~~Any salary or wages paid to an employee for services as a Kentucky  
18 State Police school resource officer as defined by KRS 158.441;

19 (14) "Final compensation" of a member means:

- 20 (a) For a member who begins participating before September 1, 2008, who is  
21 employed in a nonhazardous position, the creditable compensation of the  
22 member during the five (5) fiscal years he was paid at the highest average  
23 monthly rate divided by the number of months of service credit during that  
24 five (5) year period multiplied by twelve (12). The five (5) years may be  
25 fractional and need not be consecutive~~[-, except that for members retiring on or~~  
26 ~~after January 1, 2019, the five (5) fiscal years shall be complete fiscal years].~~  
27 If the number of months of service credit during the five (5) year period is less

1 than forty-eight (48)~~[ for members retiring prior to January 1, 2019]~~, one (1)  
2 or more additional fiscal years shall be used~~[- If a member retiring on or after~~  
3 ~~January 1, 2019, does not have five (5) complete fiscal years that each contain~~  
4 ~~twelve (12) months of service credit, then one (1) or more additional fiscal~~  
5 ~~years, which may contain less than twelve (12) months of service credit, shall~~  
6 ~~be added until the number of months in the final compensation calculation is~~  
7 ~~at least sixty (60) months]~~;

8 (b) For a member who is employed in a nonhazardous position, whose effective  
9 retirement date is between August 1, 2001, and January 1, 2009, and whose  
10 total service credit is at least twenty-seven (27) years and whose age and years  
11 of service total at least seventy-five (75), final compensation means the  
12 creditable compensation of the member during the three (3) fiscal years the  
13 member was paid at the highest average monthly rate divided by the number  
14 of months of service credit during that three (3) years period multiplied by  
15 twelve (12). The three (3) years may be fractional and need not be  
16 consecutive. If the number of months of service credit during the three (3)  
17 year period is less than twenty-four (24), one (1) or more additional fiscal  
18 years shall be used. Notwithstanding the provision of KRS 61.565, the  
19 funding for this paragraph shall be provided from existing funds of the  
20 retirement allowance;

21 (c) For a member who begins participating before September 1, 2008, who is  
22 employed in a hazardous position, as provided in KRS 61.592, ~~[and who~~  
23 ~~retired prior to January 1, 2019, ]~~the creditable compensation of the member  
24 during the three (3) fiscal years he was paid at the highest average monthly  
25 rate divided by the number of months of service credit during that three (3)  
26 year period multiplied by twelve (12). The three (3) years may be fractional  
27 and need not be consecutive. If the number of months of service credit during

1 the three (3) year period is less than twenty-four (24), one (1) or more  
2 additional fiscal years shall be used;

3 (d) For a member who begins participating on or after September 1, 2008, but  
4 prior to January 1, 2014, who is employed in a nonhazardous position, the  
5 creditable compensation of the member during the five (5) complete fiscal  
6 years immediately preceding retirement divided by five (5). Each fiscal year  
7 used to determine final compensation must contain twelve (12) months of  
8 service credit. If the member does not have five (5) complete fiscal years that  
9 each contain twelve (12) months of service credit, then one (1) or more  
10 additional fiscal years, which may contain less than twelve (12) months of  
11 service credit, shall be added until the number of months in the final  
12 compensation calculation is at least sixty (60) months; or

13 (e) For a member who begins participating on or after September 1, 2008, but  
14 prior to January 1, 2014, who is employed in a hazardous position as provided  
15 in KRS 61.592~~], or for a member who begins participating prior to September~~  
16 ~~1, 2008, who is employed in a hazardous position as provided in KRS 61.592,~~  
17 ~~who retires on or after January 1, 2019]~~, the creditable compensation of the  
18 member during the three (3) complete fiscal years he was paid at the highest  
19 average monthly rate divided by three (3). Each fiscal year used to determine  
20 final compensation must contain twelve (12) months of service credit. If the  
21 member does not have three (3) complete fiscal years that each contain twelve  
22 (12) months of service credit, then one (1) or more additional fiscal years,  
23 which may contain less than twelve (12) months of service credit, shall be  
24 added until the number of months in the final compensation calculation is at  
25 least thirty-six (36) months;

26 (15) "Final rate of pay" means the actual rate upon which earnings of an employee were  
27 calculated during the twelve (12) month period immediately preceding the

1 member's effective retirement date, including employee contributions picked up  
2 after August 1, 1982, pursuant to KRS 61.560(4). The rate shall be certified to the  
3 system by the employer and the following equivalents shall be used to convert the  
4 rate to an annual rate: two thousand eighty (2,080) hours for eight (8) hour  
5 workdays, nineteen hundred fifty (1,950) hours for seven and one-half (7-1/2) hour  
6 workdays, two hundred sixty (260) days, fifty-two (52) weeks, twelve (12) months,  
7 one (1) year;

8 (16) "Retirement allowance" means the retirement payments to which a member is  
9 entitled;

10 (17) "Actuarial equivalent" means a benefit of equal value when computed upon the  
11 basis of the actuarial tables that are adopted by the board. In cases of disability  
12 retirement, the options authorized by KRS 61.635 shall be computed by adding ten  
13 (10) years to the age of the member, unless the member has chosen the Social  
14 Security adjustment option as provided for in KRS 61.635(8), in which case the  
15 member's actual age shall be used. For members who began participating in the  
16 system prior to January 1, 2014, no disability retirement option shall be less than the  
17 same option computed under early retirement;

18 (18) "Normal retirement date" means the sixty-fifth birthday of a member, unless  
19 otherwise provided in KRS 61.510 to 61.705;

20 (19) "Fiscal year" of the system means the twelve (12) months from July 1 through the  
21 following June 30, which shall also be the plan year. The "fiscal year" shall be the  
22 limitation year used to determine contribution and benefit limits as established by  
23 26 U.S.C. sec. 415;

24 (20) "Officers and employees of the General Assembly" means the occupants of those  
25 positions enumerated in KRS 6.150. The term shall also apply to assistants who  
26 were employed by the General Assembly for at least one (1) regular legislative  
27 session prior to July 13, 2004, who elect to participate in the retirement system, and



1 who serve for at least six (6) regular legislative sessions. Assistants hired after July  
2 13, 2004, shall be designated as interim employees;

3 (21) "Regular full-time positions," as used in subsection (5) of this section, shall mean  
4 all positions that average one hundred (100) or more hours per month determined by  
5 using the number of months actually worked within a calendar or fiscal year,  
6 including all positions except:

7 (a) Seasonal positions, which although temporary in duration, are positions which  
8 coincide in duration with a particular season or seasons of the year and which  
9 may recur regularly from year to year, the period of time shall not exceed nine  
10 (9) months;

11 (b) Emergency positions which are positions which do not exceed thirty (30)  
12 working days and are nonrenewable;

13 (c) Temporary positions which are positions of employment with a participating  
14 department for a period of time not to exceed nine (9) months and are  
15 nonrenewable;

16 (d) Part-time positions which are positions which may be permanent in duration,  
17 but which require less than a calendar or fiscal year average of one hundred  
18 (100) hours of work per month, determined by using the number of months  
19 actually worked within a calendar or fiscal year, in the performance of duty;  
20 and

21 (e) Interim positions which are positions established for a one-time or recurring  
22 need not to exceed nine (9) months;

23 (22) "Delayed contribution payment" means an amount paid by an employee for  
24 purchase of current service. The amount shall be determined using the same formula  
25 in KRS 61.5525, and the payment shall not be picked up by the employer. A  
26 delayed contribution payment shall be deposited to the member's account and  
27 considered as accumulated contributions of the individual member. In determining

1 payments under this subsection, the formula found in this subsection shall prevail  
2 over the one found in KRS 212.434;

3 (23) "Parted employer" means a department, portion of a department, board, or agency,  
4 such as Outwood Hospital and School, which previously participated in the system,  
5 but due to lease or other contractual arrangement is now operated by a publicly held  
6 corporation or other similar organization, and therefore is no longer participating in  
7 the system. The term "parted employer" shall not include a department, board, or  
8 agency that ceased participation in the system pursuant to KRS 61.522;

9 (24) "Retired member" means any former member receiving a retirement allowance or  
10 any former member who has filed the necessary documents for retirement benefits  
11 and is no longer contributing to the retirement system;

12 (25) "Current rate of pay" means the member's actual hourly, daily, weekly, biweekly,  
13 monthly, or yearly rate of pay converted to an annual rate as defined in final rate of  
14 pay. The rate shall be certified by the employer;

15 (26) "Beneficiary" means the person or persons or estate or trust or trustee designated by  
16 the member in accordance with KRS 61.542 or 61.705 to receive any available  
17 benefits in the event of the member's death. As used in KRS 61.702, "beneficiary"  
18 does not mean an estate, trust, or trustee;

19 (27) "Recipient" means the retired member or the person or persons designated as  
20 beneficiary by the member and drawing a retirement allowance as a result of the  
21 member's death or a dependent child drawing a retirement allowance. An alternate  
22 payee of a qualified domestic relations order shall not be considered a recipient,  
23 except for purposes of KRS 61.623;

24 (28) "Level percentage of payroll amortization method" ~~["Level dollar amortization~~  
25 ~~method"]~~ means a method of determining the annual amortization payment on the  
26 unfunded actuarial accrued liability ~~[that is set]~~ as expressed as a percentage of  
27 payroll ~~[an equal dollar amount]~~ over a set period of years ~~[the remaining~~

- 1 ~~amortization period as of the actuarial valuation date~~. Under this method, the  
2 unfunded actuarially accrued liability shall be projected to be fully amortized at the  
3 conclusion of the set period of years~~[amortization period]~~;
- 4 (29) "Increment" means twelve (12) months of service credit which are purchased. The  
5 twelve (12) months need not be consecutive. The final increment may be less than  
6 twelve (12) months;
- 7 (30) "Person" means a natural person;
- 8 (31) "Retirement office" means the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority's~~[Retirement~~  
9 ~~Systems]~~ office building in Frankfort;
- 10 (32) "Last day of paid employment" means the last date employer and employee  
11 contributions are required to be reported in accordance with KRS 16.543, 61.543, or  
12 78.615 to the retirement office in order for the employee to receive current service  
13 credit for the month. Last day of paid employment does not mean a date the  
14 employee receives payment for accrued leave, whether by lump sum or otherwise, if  
15 that date occurs twenty-four (24) or more months after previous contributions;
- 16 (33) "Objective medical evidence" means reports of examinations or treatments; medical  
17 signs which are anatomical, physiological, or psychological abnormalities that can  
18 be observed; psychiatric signs which are medically demonstrable phenomena  
19 indicating specific abnormalities of behavior, affect, thought, memory, orientation,  
20 or contact with reality; or laboratory findings which are anatomical, physiological,  
21 or psychological phenomena that can be shown by medically acceptable laboratory  
22 diagnostic techniques, including but not limited to chemical tests,  
23 electrocardiograms, electroencephalograms, X-rays, and psychological tests;
- 24 (34) "Participating" means an employee is currently earning service credit in the system  
25 as provided in KRS 61.543;
- 26 (35) "Month" means a calendar month;
- 27 (36) "Membership date" means:

- 1 (a) The date upon which the member began participating in the system as  
2 provided in KRS 61.543; or
- 3 (b) For a member electing to participate in the system pursuant to KRS  
4 196.167(4) who has not previously participated in the system or the Kentucky  
5 Teachers' Retirement System, the date the member began participating in a  
6 defined contribution plan that meets the requirements of 26 U.S.C. sec.  
7 403(b);
- 8 (37) "Participant" means a member, as defined by subsection (8) of this section, or a  
9 retired member, as defined by subsection (24) of this section;
- 10 (38) "Qualified domestic relations order" means any judgment, decree, or order,  
11 including approval of a property settlement agreement, that:
- 12 (a) Is issued by a court or administrative agency; and
- 13 (b) Relates to the provision of child support, alimony payments, or marital  
14 property rights to an alternate payee;
- 15 (39) "Alternate payee" means a spouse, former spouse, child, or other dependent of a  
16 participant, who is designated to be paid retirement benefits in a qualified domestic  
17 relations order;
- 18 (40) "Accumulated employer credit" mean the employer pay credit deposited to the  
19 member's account and interest credited on such amounts as provided by KRS  
20 16.583 and 61.597;
- 21 (41) "Accumulated account balance" means:
- 22 (a) For members who began participating in the system prior to January 1, 2014,  
23 the member's accumulated contributions; **or**
- 24 (b) For members who began participating in the system on or after January 1,  
25 2014, in the hybrid cash balance plan as provided by KRS 16.583 and 61.597,  
26 the combined sum of the member's accumulated contributions and the  
27 member's accumulated employer credit~~;~~ ~~or~~

1       ~~(c) For nonhazardous members who are participating in the 401(a) money~~  
2           ~~purchase plan as provided by KRS 61.5956, the combined sum of the~~  
3           ~~member's accumulated contribution and the member's accumulated employer~~  
4           ~~contribution in the 401(a) money purchase plan];~~

5       (42) "Volunteer" means an individual who:

6           (a) Freely and without pressure or coercion performs hours of service for an  
7           employer participating in one (1) of the systems administered by Kentucky  
8           Retirement Systems without receipt of compensation for services rendered,  
9           except for reimbursement of actual expenses, payment of a nominal fee to  
10          offset the costs of performing the voluntary services, or both; and

11          (b) If a retired member, does not become an employee, leased employee, or  
12          independent contractor of the employer for which he or she is performing  
13          volunteer services for a period of at least twelve (12)~~twenty-four (24)~~ months  
14          following the retired member's most recent retirement date;

15       (43) "Nominal fee" means compensation earned for services as a volunteer that does not  
16       exceed five hundred dollars (\$500) per month. Compensation earned for services as  
17       a volunteer from more than one (1) participating employer during a month shall be  
18       aggregated to determine whether the compensation exceeds the five hundred dollars  
19       (\$500) per month maximum provided by this subsection;

20       (44) "Nonhazardous position" means a position that does not meet the requirements of  
21       KRS 61.592 or has not been approved by the board as a hazardous position;

22       ~~(45) ["Accumulated employer contribution" means the employer contribution deposited~~  
23       ~~to the member's account and any investment returns on such amounts as provided~~  
24       ~~by KRS 61.5956; and~~

25       ~~(46) ]~~"Monthly average pay" means the higher of the member's monthly final rate of pay  
26       or the average monthly creditable compensation earned by the deceased member  
27       during his or her last twelve (12) months of employment;

1 (46) "Authority" means the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority as provided by  
 2 Section 2 of this Act; and

3 (47) "Executive director" means the executive director of the Kentucky Public  
 4 Pensions Authority.

5 ➔Section 20. KRS 61.522 is amended to read as follows:

6 Notwithstanding any other provision of KRS 61.510 to 61.705 or 78.510 to 78.852 to the  
 7 contrary:

8 (1) For purposes of this section:

9 (a) "Active member" means a member who is participating in the system;

10 (b) "Employer" means the governing body of a department, as defined by KRS  
 11 61.510~~, or a county as defined by KRS 78.510~~;

12 (c) "Employer's effective cessation date" means:

13 1. The last day of the system's plan year in the year in which the employer  
 14 has elected to cease participation in the system, provided the employer  
 15 has met the requirements of this section and has given the Kentucky  
 16 Retirement Systems sufficient notice as provided by administrative  
 17 regulations promulgated by the systems; or

18 2. For Kentucky Employees Retirement System employers making an  
 19 election to cease participating under the provisions of subsection (8) of  
 20 this section, it shall be June 30, 2020; and

21 (d) "Inactive member" means a member who is not participating with the system;

22 (2) Any employer participating in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System ~~or the~~  
 23 ~~County Employees Retirement System~~ on July 1, 2015, except as limited by  
 24 subsection (6) of this section, may:

25 (a) Voluntarily cease participation in its respective retirement system subject to  
 26 the requirements and restrictions of this section;

27 (b) Be required to involuntarily cease participation in the system under the

1 provisions of this section if the board has determined the employer is no  
2 longer qualified to participate in a governmental plan or has failed to comply  
3 with the provisions of KRS 61.510 to 61.705~~[or 78.510 to 78.852]~~; or

4 (c) If the employer is participating in the Kentucky Employees Retirement  
5 System, request an estimate of the cost of voluntarily ceasing participation in  
6 the system prior to officially making a request to cease participation. For those  
7 Kentucky Employees Retirement System nonhazardous employers who are  
8 considering ceasing participating in the system under the provisions of  
9 subsection (8) of this section on June 30, 2020, the request for an estimate to  
10 voluntarily cease participating must be made prior to December 31, 2019, and  
11 the estimate shall be provided to that employer within sixty (60) days of the  
12 request, except that no estimate shall be required to be provided prior to  
13 January 31, 2020;

14 (3) (a) If an employer desires to voluntarily cease participation in the Kentucky  
15 Employees Retirement System~~[or the County Employees Retirement System]~~  
16 as provided by subsection (2)(a) of this section:

17 1. The employer shall adopt a resolution requesting to cease participation  
18 in the system and shall submit the resolution to the board for its  
19 approval. The board shall not be able to deny a resolution to cease  
20 participation in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System for any  
21 employer who seeks to voluntarily cease participation in the system as  
22 provided by subsection (8) of this section;

23 2. Except as provided by subsection (8)(d) of this section, the cessation of  
24 participation in the system shall apply to all employees of the employer;

25 3. The employer shall pay for all administrative costs of an actuarial study  
26 to be completed by the Kentucky Retirement Systems' consulting actuary  
27 and for any other administrative costs for discontinuing participation in

- 1 the system as determined by the board and as provided by this section;
- 2 4. The employer shall provide an alternative retirement program for  
3 employees who will no longer be covered by the system, which may  
4 include a voluntary defined contribution plan but, for Kentucky  
5 Employees Retirement System employers with effective cessation dates  
6 occurring on or after June 30, 2020, the alternative retirement program  
7 shall not include a defined benefit plan which by its nature can have an  
8 unfunded liability;
- 9 5. If the alternative retirement program established by the employer meets  
10 the qualification requirements under 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(a) or 26 U.S.C.  
11 sec. 403(b) and is capable of accepting trustee-to-trustee transfers of  
12 both pre-tax and post-tax contributions, employees of the employer  
13 ceasing participation may, except for those employees continuing to  
14 participate in the system as provided by subsection (8)(d)2. of this  
15 section, seek to transfer his or her account balance to the employer's  
16 qualified alternate retirement program within sixty (60) days of the  
17 employer's effective cessation date. An employee's election to transfer  
18 his or her account balance within sixty (60) days of the employer's  
19 effective cessation date is an irrevocable waiver of the right to obtain  
20 service credits in the system for the time worked for the employer  
21 ceasing participation;
- 22 6. The employer shall pay to the system by lump sum or in installments as  
23 provided by subsection (8) of this section, if eligible, the full actuarial  
24 cost, except as provided by subsection (8)(g)4. of this section, of the  
25 benefits accrued by its current and former employees in the system as  
26 determined separately for the pension fund and the insurance fund by the  
27 actuarial study required by subparagraph 3. of this paragraph. If the



1 employer makes an election for employees to continue to participate in  
2 the system as provided by subsection (8)(d)2. of this section, the cost  
3 shall also include the present value of future normal costs of those  
4 employees who will continue to participate in the system after the  
5 employer's effective cessation date. The full actuarial cost shall not  
6 include any employee who seeks a transfer of his or her account balance  
7 within sixty (60) days of the employer's effective cessation date as  
8 provided by subparagraph 5. of this paragraph. The actuarial cost shall  
9 be fixed, and the employer shall not be subject to any increases or  
10 subsequent adjustments, once the lump sum is paid or the installment  
11 payments have commenced; and

12 7. Kentucky Employees Retirement System employers ceasing  
13 participating under the provisions of subsection (8) of this section who  
14 elect to pay their actuarial costs by a lump sum shall make the full lump-  
15 sum payment by June 30, 2021, and shall pay interest on the principal  
16 amount beginning on July 1, 2020, equal to a rate of five and one-quarter  
17 percent (5.25%) per annum for pension costs and at a rate of six and  
18 one-quarter percent (6.25%) per annum for retiree health costs until the  
19 lump-sum payment is made. If the ceasing employer fails to make the  
20 full lump-sum payment by June 30, 2021, the ceasing employer shall  
21 make installments as provided by subsection (8)(g) of this section, and  
22 the ceasing employer shall have the costs recalculated based upon  
23 making installment payments as provided by this section and shall be  
24 required to make up any missed installment payments as determined by  
25 the system.

26 (b) If the board determines an employer must involuntarily cease participation in  
27 the system as provided by subsection (2)(b) of this section:

- 1           1.    The cessation of participation in the system shall apply to all employees  
2                   of the employer;
- 3           2.    The employer shall pay for all administrative costs of an actuarial study  
4                   to be completed by the Kentucky Retirement Systems' consulting actuary  
5                   and for any other administrative costs for discontinuing participation in  
6                   the system as determined by the board and as provided by this section;  
7                   and
- 8           3.    The employer shall pay by lump sum to the system the full actuarial cost  
9                   of the benefits accrued by its current and former employees in the  
10                  system as determined separately for the pension fund and the insurance  
11                  fund by the actuarial study required by subparagraph 2. of this  
12                  paragraph. The actuarial cost shall be fixed, and the employer shall not  
13                  be subject to any increases or subsequent adjustments, once the lump  
14                  sum is paid.

15           A Kentucky Employees Retirement System employer who ceases participation  
16           in the systems under this paragraph shall not establish or contribute to on  
17           behalf of its employees a defined benefit plan which by its nature can have an  
18           unfunded liability;

19 (4) Any employee hired on or after the employer's effective cessation date by an  
20 employer who has ceased participation in the system as provided by this section  
21 shall not, regardless of his or her membership date in the systems administered by  
22 Kentucky Retirement Systems, be eligible to participate in the Kentucky Employees  
23 Retirement System~~[ or the County Employees Retirement System ]~~ through the  
24 employer that ceased participation for the duration of his or her employment with  
25 that employer;

26 (5) If an employer has ceased participation in the system as provided by this section:

27           (a) The rights of recipients and the vested rights of inactive members accrued as

- 1 of the employer's effective cessation date shall not be impaired or reduced in  
2 any manner as a result of the employer ceasing participation in the system; and
- 3 (b) Except as provided by subsection (8)(d)2. of this section, employees of the  
4 employer ceasing participation shall accrue benefits through the employer's  
5 effective cessation date but shall not accrue any additional benefits in the  
6 Kentucky Employees Retirement System~~[or the County Employees~~  
7 ~~Retirement System]~~, including earning years of service credit through the  
8 ceased employer, after the employer's effective cessation date for as long as  
9 they remain employed by the employer. The day after the employer's effective  
10 cessation date, each employee described by this paragraph, except as provided  
11 by subsection (8)(d)2. of this section, shall be considered an inactive member  
12 with respect to his or her employment with the employer that ceased  
13 participation and, subject to the provisions and limitations of KRS 61.510 to  
14 61.705~~[and 78.510 to 78.852]~~, shall:
- 15 1. Retain his or her accounts with the Kentucky Employees Retirement  
16 System~~[or the County Employees Retirement System]~~ and have those  
17 accounts credited with interest in accordance with KRS 61.510 to  
18 61.705~~[and 78.510 to 78.852]~~;
  - 19 2. Retain his or her vested rights in accordance with paragraph (a) of this  
20 subsection; and
  - 21 3. Be eligible to take a refund of his or her accumulated account balance in  
22 accordance with KRS 61.625 or any other available distribution if  
23 eligible;
- 24 (6) ~~[(a)]~~ Kentucky Employees Retirement System employers who are county attorney  
25 offices, Commonwealth's attorney offices, local and district health departments  
26 governed by KRS Chapter 212, master commissioners, executive branch agencies  
27 whose employees are subject to KRS 18A.005 to 18A.200, state-administered

1 retirement systems, state-supported universities and community colleges, property  
2 valuation administration offices, or employers in the legislative or judicial branch of  
3 Kentucky state government, shall not be eligible to voluntarily discontinue  
4 participation in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System, except that:

5 1. Any employer who is a nonstock nonprofit corporation organized under  
6 KRS Chapter 273 may voluntarily cease participation; and

7 2. Local and district health departments governed by KRS Chapter 212,  
8 state-supported universities and community colleges, and the Kentucky  
9 Higher Education Student Loan Corporation may voluntarily cease  
10 participation in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System solely  
11 under the provisions and requirements of subsection (8) of this section[-

12 ~~(b) Only the employers in the County Employees Retirement System who are a~~  
13 ~~nonstock nonprofit corporation organized under KRS Chapter 273 may~~  
14 ~~voluntarily cease participation in the County Employees Retirement System];~~

15 (7) For purposes of this section, the full actuarial cost shall be determined by the  
16 Kentucky Retirement Systems' consulting actuary separately for the pension fund  
17 and the insurance fund using the assumptions and methodology established by the  
18 system specifically for determining the full actuarial cost of ceasing participation as  
19 of the employer's effective cessation date. For purposes of determining the full  
20 actuarial cost, the assumed rate of return used to calculate the cost shall be the lesser  
21 of the assumed rate of return utilized in the system's most recent actuarial valuation  
22 or the yield on a thirty (30) year United States treasury bond as of the employer's  
23 effective cessation date, but shall in no case be lower than:

24 (a) Except as provided by paragraphs (b) to (e) of this subsection, the assumed  
25 rate of return utilized in the system's most recent actuarial valuation minus  
26 three and one-half percent (3.5%);

27 (b) Four and one-half percent (4.5%) for those Kentucky Employees Retirement

1 System employers who voluntarily cease participation under the provisions of  
2 subsection (8) of this section who pay the costs of ceasing participation by  
3 lump-sum payment by June 30, 2021, and who do not make an election for  
4 their employees to continue to participate in the system after the employer's  
5 effective cessation date as provided by subsection (8)(d)3. of this section;

6 (c) Three and one-half percent (3.5%) for those Kentucky Employees Retirement  
7 System employers who voluntarily cease participation under the provisions of  
8 subsection (8) of this section who pay the costs of ceasing participation by  
9 lump-sum payment by June 30, 2021, and who do make an election for  
10 employees to continue to participate in the system after the employer's  
11 effective cessation date as provided by subsection (8)(d)2. of this section;

12 (d) Three and one-half percent (3.5%) for those Kentucky Employees Retirement  
13 System employers who voluntarily cease participation under the provisions of  
14 subsection (8) of this section who pay the costs of ceasing participation by  
15 installment payments and who do not make an election for employees to  
16 continue to participate in the system after the employer's effective cessation  
17 date as provided by subsection (8)(d)3. of this section; or

18 (e) Three percent (3%) for those Kentucky Employees Retirement System  
19 employers who voluntarily cease participation under the provisions of  
20 subsection (8) of this section who pay the costs of ceasing participation by  
21 installment payments and who do make an election for employees to continue  
22 to participate in the system after the employer's effective cessation date as  
23 provided by subsection (8)(d)2. of this section;

24 (8) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, any Kentucky Employees  
25 Retirement System employer who is eligible to voluntarily cease participating as  
26 provided by subsection (6) of this section may, on or after April 1, 2020, but prior to  
27 May 1, 2020, elect to voluntarily cease participating in the systems for its

1 nonhazardous employees by submitting a resolution in accordance with subsection  
2 (3)(a)1. of this section. If an employer makes an election to voluntarily cease  
3 participation by submitting a resolution as provided by this subsection:

4 (a) The board shall accept any election to cease participation on or before June  
5 30, 2020, and the employer's effective cessation date shall be June 30, 2020.  
6 Prior to May 1, 2020, an employer may rescind a previously submitted  
7 election to cease participation;

8 (b) Nonhazardous employees hired on or after the employer's effective cessation  
9 date by an employer who has ceased participation in the system as provided by  
10 this section shall not, regardless of his or her membership date in the systems  
11 administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems, be eligible to participate in the  
12 Kentucky Employees Retirement System through the employer that ceased  
13 participation for the duration of his or her employment with that ceasing  
14 employer;

15 (c) Nonhazardous employees hired prior to the employer's effective cessation  
16 date, who began participating in the systems administered by Kentucky  
17 Retirement Systems on or after January 1, 2014, and who are participating in  
18 the hybrid cash balance plan as provided by KRS 61.597, shall continue to  
19 contribute and earn service credit in the systems through the employer's  
20 effective cessation date. After the employer's effective cessation date, the  
21 employee shall participate in the alternative retirement plan established by the  
22 employer as provided by subsection (3)(a)4. of this section. A nonhazardous  
23 employee covered by this paragraph who elects to transfer his or her account  
24 balance within sixty (60) days of the employer's effective cessation date as  
25 provided by subsection (3)(a)5. of this section, shall, notwithstanding KRS  
26 61.597, receive a transfer of the employee's accumulated account balance,  
27 including the entire accumulated employer credit, regardless of the employee's

1           years of service credit;

- 2           (d) 1. The employer shall, in the resolution submitted in accordance with  
3           subsection (3)(a)1. of this section, make an election as to whether or not  
4           nonhazardous employees hired prior to the employer's effective  
5           cessation date, who began participating in the systems administered by  
6           Kentucky Retirement Systems prior to January 1, 2014, who are  
7           participating in the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement  
8           Systems through the employer, will continue to participate in the system  
9           after the employer's effective cessation date.
- 10          2. If the employer makes an election for the employees described by this  
11          paragraph to continue participating in the system after the employer's  
12          effective cessation date, these employees will continue to contribute and  
13          earn service credit in the systems for as long as they remain employed by  
14          the employer in a regular full-time position that is eligible to participate  
15          in the systems, except in the event the employer fails to make  
16          installment payments as provided by KRS 61.675(4). Any costs for the  
17          present value of future normal costs of the employees covered by this  
18          subparagraph who will contribute and earn service in the system after  
19          the employer's effective cessation date shall be included in the cost  
20          calculation established by subsection (7) of this section.
- 21          3. If the employer does not make an election for the employees described  
22          by this paragraph to continue participating in the system after the  
23          employer's effective cessation date, these employees shall continue to  
24          contribute and earn service credit in the systems through the employer's  
25          effective cessation date. After the employer's effective cessation date,  
26          these employees shall participate in the alternative retirement plan  
27          established by the employer as provided by subsection (3)(a)4. of this

1 section;

2 (e) The cost of ceasing participating to an individual employer shall be equal to  
3 the cost determined under subsection (7) of this section and shall include the  
4 costs of those employees who continue to participate in the system as  
5 provided by paragraph (d)2. of this subsection;

6 (f) The employer may pay the full actuarial cost of ceasing participation by lump-  
7 sum payment or in installments as provided by paragraph (g) of this  
8 subsection;

9 (g) If the employer elects to pay the costs in installment payments, the cost of  
10 ceasing participation as provided by this subsection shall be financed by the  
11 systems using the following method:

12 1. Annual payments occurring on or after July 1, 2020, shall be a set dollar  
13 value and shall be paid in monthly installments. In fiscal year 2020-  
14 2021, the set dollar value shall be equal to the higher of the actual  
15 contributions paid by the employer in fiscal year 2019-2020 or the  
16 annualized average of the creditable compensation reported to the  
17 systems by the ceasing employer over the last sixty (60) months  
18 occurring prior to July 1, 2019, for which contributions were paid by the  
19 ceasing employer, and multiplied by an employer rate of forty-nine and  
20 forty-seven one-hundredths percent (49.47%). Annual payments, for  
21 fiscal years occurring on or after July 1, 2021, which shall be paid  
22 monthly, shall be increased by one and one-half percent (1.5%) annually  
23 and shall be paid until the cost as provided by subsection (7) of this  
24 section and as adjusted annually by subparagraphs 2. and 3. of this  
25 paragraph are paid in full or until an employer as described by  
26 subparagraph 4. of this paragraph has paid for thirty (30) years from the  
27 effective cessation date;



- 1           2. Interest shall be assigned to the principal amount annually beginning on  
2           July 1, 2020, and for each July 1 thereafter, that is equal to a rate of five  
3           and one-quarter percent (5.25%) per annum for pension costs and at a  
4           rate of six and one-quarter percent (6.25%) per annum for retiree health  
5           costs;
- 6           3. If an employer is not projected by the systems to pay off the full  
7           actuarial costs to cease participation with interest as provided by  
8           subparagraph 2. of this paragraph at the conclusion of the thirty (30) year  
9           installment period from the employer's effective cessation date, and the  
10          employer makes an election for employees to continue to participate in  
11          the system after the employer's effective cessation date as provided by  
12          paragraph (d)2. of this subsection, then the systems shall adjust the base  
13          value for the first annual payments occurring on or after July 1, 2020, in  
14          order to keep the maximum period of installments to thirty (30) years;  
15          and
- 16          4. If an employer is not projected by the systems to pay off the full  
17          actuarial costs to cease participation with interest as provided by  
18          subparagraph 2. of this paragraph at the conclusion of the thirty (30) year  
19          installment period from the employer's effective cessation date, and the  
20          employer does not make an election for employees to continue to  
21          participate in the system after the employer's effective cessation date as  
22          provided by paragraph (d)3. of this subsection, the employer shall pay  
23          the amount determined by subparagraph 1. of this paragraph for thirty  
24          (30) years from the effective cessation date and no additional costs shall  
25          be billed to a ceasing employer after the conclusion of the thirty (30)  
26          year period nor shall the employer be subject to adjustments under  
27          subparagraph 3. of this paragraph. The system may request in future

1 biennial executive branch budgets the additional funding needed on an  
2 annual basis to fully pay off the installments at the conclusion of the  
3 thirty (30) year period for the employers described by this paragraph,  
4 and it is the intent of the General Assembly to pay the additional funding  
5 needed by appropriation in the biennial executive branch budget.

6 An employer ceasing participation who is making installment payments as  
7 provided by this paragraph may at any time pay off a portion of the remaining  
8 balance or the entire remaining balance and shall not be charged any interest  
9 for periods beyond the pay-off date for the balance that is paid off;

10 (h) Kentucky Employees Retirement System employers eligible to cease  
11 participation under the provisions of this subsection who do not make an  
12 election to cease participation in the system prior to May 1, 2020, shall be  
13 required to pay the full actuarially determined contributions established by  
14 KRS 61.565 and 61.702 for fiscal years occurring on or after July 1, 2020; and

15 (i) Kentucky Employees Retirement System employers who elect to cease  
16 participation in the system as provided by this subsection who are currently  
17 receiving a distribution of general fund appropriations in the biennial  
18 executive branch budget under the provisions of 2018 Ky. Acts ch. 169, Part I,  
19 G., 4., (5), 2018 Ky. Acts ch. 169, Part I, G., 5., (2), or 2018 Ky. Acts ch. 169,  
20 Part I, G., 9., (2) to help pay employer contributions to the system shall  
21 continue to receive the same level of distribution of general fund  
22 appropriations to help pay the costs of ceasing participation until such time  
23 that the employer's full actuarial costs of ceasing participation are paid off;

24 (9) The Kentucky Retirement Systems shall promulgate administrative regulations  
25 pursuant to KRS Chapter 13A to administer this section;

26 (10) (a) Any employer who voluntarily ceases participation, or who is required to  
27 involuntarily cease participation as provided in this section, shall hold the

1 Commonwealth and the Kentucky Retirement Systems, including board  
2 members and employees of the Kentucky Retirement Systems, harmless from  
3 damages, attorney's fees and costs from legal claims for any cause of action  
4 brought by any member or retired member of the departing employer related  
5 to the employer's cessation of participation as set forth in this section.

6 (b) Any employer who is voluntarily ceasing participation under the provisions of  
7 subsection (8) of this section shall be required to pledge any security in any  
8 relevant real estate, chattel paper, deposit accounts, documents, goods covered  
9 by documents, instruments, investment property, letters of credit rights, and  
10 money to the costs of ceasing participation until all costs of ceasing  
11 participation are paid in full; and

12 (11) Notwithstanding any other provision of statute to the contrary, the provisions of  
13 KRS 61.510 to 61.705 ~~and 78.510 to 78.852~~, and the administrative regulations  
14 promulgated thereunder, shall prevail regarding any question of participation in the  
15 systems of any employer or any employee of an employer who ceases participation  
16 in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System.

17 ➔Section 21. KRS 61.535 is amended to read as follows:

18 (1) The membership of any person in the system shall cease:

19 (a) Upon withdrawal of his accumulated account balance at or any time after  
20 termination of employment, regardless of length of service;

21 (b) Upon disability retirement;

22 (c) Upon service retirement;

23 (d) Upon death;

24 (e) For persons hired prior to August 1, 2000, upon termination of employment  
25 with prejudice; or

26 (f) For persons hired on or after August 1, 2000, upon conviction of a felony  
27 relating to the person's employment as provided in subsection (3) of this

1 section.

2 (2) For purposes of KRS 61.510 to 61.705 and, 16.505 to 16.652, ~~and 78.510 to~~  
3 ~~78.852,~~ termination of employment with prejudice shall mean termination as the  
4 result of conviction of the member in a court of competent jurisdiction of  
5 embezzlement or larceny of public funds or property or malfeasance in office, or the  
6 forcing of a member to make restitution for any funds or property criminally taken  
7 by said member at the time of termination of employment.

8 (3) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, an employee hired on or after  
9 August 1, 2000, who participates in one (1) of the retirement systems administered  
10 by the Kentucky Retirement Systems and who is convicted, in any state or federal  
11 court of competent jurisdiction, of a felony related to his employment shall forfeit  
12 rights and benefits earned under the retirement system, except for the return of his  
13 accumulated contributions and interest credited on those contributions. The  
14 payment of retirement benefits ordered forfeited shall be stayed pending any appeal  
15 of the conviction. If the conviction is reversed on final judgment, no retirement  
16 benefit shall be forfeited. The employer shall notify the retirement system when an  
17 employee is convicted under the provisions of this subsection.

18 ➔Section 22. KRS 61.565 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as follows:

19 (1) (a) Each employer participating in the State Police Retirement System as  
20 provided for in KRS 16.505 to 16.652~~, the County Employees Retirement~~  
21 ~~System as provided for in KRS 78.510 to 78.852,~~ and the Kentucky  
22 Employees Retirement System as provided for in KRS 61.510 to 61.705 shall  
23 contribute annually to the respective retirement system an amount determined  
24 by the actuarial valuation completed in accordance with KRS 61.670 and as  
25 specified by this section. Employer contributions for each respective  
26 retirement system shall be equal to the sum of the "normal cost contribution"  
27 and the "actuarially accrued liability contribution."

1 (b) For purposes of this section, the normal cost contribution shall be computed as  
2 a percentage of pay and shall be an annual amount that is sufficient when  
3 combined with employee contributions to fund benefits earned during the year  
4 in the respective system~~[ or plan, including costs for those members who elect~~  
5 ~~to participate in the 401(a) money purchase plan].~~ The amount shall be paid as  
6 a percentage of creditable compensation reported for each employee  
7 participating in the system or plan and accruing benefits.

8 (c) For purposes of this section, the actuarially accrued liability contribution shall  
9 be an annual dollar amount that is sufficient to amortize the total unfunded  
10 actuarially accrued liability of each system over a closed period of thirty (30)  
11 years **beginning with the 2013 actuarial valuation** using the **level percentage**  
12 **of payroll amortization method**~~[level dollar amortization method].~~~~[ This~~  
13 ~~method shall be used beginning with the 2019 actuarial valuation, and~~  
14 ~~employer costs for the actuarially accrued liability contribution shall be~~  
15 ~~prorated to each employer as provided by paragraph (f) of this subsection.]~~

16 (d) The employer contributions computed under this section shall be determined  
17 using:

- 18 1. The entry age normal cost funding method;
- 19 2. An asset smoothing method that smooths investment gains and losses  
20 over a five (5) year period; and
- 21 3. Other funding methods and assumptions established by the board in  
22 accordance with KRS 61.670.

23 ~~[(e) Effective with the 2019 actuarial valuation, the amortization period for the~~  
24 ~~Kentucky Employees Retirement System, the County Employees Retirement~~  
25 ~~System, and the State Police Retirement System shall be reset to a new thirty~~  
26 ~~(30) year closed period for purposes of calculating the actuarially accrued~~  
27 ~~liability contribution prescribed by this subsection.~~

- 1       ~~(f) The dollar value of the actuarially accrued liability contribution specified by~~  
2       ~~paragraph (c) of this subsection payable by each individual system employer~~  
3       ~~based upon the 2019 actuarial valuation shall be prorated based upon the~~  
4       ~~individual employer's average percentage of the total creditable compensation~~  
5       ~~reported by all employers in the specific system in fiscal years 2014-2015,~~  
6       ~~2015-2016, and 2016-2017, except that the amount shall:~~
- 7       ~~1. Not apply to any employer who ceases participation and pays the full~~  
8       ~~actuarial cost of ceasing participation as provided by KRS 61.522;~~
- 9       ~~2. Be adjusted for each remaining employer of a system to reflect any~~  
10       ~~employer who ceases participation and who pays the full actuarial cost~~  
11       ~~of ceasing participation as provided by KRS 61.522; and~~
- 12       ~~3. Be a single amount for all executive branch departments, program~~  
13       ~~cabinets and their respective departments and administrative bodies~~  
14       ~~enumerated in KRS 12.020, and any other executive branch agencies~~  
15       ~~administratively attached to a department, program cabinet, or~~  
16       ~~administrative body enumerated in KRS 12.020.]~~
- 17       (2) (a) Normal cost contribution rates and the actuarially accrued liability  
18       contribution shall be determined by the board on the basis of the annual  
19       actuarial valuation last preceding the July 1 of a new biennium.
- 20       (b) The board may amend contribution rates as of July 1 of the second year of a  
21       biennium, if it is determined on the basis of a subsequent actuarial valuation  
22       that amended contribution rates are necessary to satisfy the requirements of  
23       this section.
- 24       (c) Effective for employer contribution rates payable on or after July 1, 2014~~;~~  
25       ~~through June 30, 2020],~~ the board shall not have the authority to amend  
26       contribution rates as of July 1 of the second year of the biennium for the  
27       Kentucky Employees Retirement System and the State Police Retirement

1 System.

2 (3) The system shall advise each employer prior to the beginning of each biennium~~[, or~~  
3 ~~prior to July 1 of the second year of a biennium for employers participating in the~~  
4 ~~County Employees Retirement System]~~, of any change in the employer contribution  
5 rate. Based on the employer contribution rate, each employer shall include in the  
6 budget sufficient funds to pay the employer contributions as determined by the  
7 board under this section.

8 (4) The General Assembly ***and all employers*** shall pay the full actuarially required  
9 contribution rate, as prescribed by this section, to the Kentucky Employees  
10 Retirement System and the State Police Retirement System in fiscal years occurring  
11 on or after July 1, 2014.

12 ~~[(5) Notwithstanding any other provision of KRS Chapter 61 or 78 to the contrary, the~~  
13 ~~employer contribution established by the board for the County Employees~~  
14 ~~Retirement System that are payable on or after July 1, 2018, and until June 30,~~  
15 ~~2028, for the pension and health insurance funds, including the normal cost~~  
16 ~~contribution and the actuarially accrued liability contribution for each fund, shall~~  
17 ~~not increase by more than twelve percent (12%) in terms of projected dollars paid~~  
18 ~~by participating employers over the prior fiscal year as determined by the system's~~  
19 ~~consulting actuary.]~~

20 ➔Section 23. KRS 61.555 is amended to read as follows:

21 (1) (a) After August 1, 1998, any employee entering the Armed Forces of the United  
22 States after he first participates in the system, who joins the Armed Forces  
23 within three (3) months of the last day of paid employment, being on leave of  
24 absence from service and not withdrawing his accumulated account balance,  
25 shall be credited for retirement purposes with service credit and creditable  
26 compensation as provided in 38 U.S.C. sec. 4318 for his period of active  
27 military duty in the Armed Forces of the United States, not to exceed six (6)

1 years, if:

- 2 1. The member's military service was terminated in a manner other than as  
3 described in 38 U.S.C. sec. 4304; and  
4 2. The member returns to work with an employer participating in one (1) of  
5 the retirement systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement  
6 Systems or County Employees Retirement System within two (2) years  
7 after completion of the period of active military duty, or upon the  
8 subsequent termination of any total disability which existed at the  
9 expiration of the two (2) years after discharge.

10 (b) A member eligible for the benefit prescribed by this subsection who  
11 participates in the hybrid cash balance plan as provided by KRS 16.583 and  
12 61.597 shall also have his or her member account credited with employee  
13 contributions, employer pay credits, and interest credits, as provided by KRS  
14 16.583 and 61.597, as though the member were employed during the  
15 member's period of active military duty described by this subsection.

16 (c) ~~[A member eligible for the benefit prescribed by this subsection who  
17 participates in the 401(a) money purchase plan as provided by KRS 61.5956  
18 shall also have his or her member account credited with employee and  
19 employer contributions, as provided by KRS 61.5956, as though the member  
20 were employed during the member's period of active military duty described  
21 by this subsection.~~

22 (d) ~~]~~The employer shall remit to the retirement systems the employer  
23 contributions that would have been due under Section 8 of this Act, KRS  
24 61.565, and KRS 61.702 for periods of service credited under this subsection.

25 (2) (a) After August 1, 1998, any employee who, prior to the date he first participated  
26 in the system, terminated his employment with an agency participating in one  
27 (1) of the systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems or



1           County Employees Retirement System and within three (3) months entered  
2           the Armed Forces of the United States and who returns to work with an  
3           employer participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by  
4           the Kentucky Retirement Systems or County Employees Retirement System  
5           within two (2) years after completion of the period of active military duty, or  
6           upon the subsequent termination of any total disability which existed at the  
7           expiration of the two (2) years after discharge, shall be credited for retirement  
8           purposes with service credit and creditable compensation as provided in 38  
9           U.S.C. sec. 4318 for his period of active military duty in the Armed Forces,  
10          not to exceed six (6) years if his military service was terminated in a manner  
11          other than as described in 38 U.S.C. sec. 4304.

12          (b) A member eligible for the benefit prescribed by this subsection who  
13          participates in the hybrid cash balance plan as provided by KRS 16.583 and  
14          61.597 shall also have his or her member account credited with employee  
15          contributions, employer pay credits, and interest credits, as provided by KRS  
16          16.583 and 61.597, as though the member were employed during the  
17          member's period of active military duty described by this subsection.

18          (c) ~~[A member eligible for the benefit prescribed by this subsection who~~  
19          ~~participates in the 401(a) money purchase plan as provided by KRS 61.5956~~  
20          ~~shall also have his or her member account credited with employee and~~  
21          ~~employer contributions, as provided by KRS 61.5956, as though the member~~  
22          ~~were employed during the member's period of active military duty described~~  
23          ~~by this subsection.~~

24          (d) ~~]~~The employer shall remit to the retirement systems the employer  
25          contributions that would have been due under Section 8 of this Act, KRS  
26          61.565, and KRS 61.702 for periods of service credited under this subsection.

27          (3) Any National Guard technician involuntarily serving on active military duty during

1 the period between January 26, 1968, and January 1, 1970, who completes his eight  
2 (8) years' service while on military duty during this period, shall have that portion of  
3 his active military duty, necessary to the completion of eight (8) years' current  
4 service, credited to his account, as current service without having to meet the  
5 reemployment criteria.

6 (4) Any employee eligible for retirement as prescribed in KRS 61.559 or any employee  
7 upon completion of five (5) years of service shall receive current service credit for a  
8 maximum of four (4) years for his period of active military duty in the Armed  
9 Forces of the United States, if his military service was terminated in a manner other  
10 than as described in 38 U.S.C. sec. 4304 and he has not been credited with the  
11 service under subsections (1) to (3) of this section if he pays thirty-five percent  
12 (35%) of the cost of the service based on the formula adopted by the board. The  
13 payment by the member shall not be picked up by the employer, as described in  
14 KRS 61.560(4), and shall be deposited to his individual member's account. The  
15 remaining sixty-five percent (65%) shall be paid by the state from funds  
16 appropriated specifically for the purpose and these payments shall be deposited to  
17 the respective retirement allowance accounts. If no funds are available in the special  
18 appropriation account, the system shall not accept employee payments until funds  
19 are available in the account.

20 (5) Any employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by  
21 Kentucky Retirement Systems eligible to purchase military service credit under  
22 subsection (4) of this section shall receive current service credit for active military  
23 duty as provided under subsection (4) of this section without payment of the current  
24 employee contribution ratio if the member was taken prisoner by a hostile power at  
25 any time during active military service.

26 (6) Any employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by  
27 Kentucky Retirement Systems or County Employees Retirement System age sixty-

1 five (65) or older who has forty-eight (48) months of service, at least twelve (12) of  
2 which are current service, or if younger who has sixty (60) months of service, at  
3 least twelve (12) of which are current service shall receive current service for his  
4 period of active military duty in the Armed Forces of the United States, if his  
5 military service was terminated in a manner other than as described in 38 U.S.C.  
6 sec. 4304 and he has not been credited with the service under subsections (1) to (4)  
7 of this section, by paying the retirement system a delayed contribution payment in  
8 accordance with the payment options and restrictions established by KRS  
9 61.552(14). Service purchases made pursuant to this subsection shall be purchased  
10 by the entire amount of service available pursuant to this subsection or by  
11 increments.

12 (7) Any employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by the  
13 Kentucky Retirement Systems or County Employees Retirement System age sixty-  
14 five (65) or older who has forty-eight (48) months of service, at least twelve (12) of  
15 which are current service, or if younger who has sixty (60) months of service, at  
16 least twelve (12) of which are current service, shall receive one (1) month of current  
17 service for each six (6) months of service in the National Guard or the military  
18 reserves of the United States, by paying the retirement system a delayed  
19 contribution payment in accordance with the payment options and restrictions  
20 established by KRS 61.552(14). The service shall be treated as service earned prior  
21 to participation in the system and shall not be included in the member's final  
22 compensation. Service purchases made pursuant to this subsection shall be  
23 purchased by the entire amount of service available pursuant to this subsection or by  
24 increments.

25 (8) For members who begin participating in the systems administered by Kentucky  
26 Retirement Systems or County Employees Retirement System on or after January  
27 1, 2014, in the hybrid cash balance plan prescribed by KRS 16.583 and 61.597~~1~~, and

1       ~~for members who make an election to participate in the 401(a) money purchase plan~~  
2       ~~as provided by KRS 21.374, 61.5955, or 61.5956],~~ the provisions of subsections (4)  
3       to (7) of this section shall not apply.

4       ➔Section 24. KRS 61.592 is amended to read as follows:

5       (1) (a) "Hazardous position" for employees participating in the Kentucky Employees  
6       Retirement System, and for employees who begin participating in the County  
7       Employees Retirement System before September 1, 2008, means:

- 8           1. Any position whose principal duties involve active law enforcement,  
9           including the positions of probation and parole officer and  
10          Commonwealth detective, active fire suppression or prevention, or other  
11          positions, including, but not limited to, pilots of the Transportation  
12          Cabinet and paramedics and emergency medical technicians, with duties  
13          that require frequent exposure to a high degree of danger or peril and  
14          also require a high degree of physical conditioning;
- 15          2. Positions in the Department of Corrections in state correctional  
16          institutions and the Kentucky Correctional Psychiatric Center with  
17          duties that regularly and routinely require face-to-face contact with  
18          inmates; and
- 19          3. Positions of employees who elect coverage under KRS 196.167(3)(b)2.  
20          and who continue to provide educational services and support to inmates  
21          as a Department of Corrections employee.

22       (b) "Hazardous position" for employees who begin participating in the County  
23       Employees Retirement System on or after September 1, 2008, means police  
24       officers and firefighters as defined in KRS 61.315(1), paramedics, correctional  
25       officers with duties that routinely and regularly require face-to-face contact  
26       with inmates, and emergency medical technicians if:

- 27           1. The employee's duties require frequent exposure to a high degree of

- 1 danger or peril and a high degree of physical conditioning; and
- 2 2. The employee's duties are not primarily clerical or administrative.
- 3 (c) The effective date of participation under hazardous duty coverage for
- 4 positions in the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control shall be April 1,
- 5 1998. The employer and employee contributions shall be paid by the employer
- 6 and forwarded to the retirement system for the period not previously reported.
- 7 (2) (a) Each employer may request of the board hazardous duty coverage for those
- 8 positions as defined in subsection (1) of this section. Upon request, each
- 9 employer shall certify to the system, in the manner prescribed by the board,
- 10 the names of all employees working in a hazardous position as defined in
- 11 subsection (1) of this section for which coverage is requested. The
- 12 certification of the employer shall bear the approval of the agent or agency
- 13 responsible for the budget of the department or county indicating that the
- 14 required employer contributions have been provided for in the budget of the
- 15 employing department or county. The system shall determine whether the
- 16 employees whose names have been certified by the employer are working in
- 17 positions meeting the definition of a hazardous position as provided by
- 18 subsection (1) of this section. This process shall not be required for employees
- 19 who elect coverage under KRS 196.167(3)(b)2.
- 20 (b) Each employer desiring to provide hazardous duty coverage to employees who
- 21 begin participating in the County Employees Retirement System on or after
- 22 September 1, 2008, may request that the board approve hazardous duty
- 23 coverage for those positions that meet the criteria set forth in subsection (1)(b)
- 24 of this section. Each employer shall certify to the system, in the manner
- 25 prescribed by the board, the names of all employees working in a hazardous
- 26 position as defined in subsection (1)(b) of this section for which coverage is
- 27 requested and a job description for each position or employee. The

1 certification of the employer shall bear the approval of the agent or agency  
2 responsible for the budget of the department or county indicating that the  
3 required employer contributions have been provided for in the budget of the  
4 employing department or county. Each employer shall also certify, under  
5 penalty of perjury in accordance with KRS Chapter 523, that each employee's  
6 actual job duties are accurately reflected in the job description provided to the  
7 system. The system shall determine whether the employees whose names have  
8 been certified by the employer are working in positions meeting the definition  
9 of a hazardous position as defined in subsection (1)(b) of this section. The  
10 board shall have the authority to remove any employee from hazardous duty  
11 coverage if the board determines the employee is not working in a hazardous  
12 duty position or if the employee is classified in a hazardous duty position but  
13 has individual job duties that do not meet the definition of a hazardous duty  
14 position or are not accurately reflected in the job descriptions filed by the  
15 employer with the system.

16 (3) (a) An employee who elects coverage under KRS 196.167(3)(b)2., and an  
17 employee participating in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System who is  
18 determined by the system to be working in a hazardous position in accordance  
19 with subsection (2) of this section, shall contribute, for each pay period for  
20 which he receives compensation, eight percent (8%) of his creditable  
21 compensation. An employee participating in the County Employees  
22 Retirement System who is determined by the system to be working in a  
23 hazardous duty position in accordance with subsection (2) of this section shall  
24 contribute, for each pay period for which he receives compensation, eight  
25 percent (8%) of his creditable compensation.

26 (b) Each employer shall pay employer contributions based on the creditable  
27 compensation of the employees determined by the system to be working in a

1 hazardous position at the employer contribution rate as determined by the  
2 board. The rate shall be determined by actuarial methods consistent with the  
3 provisions of KRS 61.565 or Section 8, as applicable.

4 (c) If the employer participated in the system prior to electing hazardous duty  
5 coverage, the employer may pay to the system the cost of converting the  
6 nonhazardous service to hazardous service from the date of participation to  
7 the date the payment is made, or the employer may establish a payment  
8 schedule for payment of the cost of the hazardous service above that which  
9 would be funded within the existing employer contribution rate. The employer  
10 may extend the payment schedule to a maximum of thirty (30) years.  
11 Payments made by the employer under this subsection shall be deposited to  
12 the retirement allowance account of the proper retirement system and these  
13 funds shall not be considered accumulated contributions of the individual  
14 members. If the employer elects not to make the additional payment, the  
15 employee may pay the cost of converting the service and provide payment for  
16 the cost as provided by KRS 61.552(14). Payments made by the employee  
17 under this subsection shall not be picked up, as described in KRS 61.560(4),  
18 by the employer. If neither the employer nor employee makes the payment, the  
19 service prior to hazardous coverage shall remain nonhazardous. The  
20 provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to members who begin  
21 participating in the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems or  
22 County Employees Retirement System on or after January 1, 2014.

23 (4) The normal retirement age, retirement allowance, hybrid cash balance plans, other  
24 benefits, eligibility requirements, rights, and responsibilities of a member in a  
25 hazardous position, as prescribed by subsections (1), (2), and (3) of this section, and  
26 the responsibilities, rights, and requirements of his employer shall be as prescribed  
27 for a member and employer participating in the State Police Retirement System as

1 provided for by KRS 16.505 to 16.652.

2 (5) Any person employed in a hazardous position after July 1, 1972, shall be required to  
3 undergo a thorough medical examination by a licensed physician, and a copy of the  
4 medical report of the physician shall be retained on file by the employee's  
5 department or county and made available to the system upon request.

6 (6) If doubt exists regarding the benefits payable to a hazardous position employee  
7 under this section, the board shall determine the benefits payable under KRS 61.510  
8 to 61.705, or 78.510 to 78.852, or 16.505 to 16.652.

9 ➔Section 25. KRS 61.637 is amended to read as follows:

10 (1) A retired member who is receiving monthly retirement payments under any of the  
11 provisions of KRS 61.510 to 61.705 and 78.510 to 78.852 and who is reemployed  
12 as an employee by a participating agency prior to August 1, 1998, shall have his  
13 retirement payments suspended for the duration of reemployment. Monthly  
14 payments shall not be suspended for a retired member who is reemployed if he  
15 anticipates that he will receive less than the maximum permissible earnings as  
16 provided by the Federal Social Security Act in compensation as a result of  
17 reemployment during the calendar year. The payments shall be suspended at the  
18 beginning of the month in which the reemployment occurs.

19 (2) Employer and employee contributions shall be made as provided in KRS 61.510 to  
20 61.705 and 78.510 to 78.852 on the compensation paid during reemployment,  
21 except where monthly payments were not suspended as provided in subsection (1)  
22 of this section or would not increase the retired member's last monthly retirement  
23 allowance by at least one dollar (\$1), and the member shall be credited with  
24 additional service credit.

25 (3) In the month following the termination of reemployment, retirement allowance  
26 payments shall be reinstated under the plan under which the member was receiving  
27 payments prior to reemployment.



- 1 (4) (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the payments suspended in  
2 accordance with subsection (1) of this section shall be paid retroactively to the  
3 retired member, or his estate, if he does not receive more than the maximum  
4 permissible earnings as provided by the Federal Social Security Act in  
5 compensation from participating agencies during any calendar year of  
6 reemployment.
- 7 (b) If the retired member is paid suspended payments retroactively in accordance  
8 with this section, employee contributions deducted during his period of  
9 reemployment, if any, shall be refunded to the retired employee, and no  
10 service credit shall be earned for the period of reemployment.
- 11 (c) If the retired member is not eligible to be paid suspended payments for his  
12 period of reemployment as an employee, his retirement allowance shall be  
13 recomputed under the plan under which the member was receiving payments  
14 prior to reemployment as follows:
- 15 1. The retired member's final compensation shall be recomputed using  
16 creditable compensation for his period of reemployment; however, the  
17 final compensation resulting from the recalculation shall not be less than  
18 that of the member when his retirement allowance was last determined;
  - 19 2. If the retired member initially retired on or subsequent to his normal  
20 retirement date, his retirement allowance shall be recomputed by using  
21 the formula in KRS 61.595(1);
  - 22 3. If the retired member initially retired prior to his normal retirement date,  
23 his retirement allowance shall be recomputed using the formula in KRS  
24 61.595(2), except that the member's age used in computing benefits shall  
25 be his age at the time of his initial retirement increased by the number of  
26 months of service credit earned for service performed during  
27 reemployment;

- 1           4. The retirement allowance payments resulting from the recomputation  
2           under this subsection shall be payable in the month following the  
3           termination of reemployment in lieu of payments under subparagraph 3.  
4           The member shall not receive less in benefits as a result of the  
5           recomputation than he was receiving prior to reemployment or would  
6           receive as determined under KRS 61.691; and
- 7           5. Any retired member who was reemployed prior to March 26, 1974, shall  
8           begin making contributions to the system in accordance with the  
9           provisions of this section on the first day of the month following March  
10          26, 1974.
- 11 (5) A retired member, or his estate, shall pay to the retirement fund the total amount of  
12       payments which are not suspended in accordance with subsection (1) of this section  
13       if the member received more than the maximum permissible earnings as provided  
14       by the Federal Social Security Act in compensation from participating agencies  
15       during any calendar year of reemployment, except the retired member or his estate  
16       may repay the lesser of the total amount of payments which were not suspended or  
17       fifty cents (\$0.50) of each dollar earned over the maximum permissible earnings  
18       during reemployment if under age sixty-five (65), or one dollar (\$1) for every three  
19       dollars (\$3) earned if over age sixty-five (65).
- 20 (6) (a) "Reemployment" or "reinstatement" as used in this section shall not include a  
21       retired member who has been ordered reinstated by the Personnel Board under  
22       authority of KRS 18A.095.
- 23       (b) A retired member who has been ordered reinstated by the Personnel Board  
24       under authority of KRS 18A.095 or by court order or by order of the Human  
25       Rights Commission and accepts employment by an agency participating in the  
26       Kentucky Employees Retirement System or County Employees Retirement  
27       System shall void his retirement by reimbursing the system in the full amount

1 of his retirement allowance payments received.

2 (7) (a) Effective August 1, 1998, the provisions of subsections (1) to (4) of this  
3 section shall no longer apply to a retired member who is reemployed in a  
4 position covered by the same retirement system from which the member  
5 retired. Reemployed retired members shall be treated as new members upon  
6 reemployment. Any retired member whose reemployment date preceded  
7 August 1, 1998, who does not elect, within sixty (60) days of notification by  
8 the retirement systems, to remain under the provisions of subsections (1) to  
9 (4) of this section shall be deemed to have elected to participate under this  
10 subsection.

11 (b) A retired member whose disability retirement was discontinued pursuant to  
12 KRS 61.615 and who is reemployed in one (1) of the systems administered by  
13 the Kentucky Retirement Systems or County Employees Retirement System  
14 prior to his or her normal retirement date shall have his or her accounts  
15 combined upon termination for determining eligibility for benefits. If the  
16 member is eligible for retirement, the member's service and creditable  
17 compensation earned as a result of his or her reemployment shall be used in  
18 the calculation of benefits, except that the member's final compensation shall  
19 not be less than the final compensation last used in determining his or her  
20 retirement allowance. The member shall not change beneficiary or payment  
21 option designations. This provision shall apply to members reemployed on or  
22 after August 1, 1998.

23 (8) If a retired member accepts employment or begins serving as a volunteer with an  
24 employer participating in the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement  
25 Systems or County Employees Retirement System within twelve (12) months of his  
26 or her retirement date, the retired member shall notify the retirement system and the  
27 participating employer shall submit the information required or requested by the

1 systems to confirm the individual's employment or volunteer status. The retired  
2 member shall not be required to notify the retirement systems regarding any  
3 employment or volunteer service with a participating agency that is accepted after  
4 twelve (12) months following his or her retirement date.

5 (9) If the retired member is under a contract to provide services as an independent  
6 contractor or leased employee to an employer participating in the systems  
7 administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems or County Employees Retirement  
8 System within twelve (12) months of his or her retirement date, the member shall  
9 submit a copy of that contract to the retirement system, and the retirement system  
10 shall determine if the member is an independent contractor or leased employee for  
11 purposes of retirement benefits. The retired member and the participating employer  
12 shall submit the information required or requested by the systems to confirm the  
13 individual's status as an independent contractor or leased employee. The retired  
14 member shall not be required to notify the retirement systems regarding any services  
15 entered into as an independent contractor or leased employee with a participating  
16 agency that the employee enters into after twelve (12) months following his or her  
17 retirement date.

18 (10) If a member is receiving a retirement allowance, or has filed the forms required for  
19 a retirement allowance, and is employed within one (1) month of the member's  
20 initial retirement date in a position that is required to participate in the same  
21 retirement system from which the member retired, the member's retirement shall be  
22 voided and the member shall repay to the retirement system all benefits received.  
23 The member shall contribute to the member account established for him prior to his  
24 voided retirement. The retirement allowance for which the member shall be eligible  
25 upon retirement shall be determined by total service and creditable compensation.

26 (11) (a) If a member of the Kentucky Employees Retirement System retires from a  
27 department which participates in more than one (1) retirement system and is

1 reemployed within one (1) month of his initial retirement date by the same  
2 department in a position participating in another retirement system, the retired  
3 member's retirement allowance shall be suspended for the first month of his  
4 retirement and the member shall repay to the retirement system all benefits  
5 received for the month.

6 (b) A retired member of the County Employees Retirement System who after  
7 initial retirement is hired by the county from which the member retired shall  
8 be considered to have been hired by the same employer.

9 (12) (a) If a hazardous member who retired prior to age fifty-five (55), or a  
10 nonhazardous member who retired prior to age sixty-five (65), is reemployed  
11 within six (6) months of the member's termination by the same employer, the  
12 member shall obtain from his previous and current employers a copy of the  
13 job description established by the employers for the position and a statement  
14 of the duties performed by the member for the position from which he retired  
15 and for the position in which he has been reemployed.

16 (b) The job descriptions and statements of duties shall be filed with the retirement  
17 office.

18 (13) If the retirement system determines that the retired member has been employed in a  
19 position with the same principal duties as the position from which the member  
20 retired:

21 (a) The member's retirement allowance shall be suspended during the period that  
22 begins on the month in which the member is reemployed and ends six (6)  
23 months after the member's termination;

24 (b) The retired member shall repay to the retirement system all benefits paid from  
25 systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems or County Employees  
26 Retirement System under reciprocity, including medical insurance benefits,  
27 that the member received after reemployment began;

- 1 (c) Upon termination, or subsequent to expiration of the six (6) month period  
2 from the date of termination, the retired member's retirement allowance based  
3 on his initial retirement account shall no longer be suspended and the member  
4 shall receive the amount to which he is entitled, including an increase as  
5 provided by KRS 61.691;
- 6 (d) Except as provided in subsection (7) of this section, if the position in which a  
7 retired member is employed after initial retirement is a regular full-time  
8 position, the retired member shall contribute to a second member account  
9 established for him in the retirement system. Service credit gained after the  
10 member's date of reemployment shall be credited to the second member  
11 account; and
- 12 (e) Upon termination, the retired member shall be entitled to benefits payable  
13 from his second retirement account.
- 14 (14) (a) If the retirement system determines that the retired member has not been  
15 reemployed in a position with the same principal duties as the position from  
16 which he retired, the retired member shall continue to receive his retirement  
17 allowance.
- 18 (b) If the position is a regular full-time position, the member shall contribute to a  
19 second member account in the retirement system.
- 20 (15) (a) If a retired member is reemployed at least one (1) month after initial  
21 retirement in a different position, or at least six (6) months after initial  
22 retirement in the same position, and prior to normal retirement age, the retired  
23 member shall contribute to a second member account in the retirement system  
24 and continue to receive a retirement allowance from the first member account.
- 25 (b) Service credit gained after reemployment shall be credited to the second  
26 member account. Upon termination, the retired member shall be entitled to  
27 benefits payable from the second member account.

1 (16) A retired member who is reemployed and contributing to a second member account  
2 shall not be eligible to purchase service credit under any of the provisions of KRS  
3 16.505 to 16.652, 61.510 to 61.705, or 78.510 to 78.852 which he was eligible to  
4 purchase prior to his initial retirement.

5 (17) Notwithstanding any provision of subsections (1) to (7)(a) and (10) to (15) of this  
6 section, the following shall apply to retired members who are reemployed by an  
7 agency participating in one (1) of the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement  
8 Systems *or County Employees Retirement System* on or after September 1, 2008:

9 (a) Except as provided by paragraphs (c) and (d) of this subsection, if a member is  
10 receiving a retirement allowance from one (1) of the systems administered by  
11 Kentucky Retirement Systems *or County Employees Retirement System*, or  
12 has filed the forms required to receive a retirement allowance from one (1) of  
13 the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems *or County*  
14 *Employees Retirement System*, and is employed in a regular full-time  
15 position required to participate in one (1) of the systems administered by  
16 Kentucky Retirement Systems *or County Employees Retirement System* or is  
17 employed in a position that is not considered regular full-time with an agency  
18 participating in one (1) of the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement  
19 Systems *or County Employees Retirement System* within three (3) months  
20 following the member's initial retirement date, the member's retirement shall  
21 be voided, and the member shall repay to the retirement system all benefits  
22 received, including any health insurance benefits. If the member is returning  
23 to work in a regular full-time position required to participate in one (1) of the  
24 systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems:

25 1. The member shall contribute to a member account established for him or  
26 her in one (1) of the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement  
27 Systems *or County Employees Retirement System*, and employer

1 contributions shall be paid on behalf of the member by the participating  
2 employer; and

3 2. Upon subsequent retirement, the member shall be eligible for a  
4 retirement allowance based upon total service and creditable  
5 compensation, including any additional service or creditable  
6 compensation earned after his or her initial retirement was voided;

7 (b) Except as provided by paragraphs (c) and (d) of this subsection, if a member is  
8 receiving a retirement allowance from one (1) of the systems administered by  
9 Kentucky Retirement Systems or County Employees Retirement System and  
10 is employed in a regular full-time position required to participate in one (1) of  
11 the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems or County  
12 Employees Retirement System after a three (3) month period following the  
13 member's initial retirement date, the member may continue to receive his or  
14 her retirement allowance during the period of reemployment subject to the  
15 following provisions:

16 1. If a member is reemployed by a participating agency within twelve (12)  
17 months of the member's retirement date, the participating agency shall  
18 certify in writing on a form prescribed by the board that no prearranged  
19 agreement existed between the employee and agency prior to the  
20 employee's retirement for the employee to return to work with the  
21 participating agency. If an elected official is reelected to a new term of  
22 office in the same position and has retired from the elected office within  
23 twelve (12) months prior to taking the new term of office, he or she shall  
24 be deemed by the system as having a prearranged agreement under the  
25 provisions of this subparagraph and shall have his or her retirement  
26 voided. If the participating agency fails to complete the certification, the  
27 member's retirement shall be voided and the provisions of paragraph (a)



- 1 of this subsection shall apply to the member and the employer.  
2 Employment that is accepted by the retired member after twelve (12)  
3 months following the member's retirement date shall not constitute a  
4 prearranged agreement under this paragraph;
- 5 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of KRS Chapter 16, 61, or 78 to  
6 the contrary, the member shall not contribute to the systems and shall  
7 not earn any additional benefits for any work performed during the  
8 period of reemployment;
- 9 3. Except as provided by KRS 70.291 to 70.293, 95.022, and 164.952 and  
10 except for any retiree employed as a school resource officer as defined  
11 by KRS 158.441, the employer shall pay employer contributions as  
12 specified by Section 8 of this Act, KRS 61.565, and KRS 61.702, as  
13 applicable, on all creditable compensation earned by the employee  
14 during the period of reemployment. The additional contributions paid  
15 shall be used to reduce the unfunded actuarial liability of the systems;  
16 and
- 17 4. Except as provided by KRS 70.291 to 70.293, 95.022, and 164.952 and  
18 except for any retiree employed as a school resource officer as defined  
19 by KRS 158.441, the employer shall be required to reimburse the  
20 systems for the cost of the health insurance premium paid by the systems  
21 to provide coverage for the retiree, not to exceed the cost of the single  
22 premium. Effective July 1, 2015, local school boards shall not be  
23 required to pay the reimbursement required by this subparagraph for  
24 retirees employed by the board for eighty (80) days or less during the  
25 fiscal year;
- 26 (c) If a member is receiving a retirement allowance from the State Police  
27 Retirement System or from hazardous duty retirement coverage with the

1 Kentucky Employees Retirement System or the County Employees Retirement  
2 System, or has filed the forms required to receive a retirement allowance from  
3 the State Police Retirement System or from hazardous duty retirement  
4 coverage with the Kentucky Employees Retirement System or the County  
5 Employees Retirement System, and is employed in a regular full-time position  
6 required to participate in the State Police Retirement System or in a hazardous  
7 duty position with the Kentucky Employees Retirement System or the County  
8 Employees Retirement System within one (1) month following the member's  
9 initial retirement date, the member's retirement shall be voided, and the  
10 member shall repay to the retirement system all benefits received, including  
11 any health insurance benefits. If the member is returning to work in a regular  
12 full-time position required to participate in one (1) of the systems  
13 administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems or County Employees  
14 Retirement System:

15 1. The member shall contribute to a member account established for him or  
16 her in one (1) of the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement  
17 Systems or County Employees Retirement System, and employer  
18 contributions shall be paid on behalf of the member by the participating  
19 employer; and

20 2. Upon subsequent retirement, the member shall be eligible for a  
21 retirement allowance based upon total service and creditable  
22 compensation, including any additional service or creditable  
23 compensation earned after his or her initial retirement was voided;

24 (d) If a member is receiving a retirement allowance from the State Police  
25 Retirement System or from hazardous duty retirement coverage with the  
26 Kentucky Employees Retirement System or the County Employees Retirement  
27 System and is employed in a regular full-time position required to participate

1 in the State Police Retirement System or in a hazardous duty position with the  
2 Kentucky Employees Retirement System or the County Employees Retirement  
3 System after a one (1) month period following the member's initial retirement  
4 date, the member may continue to receive his or her retirement allowance  
5 during the period of reemployment subject to the following provisions:

- 6 1. If a member is reemployed by a participating agency within twelve (12)  
7 months of the member's retirement date, the participating agency shall  
8 certify in writing on a form prescribed by the board that no prearranged  
9 agreement existed between the employee and agency prior to the  
10 employee's retirement for the employee to return to work with the  
11 participating agency. If an elected official is reelected to a new term of  
12 office in the same position and has retired from the elected office within  
13 twelve (12) months prior to taking the new term of office, he or she shall  
14 be deemed by the system as having a prearranged agreement under the  
15 provisions of this subparagraph and shall have his or her retirement  
16 voided. If the participating agency fails to complete the certification, the  
17 member's retirement shall be voided and the provisions of paragraph (c)  
18 of this subsection shall apply to the member and the employer.  
19 Employment that is accepted by the retired member after twelve (12)  
20 months following the member's retirement date shall not constitute a  
21 prearranged agreement under this paragraph;
- 22 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of KRS Chapter 16, 61, or 78 to  
23 the contrary, the member shall not contribute to the systems and shall  
24 not earn any additional benefits for any work performed during the  
25 period of reemployment;
- 26 3. Except as provided by KRS 70.291 to 70.293, 95.022, and 164.952 and  
27 except for any retiree employed as a school resource officer as defined

- 1 by KRS 158.441, the employer shall pay employer contributions as  
2 specified by Section 8 of this Act, KRS 61.565, and KRS 61.702, as  
3 applicable, on all creditable compensation earned by the employee  
4 during the period of reemployment. The additional contributions paid  
5 shall be used to reduce the unfunded actuarial liability of the systems;
- 6 4. Except as provided by KRS 70.291 to 70.293, 95.022, and 164.952 and  
7 except for any retiree employed as a school resource officer as defined  
8 by KRS 158.441, the employer shall be required to reimburse the  
9 systems for the cost of the health insurance premium paid by the systems  
10 to provide coverage for the retiree, not to exceed the cost of the single  
11 premium;
- 12 (e) Notwithstanding paragraphs (a) to (d) of this subsection, a retired member  
13 who qualifies as a volunteer for an employer participating in one (1) of the  
14 systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems or County Employees  
15 Retirement System and who is receiving reimbursement of actual expenses, a  
16 nominal fee for his or her volunteer services, or both, shall not be considered  
17 an employee of the participating employer and shall not be subject to  
18 paragraphs (a) to (d) of this subsection if:
- 19 1. Prior to the retired member's most recent retirement date, he or she did  
20 not receive creditable compensation from the participating employer in  
21 which the retired member is performing volunteer services;
- 22 2. Any reimbursement or nominal fee received prior to the retired  
23 member's most recent retirement date has not been credited as creditable  
24 compensation to the member's account or utilized in the calculation of  
25 the retired member's benefits;
- 26 3. The retired member has not purchased or received service credit under  
27 any of the provisions of KRS 61.510 to 61.705 or 78.510 to 78.852 for

1 service with the participating employer for which the retired member is  
 2 performing volunteer services; and

3 4. Other than the status of volunteer, the retired member does not become  
 4 an employee, leased employee, or independent contractor of the  
 5 employer for which he or she is performing volunteer services for a  
 6 period of at least twelve (12)~~twenty-four (24)~~ months following the  
 7 retired member's most recent retirement date.

8 If a retired member, who provided volunteer services with a participating  
 9 employer under this paragraph violates any provision of this paragraph, then  
 10 he or she shall be deemed an employee of the participating employer as of the  
 11 date he or she began providing volunteer services and both the retired member  
 12 and the participating employer shall be subject to paragraphs (a) to (d) of this  
 13 subsection for the period of volunteer service;

14 (f) Notwithstanding any provision of this section, any mayor or member of a city  
 15 legislative body who has not participated in the County Employees Retirement  
 16 System prior to retirement, but who is otherwise eligible to retire from the  
 17 Kentucky Employees Retirement System or the State Police Retirement  
 18 System, shall not be:

19 1. Required to resign from his or her position as mayor or as a member of  
 20 the city legislative body in order to begin drawing benefits from the  
 21 Kentucky Employees Retirement System or the State Police Retirement  
 22 System; or

23 2. Subject to any provision of this section as it relates solely to his or her  
 24 service as a mayor or member of the city legislative body;

25 (g) If a member is receiving a retirement allowance from any of the retirement  
 26 systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems or County  
 27 Employees Retirement System and enters into a contract or becomes a leased

1 employee of an employer under contract with an employer participating in one  
2 (1) of the systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems or  
3 *County Employees Retirement System*;

- 4 1. At any time following retirement, if the system determines the  
5 employment arrangement does qualify as an independent contractor or  
6 leased employee, the member may continue to receive his or her  
7 retirement allowance during the period of the contract;
- 8 2. Within three (3) months following the member's initial retirement date,  
9 if the system determines the employment arrangement does not qualify  
10 as an independent contractor or leased employee, the member's  
11 retirement shall be voided in accordance with paragraph (a) of this  
12 subsection;
- 13 3. After three (3) months but within twelve (12) months following the  
14 member's initial retirement, if the system determines the employment  
15 arrangement does not qualify as an independent contractor or leased  
16 employee and that a prearranged agreement existed between the member  
17 and the agency for the member to return to work with the agency, the  
18 member's retirement shall be voided in accordance with paragraph (a) of  
19 this subsection; and
- 20 4. After a twelve (12) month period following the member's initial  
21 retirement, the member may continue to receive his or her retirement  
22 allowance during the period of the contract and the member shall not be  
23 required to notify the system or submit any documentation for purposes  
24 of this section to the system.

25 The initiation of a contract or the initial date of the leased employment of a  
26 retired member by a participating agency that occurs after twelve (12) months  
27 or more following the retired member's retirement date shall not constitute a

1 prearranged agreement under this subsection; and

2 (h) The Kentucky Retirement Systems *or County Employees Retirement System*  
3 shall issue a final determination regarding a certification of the absence of a  
4 prearranged agreement or the retired member's qualification as an independent  
5 contractor or leased employee as required under this section no later than  
6 thirty (30) days after the retired member and participating employer provide  
7 all required forms and additional information required by the Kentucky  
8 Retirement Systems *or County Employees Retirement System*.

9 (18) The Kentucky Retirement Systems *and the County Employees Retirement System*  
10 shall promulgate administrative regulations to implement the requirements of this  
11 section, including incorporating by reference board-prescribed forms that a retired  
12 member and participating agency shall provide the systems under subsections (8),  
13 (9), and (17) of this section.

14 ➔Section 26. KRS 61.670 is amended to read as follows:

15 (1) (a) As soon as practicable after its organization, the board shall adopt the  
16 actuarial tables necessary for the administration of the system and for the  
17 annual determination of actuarial assets and liabilities of the system.

18 (b) The board shall cause an actuarial valuation to be made annually. The  
19 valuation shall at a minimum include:

20 1. A description of the actuarial assumptions used in the actuarial  
21 valuation, which shall be reasonably related to the experience of the  
22 system and represent the actuary's best estimate of anticipated  
23 experience;

24 2. A description of any funding methods utilized or required by state law in  
25 the development of the actuarial valuation results;

26 3. A description of any changes in actuarial assumptions and methods from  
27 the previous year's actuarial valuation;

- 1           4.    The actuarially recommended contribution rate for employers for the
- 2                    upcoming budget periods;
- 3           5.    A twenty (20) year projection of the funding levels, unfunded liabilities,
- 4                    and actuarially recommended contribution rates for employers based
- 5                    upon the actuarial assumptions, funding methods, and experience of the
- 6                    system as of the valuation date; and
- 7           6.    A sensitivity analysis that evaluates the impact of changes in system
- 8                    assumptions, including but not limited to the investment return
- 9                    assumption, payroll growth assumption, and medical inflation rates, on
- 10                    employer contribution rates, funding levels, and unfunded liabilities.
- 11       (c)    At least once in each five (5) year period, the board shall cause an actuarial
- 12                    investigation to be made of all the experience under the retirement system
- 13                    relative to the actuarial assumptions and funding methods previously adopted
- 14                    by the board. The actuarial investigation shall include at a minimum a
- 15                    summary of the changes in actuarial assumptions and funding methods
- 16                    recommended in the investigation and the projected impact of the
- 17                    recommended changes on funding levels, unfunded liabilities, and actuarially
- 18                    recommended contribution rates for employers over a twenty (20) year period.
- 19       (d)    Pursuant to the actuarial investigation the board shall, from time to time,
- 20                    revise the actuarial tables previously adopted by the board and shall thereupon
- 21                    revise the bases of the rates of contributions required under KRS 61.510 to
- 22                    61.692 and ~~[,]~~ KRS 16.505 to 16.652~~[, and KRS 78.510 to 78.852]~~.
- 23       (e)    For any change in actuarial assumptions, funding methods, retiree health
- 24                    insurance premiums and subsidies, or any other decisions made by the board
- 25                    that impact system liabilities and actuarially recommended contribution rates
- 26                    for employers and that are not made in conjunction with the actuarial
- 27                    investigation required by paragraph (c) of this subsection, an actuarial analysis



1 shall be completed showing the projected impact of the changes on funding  
2 levels, unfunded liabilities, and actuarially recommended contribution rates  
3 for employers over a twenty (20) year period.

4 (f) All actuarial investigations, analyses, and valuations shall be certified to the  
5 board by an actuary who shall be a fellow of the Conference of Consulting  
6 Actuaries or a member of the American Academy of Actuaries.

7 (2) A copy of each five (5) year actuarial investigation, actuarial analysis, and annual  
8 valuation required by subsection (1) of this section shall be forwarded electronically  
9 to the Legislative Research Commission no later than ten (10) days after receipt by  
10 the board, and the Legislative Research Commission shall distribute the information  
11 received to the committee staff and co-chairs of any committee that has jurisdiction  
12 over the Kentucky Retirement Systems. The actuarial valuation required by  
13 subsection (1)(b) of this section shall be submitted no later than November 15  
14 following the close of the fiscal year.

15 (3) The Legislative Research Commission may employ an actuary with the same  
16 qualifications as the actuary employed by the board, and the board shall, free of  
17 charge, provide the actuary employed by the Commission with the same data  
18 provided to its own actuary, and any supplementary data he may require. The  
19 actuary employed by the Commission shall review the assumptions, determinations  
20 and recommendations of the board actuary, and legislative proposals related to the  
21 retirement systems, and report his findings to the Commission and to the board. The  
22 board shall pay fifty percent (50%) of the cost of the Commission's actuary, and the  
23 Commission shall pay the other fifty percent (50%).

24 ➔Section 27. KRS 61.701 is amended to read as follows:

25 (1) (a) There is hereby created and established a trust fund to be known as "Kentucky  
26 Retirement Systems insurance trust fund[-]" **and a trust fund to be known as**  
27 **the "County Employees Retirement System insurance trust fund."**

1       **(b)** All assets received in the **Kentucky Retirement Systems insurance** trust fund  
 2       shall be deemed trust funds to be held and applied solely as provided in this  
 3       section. Assets of the trust fund shall not be used for any other purpose and  
 4       shall not be used to pay the claims of creditors or any individual, person, or  
 5       employer participating in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System~~],~~  
 6       County Employees Retirement System~~],~~ or State Police Retirement System.

7       **(c)** **All assets received in the County Employees Retirement System insurance**  
 8       **trust fund shall be deemed trust funds to be held and applied solely as**  
 9       **provided in this section. Assets of the trust fund shall not be used for any**  
 10       **other purpose and shall not be used to pay the claims of creditors or any**  
 11       **individual, person, or employer participating in the County Employees**  
 12       **Retirement System.**

13       ~~(d)~~~~(b)~~ The trust fund is intended to be established as a trust exempt from  
 14       taxation under 26 U.S.C. sec. 115.

15       **(e)** **Effective April 1, 2021, the assets held in the Kentucky Retirement Systems**  
 16       **insurance trust fund as of March 31, 2021, that were attributable to**  
 17       **contributions made by County Employees Retirement System members,**  
 18       **employers, or recipients and the resulting investment returns shall be**  
 19       **transferred to the County Employees Retirement System insurance trust**  
 20       **fund.**

21       (2) The **trust funds are**~~trust fund is~~ created for the purpose of providing a trust  
 22       separate from the retirement funds. Trust fund assets are dedicated for use for health  
 23       benefits as provided in KRS 61.702, and as permitted under 26 U.S.C. secs. 105 and  
 24       106, to retired recipients and employees of employers participating in the Kentucky  
 25       Employees Retirement System **as it relates to the Kentucky Retirement Systems**  
 26       **insurance trust fund**, County Employees Retirement System **as it relates to the**  
 27       **County Employees Retirement System insurance trust fund**, and State Police

- 1 Retirement System as it relates to the Kentucky Retirement Systems insurance  
 2 trust fund, and to certain of their dependents or beneficiaries, including but not  
 3 limited to qualified beneficiaries as described in 42 U.S.C. secs. 300bb-1 et seq.
- 4 (3) The Kentucky Retirement Systems insurance trust fund shall be administered by  
 5 the board of trustees of the Kentucky Retirement Systems and the County  
 6 Employees Retirement System insurance trust fund shall be administered by the  
 7 board of trustees of the County Employees Retirement System and the respective  
 8 board shall serve as trustees of the fund. The boards~~[board]~~ shall manage the assets  
 9 of the funds~~[fund]~~ in the same manner in which the respective board~~[it]~~ administers  
 10 its~~[the]~~ retirement funds, except that separate accounting and financial reporting  
 11 shall be maintained for the trust funds~~[fund]~~.
- 12 (4) In addition to the requirements of subsection (2) of this section, the employers  
 13 participating in the trust funds~~[fund]~~ are limited to the Commonwealth, political  
 14 subdivisions of the Commonwealth, and entities whose income is exempt from  
 15 taxation under 26 U.S.C. sec. 115. No other entity may participate in the trust  
 16 funds~~[fund]~~.
- 17 (5) If a~~[the]~~ trust fund is terminated, the assets in the trust fund may revert, after the  
 18 payment of all liabilities, to the participating employers as determined by the board  
 19 of trustees.
- 20 (6) The respective board of trustees may adopt regulations and procedures and take all  
 21 action necessary and appropriate to provide that the income of the trust fund the  
 22 board administers is exempt from taxation under Title 26 of United States Code.
- 23 (7) The establishment of the Kentucky Retirement Systems insurance trust fund or the  
 24 County Employees Retirement System insurance trust fund shall not diminish or  
 25 expand the rights of any recipients, employees, or dependents to health benefits.
- 26 ➔Section 28. KRS 61.702 is amended to read as follows:
- 27 (1) (a) 1. The board of trustees of Kentucky Retirement Systems and the County

1            **Employees Retirement System** shall arrange by appropriate contract or  
2            on a self-insured basis to provide a group hospital and medical insurance  
3            plan for present and future recipients of a retirement allowance from the  
4            **systems the respective boards administer**~~[Kentucky Employees  
5            Retirement System, County Employees Retirement System, and State  
6            Police Retirement System]~~, except as provided in subsection (8) of this  
7            section. **Each respective**~~[The]~~ board shall also arrange to provide health  
8            care coverage through an insurer licensed pursuant to Subtitle 38 of  
9            KRS Chapter 304 and offering a managed care plan as defined in KRS  
10           304.17A-500, as an alternative to group hospital and medical insurance  
11           for any person eligible for hospital and medical benefits under this  
12           section.

- 13           2. Any person who chooses coverage under a hospital and medical  
14           insurance plan shall pay, by payroll deduction from the retirement  
15           allowance or by another method, the difference in premium between the  
16           cost of the hospital and medical insurance plan coverage and the benefits  
17           to which he would be entitled under this section.
- 18           3. For purposes of this section, "hospital and medical insurance plan" may  
19           include, at **each respective**~~[the]~~ board's discretion, any one (1) or more  
20           of the following:
- 21           a. Any hospital and medical expense policy or certificate, provider-  
22           sponsored integrated health delivery network, self-insured medical  
23           plan, health maintenance organization contract, or other health  
24           benefit plan;
- 25           b. Any health savings account as permitted by 26 U.S.C. sec. 223 or  
26           health reimbursement arrangement or a similar account as may be  
27           permitted by 26 U.S.C. sec. 105 or 106. Such arrangement or

1 account, in the board's discretion, may reimburse any medical  
2 expense permissible under 26 U.S.C. sec. 213; or

3 c. A medical insurance reimbursement program established by the  
4 board through the promulgation of administrative regulation under  
5 which members purchase individual health insurance coverage  
6 through a health insurance exchange established under 42 U.S.C.  
7 sec. 18031 or 18041.

8 (b) *Each respective*~~[The]~~ board may authorize present and future recipients of a  
9 retirement allowance from any of the ~~[three (3)]~~ retirement systems *the board*  
10 *administers* to be included in the state employees' group for hospital and  
11 medical insurance and shall provide benefits for recipients equal to those  
12 provided to state employees having the same Medicare hospital and medical  
13 insurance eligibility status, except as provided in subsection (8) of this  
14 section. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other statute, recipients shall  
15 be included in the same class as current state employees in determining  
16 medical insurance policies and premiums.

17 (c) For recipients of a retirement allowance who are not eligible for the same  
18 level of hospital and medical benefits as recipients living in Kentucky having  
19 the same Medicare hospital and medical insurance eligibility status, *each*  
20 *respective*~~[the]~~ board shall provide a medical insurance reimbursement plan as  
21 described in subsection (7) of this section.

22 (d) Notwithstanding anything in KRS Chapter 61 to the contrary, *each*  
23 *respective*~~[the]~~ board of trustees, in its discretion, may take necessary steps to  
24 ensure compliance with 42 U.S.C. secs. 300bb-1 et seq., including but not  
25 limited to receiving contributions and premiums from, and providing benefits  
26 pursuant to this section to, persons entitled to continuation coverage under 42  
27 U.S.C. secs. 300bb-1 et seq., regardless of whether such persons are recipients

1 of a retirement allowance.

2 (2) (a) Each employer participating in the State Police Retirement System as  
3 provided for in KRS 16.505 to 16.652, each employer participating in the  
4 County Employees Retirement System as provided in KRS 78.510 to 78.852,  
5 and each employer participating in the Kentucky Employees Retirement  
6 System as provided for in KRS 61.510 to 61.705 shall contribute to the  
7 ~~[Kentucky Retirement Systems]~~ insurance trust **funds established by Section**  
8 **27 of this Act**~~[fund]~~ the amount necessary to provide hospital and medical  
9 insurance as provided for under this section. Such employer contribution rate  
10 shall be developed by appropriate actuarial method as a part of the  
11 determination of each respective employer contribution rate to each respective  
12 retirement system determined under KRS 61.565 **or Section 8 of this Act, as**  
13 **applicable.**

14 (b) 1. Each employer described in paragraph (a) of this subsection shall deduct  
15 from the creditable compensation of each member having a membership  
16 date on or after September 1, 2008, an amount equal to one percent (1%)  
17 of the member's creditable compensation. The deducted amounts shall,  
18 at the discretion of the board, be credited to accounts established  
19 pursuant to 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(h), within the funds established in KRS  
20 16.510, 61.515, and 78.520, or the ~~[Kentucky Retirement Systems]~~  
21 insurance trust **funds**~~[fund]~~ established under KRS 61.701, or partially  
22 to one (1) fund with the remainder deposited to the other fund.  
23 Notwithstanding the provisions of this paragraph, a transfer of assets  
24 between the accounts established pursuant to 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(h),  
25 within the funds established in KRS 16.510, 61.515, and 78.520, and the  
26 ~~[Kentucky Retirement Systems]~~ insurance trust **funds**~~[fund]~~ established  
27 under KRS 61.701 shall not be allowed.

- 1           2.    The employer shall file the contributions as provided by subparagraph 1.  
2                   of this paragraph at the retirement office in accordance with KRS 61.675  
3                   and 78.625. Any interest or penalties paid on any delinquent  
4                   contributions shall be credited to accounts established pursuant to 26  
5                   U.S.C. sec. 401(h), within the funds established in KRS 16.510, 61.515,  
6                   and 78.520, or the ~~[Kentucky Retirement Systems]~~ insurance trust  
7                   *funds*~~[fund]~~ established under KRS 61.701. Notwithstanding any  
8                   minimum compensation requirements provided by law, the deductions  
9                   provided by this paragraph shall be made, and the compensation of the  
10                  member shall be reduced accordingly.
- 11           3.    Each employer shall submit payroll reports, contributions lists, and other  
12                  data as may be required by administrative regulation promulgated by  
13                  *each respective*~~[the]~~ board of trustees pursuant to KRS Chapter 13A.
- 14           4.    Every member shall be deemed to consent and agree to the deductions  
15                  made pursuant to this paragraph, and the payment of salary or  
16                  compensation less the deductions shall be a full and complete discharge  
17                  of all claims for services rendered by the person during the period  
18                  covered by the payment, except as to any benefits provided by KRS  
19                  16.505 to 16.652, 61.510 to 61.705, and 78.510 to 78.852. No member  
20                  may elect whether to participate in, or choose the contribution amount  
21                  payable to accounts established pursuant to 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(h) within  
22                  the funds established in KRS 16.510, 61.515, and 78.520, or the  
23                  ~~[Kentucky Retirement Systems]~~ insurance trust *funds*~~[fund]~~ established  
24                  under KRS 61.701. The member shall have no option to receive the  
25                  contribution required by this paragraph directly instead of having the  
26                  contribution paid to accounts established pursuant to 26 U.S.C. sec.  
27                  401(h) within the funds established in KRS 16.510, 61.515, and 78.520,

1 or the ~~[Kentucky Retirement Systems]~~insurance trust *funds*~~[fund]~~  
 2 established under KRS 61.701. No member may receive a rebate or  
 3 refund of contributions. If a member establishes a membership date prior  
 4 to September 1, 2008, pursuant to KRS 61.552(1) or 61.552(20), then  
 5 this paragraph shall not apply to the member and all contributions  
 6 previously deducted in accordance with this paragraph shall be refunded  
 7 to the member without interest. The contribution made pursuant to this  
 8 paragraph shall not act as a reduction or offset to any other contribution  
 9 required of a member or recipient under KRS 16.505 to 16.652, 61.510  
 10 to 61.705, and 78.510 to 78.852.

11 5. The *respective* board of trustees, at its discretion, may direct that the  
 12 contributions required by this paragraph be accounted for within  
 13 accounts established pursuant to 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(h) within the funds  
 14 established in KRS 16.510, 61.515, and 78.520, or the ~~[Kentucky~~  
 15 ~~Retirement Systems]~~insurance trust *funds*~~[fund]~~ established under KRS  
 16 61.701, through the use of separate accounts.

17 (3) (a) The premium required to provide hospital and medical benefits under this  
 18 section shall be paid:

- 19 1. Wholly or partly from funds contributed by the recipient of a retirement  
 20 allowance, by payroll deduction, or otherwise;
- 21 2. Wholly or partly from funds contributed by the ~~[Kentucky Retirement~~  
 22 ~~Systems]~~insurance trust *funds established under Section 27 of this*  
 23 *Act*~~[fund]~~;
- 24 3. Wholly or partly from funds contributed to accounts established  
 25 pursuant to 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(h) within the funds established in KRS  
 26 16.510, 61.515, and 78.520;
- 27 4. Wholly or partly from funds contributed by another state-administered



1 retirement system under a reciprocal arrangement, except that any  
 2 portion of the premium paid from the ~~{Kentucky Retirement Systems}~~  
 3 insurance trust funds~~{fund}~~ or accounts established pursuant to 26  
 4 U.S.C. sec. 401(h) within the funds established in KRS 16.510, 61.515,  
 5 and 78.520 under a reciprocal agreement shall not exceed the amount  
 6 that would be payable under this section if all the member's service were  
 7 in one (1) of the systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement  
 8 Systems or County Employees Retirement System;

- 9 5. Partly from subparagraphs 1. to 4. of this paragraph, except that any  
 10 premium for hospital and medical insurance over the amount contributed  
 11 by the ~~{Kentucky Retirement Systems}~~ insurance trust funds~~{fund}~~;  
 12 accounts established pursuant to 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(h) within the funds  
 13 established in KRS 16.510, 61.515, and 78.520; or another state-  
 14 administered retirement system under a reciprocal agreement shall be  
 15 paid by the recipient by an automatic electronic transfer of funds. If the  
 16 board provides for cross-referencing of insurance premiums, the  
 17 employer's contribution for the working member or spouse shall be  
 18 applied toward the premium, and the ~~{Kentucky Retirement Systems}~~  
 19 ~~{insurance trust funds{fund}}~~ or accounts established pursuant to 26  
 20 U.S.C. sec. 401(h) within the funds established in KRS 16.510, 61.515,  
 21 and 78.520 shall pay the balance, not to exceed the monthly  
 22 contribution; or

- 23 6. In full from the ~~{Kentucky Retirement Systems}~~ insurance trust  
 24 funds~~{fund}~~ or accounts established pursuant to 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(h)  
 25 within the funds established in KRS 16.510, 61.515, and 78.520 for all  
 26 recipients of a retirement allowance from any of the three (3) retirement  
 27 systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems or the

1                    **County Employees Retirement System** where such recipient is a retired  
2                    former member of one (1) or more of the three (3) retirement systems  
3                    **administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems or the County**  
4                    **Employees Retirement System** (not a beneficiary or dependent child  
5                    receiving benefits) and had two hundred and forty (240) months or more  
6                    of service upon retirement. Should such recipient have less than two  
7                    hundred forty (240) months of service but have at least one hundred  
8                    eighty (180) months of service, seventy-five percent (75%) of such  
9                    premium shall be paid from the insurance trust fund or accounts  
10                    established pursuant to 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(h) within the funds  
11                    established in KRS 16.510, 61.515, and 78.520, provided such recipient  
12                    agrees to pay the remaining twenty-five percent (25%) by payroll  
13                    deduction from his retirement allowance or by another method. Should  
14                    such recipient have less than one hundred eighty (180) months of service  
15                    but have at least one hundred twenty (120) months of service, fifty  
16                    percent (50%) of such premium shall be paid from the insurance trust  
17                    fund or accounts established pursuant to 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(h) within  
18                    the funds established in KRS 16.510, 61.515, and 78.520, provided such  
19                    recipient agrees to pay the remaining fifty percent (50%) by payroll  
20                    deduction from his retirement allowance or by another method. Should  
21                    such recipient have less than one hundred twenty (120) months of  
22                    service but have at least forty-eight (48) months of service, twenty-five  
23                    percent (25%) of such premium shall be paid from the insurance trust  
24                    fund or accounts established pursuant to 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(h) within  
25                    the funds established in KRS 16.510, 61.515, and 78.520, provided such  
26                    recipient agrees to pay the remaining seventy-five percent (75%) by  
27                    payroll deduction from his retirement allowance or by another method.

1           Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this subsection, an  
2           employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered  
3           by the Kentucky Retirement Systems who becomes disabled as a direct  
4           result of an act in line of duty as defined in KRS 16.505 or as a result of  
5           a duty-related injury as defined in KRS 61.621, shall have his premium  
6           paid in full as if he had two hundred forty (240) months or more of  
7           service. Further, an employee participating in one (1) of the retirement  
8           systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems who is killed  
9           as a direct result of an act in line of duty as defined in KRS 16.505 or as  
10          a result of a duty-related injury as defined in KRS 61.621, shall have the  
11          premium for the beneficiary, if the beneficiary is the member's spouse,  
12          and for each dependent child as defined in KRS 16.505, paid so long as  
13          they individually remain eligible for a monthly retirement benefit.  
14          "Months of service" as used in this section shall mean the total months  
15          of combined service used to determine benefits under any or all of the  
16          three (3) retirement systems *administered by the Kentucky Retirement*  
17          *Systems or the County Employees Retirement System,* except service  
18          added to determine disability benefits shall not be counted as "months of  
19          service." For current and former employees of the Council on  
20          Postsecondary Education who were employed prior to January 1, 1993,  
21          and who earn at least fifteen (15) years of service credit in the Kentucky  
22          Employees Retirement System, "months of service" shall also include  
23          vested service in another retirement system other than the Kentucky  
24          Teachers' Retirement System sponsored by the Council on  
25          Postsecondary Education.

26          (b) 1. For a member electing insurance coverage through the Kentucky  
27          Retirement Systems *or County Employees Retirement System,* "months

- 1 of service" shall include, in addition to service as described in paragraph  
2 (a) of this subsection, service credit in one (1) of the other state-  
3 administered retirement plans.
- 4 2. Effective August 1, 1998, the Kentucky Retirement Systems or County  
5 Employees Retirement System shall compute the member's combined  
6 service, including service credit in another state-administered retirement  
7 plan, and calculate the portion of the member's premium to be paid by  
8 the insurance trust fund accounts established pursuant to 26 U.S.C. sec.  
9 401(h) within the funds established in KRS 16.510, 61.515, and 78.520,  
10 according to the criteria established in paragraph (a) of this subsection.  
11 Each state-administered retirement plan annually shall pay to the  
12 insurance trust fund the percentage of the system's cost of the retiree's  
13 monthly contribution for single coverage for hospital and medical  
14 insurance which shall be equal to the percentage of the member's  
15 number of months of service in the other state-administered retirement  
16 plan divided by his total combined service. The amounts paid by the  
17 other state-administered retirement plans and the insurance trust fund or  
18 accounts established pursuant to 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(h) within the funds  
19 established in KRS 16.510, 61.515, and 78.520 shall not be more than  
20 one hundred percent (100%) of the monthly contribution adopted by the  
21 respective boards of trustees.
- 22 3. A member may not elect coverage for hospital and medical benefits  
23 under this subsection through more than one (1) of the state-  
24 administered retirement plans.
- 25 4. A state-administered retirement plan shall not pay any portion of a  
26 member's monthly contribution for medical insurance unless the member  
27 is a recipient or annuitant of the plan.

1           5. The premium paid by the ~~[Kentucky Retirement Systems]~~ insurance  
2 trust ~~funds~~~~[fund]~~ **established by Section 27 of this Act** or accounts  
3 established pursuant to 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(h) within the funds  
4 established in KRS 16.510, 61.515, and 78.520 shall not exceed one  
5 hundred percent (100%) of the monthly contribution rate toward hospital  
6 and medical insurance coverage approved by the board of trustees of the  
7 Kentucky Retirement Systems **or the board of trustees of the County**  
8 **Employees Retirement System.**

9 (4) (a) Group rates under the hospital and medical insurance plan shall be made  
10 available to the spouse, each dependent child, and each disabled child,  
11 regardless of the disabled child's age, of a recipient who is a former member  
12 or the beneficiary, if the premium for the hospital and medical insurance for  
13 the spouse, each dependent child, and each disabled child, or beneficiary is  
14 paid by payroll deduction from the retirement allowance or by another  
15 method. For purposes of this subsection only, a child shall be considered  
16 disabled if he has been determined to be eligible for federal Social Security  
17 disability benefits or meets the dependent disability standard established by  
18 the Department of Employee Insurance in the Personnel Cabinet.

19 (b) The other provisions of this section notwithstanding, the insurance trust  
20 ~~funds~~~~[fund]~~ or accounts established pursuant to 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(h) within  
21 the funds established in KRS 16.510, 61.515, and 78.520 shall pay a  
22 percentage of the monthly contribution for the spouse and for each dependent  
23 child of a recipient who was a member of the General Assembly and is  
24 receiving a retirement allowance based on General Assembly service, of the  
25 Kentucky Employees Retirement System and determined to be in a hazardous  
26 position, of the County Employees Retirement System, and determined to be  
27 in a hazardous position or of the State Police Retirement System. The

1 percentage of the monthly contribution paid for the spouse and each  
2 dependent child of a recipient who was in a hazardous position shall be based  
3 solely on the member's service with the State Police Retirement System or  
4 service in a hazardous position using the formula in subsection (3)(a) of this  
5 section, except that for any recipient of a retirement allowance from the  
6 County Employees Retirement System who was contributing to the system on  
7 January 1, 1998, for service in a hazardous position, the percentage of the  
8 monthly contribution shall be based on the total of hazardous service and any  
9 nonhazardous service as a police or firefighter with the same agency, if that  
10 agency was participating in the County Employees Retirement System but did  
11 not offer hazardous duty coverage for its police and firefighters at the time of  
12 initial participation.

13 (c) The insurance trust funds~~[fund]~~ or accounts established pursuant to 26 U.S.C.  
14 sec. 401(h) within the funds established in KRS 16.510, ~~[KRS ]~~61.515, and  
15 78.520 shall continue the same level of coverage for a recipient who was a  
16 member of the County Employees Retirement System after the age of sixty-  
17 five (65) as before the age of sixty-five (65), if the recipient is not eligible for  
18 Medicare coverage. If the insurance trust funds~~[fund]~~ or accounts established  
19 pursuant to 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(h) within the funds established in KRS 16.510,  
20 61.515, and 78.520 provides coverage for the spouse or each dependent child  
21 of a former member of the County Employees Retirement System, the  
22 insurance trust fund or accounts established pursuant to 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(h)  
23 within the funds established in KRS 16.510, 61.515, and 78.520 shall continue  
24 the same level of coverage for the spouse or each dependent child after the age  
25 of sixty-five (65) as before the age of sixty-five (65), if the spouse or  
26 dependent child is not eligible for Medicare coverage.

27 (5) After July 1, 1998, notwithstanding any other provision to the contrary, a member

1 who holds a judicial office but did not elect to participate in the Judicial Retirement  
2 Plan and is participating instead in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System, the  
3 County Employees Retirement System, or the State Police Retirement System, as  
4 provided in KRS 61.680, and who has at least twenty (20) years of total service,  
5 one-half (1/2) of which is in a judicial office, shall receive the same hospital and  
6 medical insurance benefits, including paid benefits for spouse and dependents, as  
7 provided to persons retiring under the provisions of KRS 21.427. The  
8 Administrative Office of the Courts shall pay the cost of the medical insurance  
9 benefits provided by this subsection.

10 (6) Premiums paid for hospital and medical insurance coverage procured under  
11 authority of this section shall be exempt from any premium tax which might  
12 otherwise be required under KRS Chapter 136. The payment of premiums by the  
13 insurance trust ~~funds~~ fund or accounts established pursuant to 26 U.S.C. sec.  
14 401(h) within the funds established in KRS 16.510, 61.515, and 78.520 shall not  
15 constitute taxable income to an insured recipient. No commission shall be paid for  
16 hospital and medical insurance procured under authority of this section.

17 (7) Each respective ~~The~~ board shall promulgate an administrative regulation to  
18 establish a medical insurance reimbursement plan to provide reimbursement for  
19 hospital and medical insurance premiums of recipients of a retirement allowance  
20 who are not eligible for the same level of hospital and medical benefits as recipients  
21 living in Kentucky and having the same Medicare hospital and medical insurance  
22 eligibility status. An eligible recipient shall file proof of payment for hospital and  
23 medical insurance at the retirement office. Reimbursement to eligible recipients  
24 shall be made on a quarterly basis. The recipient shall be eligible for reimbursement  
25 of substantiated medical insurance premiums for an amount not to exceed the total  
26 monthly premium determined under subsection (3) of this section. The plan shall  
27 not be made available if all recipients are eligible for the same coverage as

1 recipients living in Kentucky.

- 2 (8) (a) 1. For employees having a membership date on or after July 1, 2003, and  
3 before September 1, 2008, participation in the insurance benefits  
4 provided under this section shall not be allowed until the employee has  
5 earned at least one hundred twenty (120) months of service in the state-  
6 administered retirement systems.
- 7 2. For an employee having a membership date on or after September 1,  
8 2008, participation in the insurance benefits provided under this section  
9 shall not be allowed until the employee has earned at least one hundred  
10 eighty (180) months of service credited under KRS 16.543(1),  
11 61.543(1), or 78.615(1) or another state-administered retirement system.
- 12 (b) An employee who meets the minimum service requirements as provided by  
13 paragraph (a) of this subsection shall be eligible for benefits as follows:
- 14 1. For employees who are not in a hazardous position, a monthly insurance  
15 contribution of ten dollars (\$10) for each year of service as a  
16 participating employee.
- 17 2. For employees who are in a hazardous position or who participate in the  
18 State Police Retirement System, a monthly insurance contribution of  
19 fifteen dollars (\$15) for each year of service as a participating employee  
20 in a hazardous position or as a participating member of the State Police  
21 Retirement System. Upon the death of the retired member, the  
22 beneficiary, if the beneficiary is the member's spouse, shall be entitled to  
23 a monthly insurance contribution of ten dollars (\$10) for each year of  
24 service the member attained as a participating employee in a hazardous  
25 position or as a participating member of the State Police Retirement  
26 System.
- 27 (c) 1. The minimum service requirement to participate in benefits as provided



- 1 by paragraph (a) of this subsection shall be waived for a member who is  
2 disabled as a direct result of an act in line of duty as defined in KRS  
3 16.505, and the member or his spouse and eligible dependents shall be  
4 entitled to the benefits payable under this subsection as though the  
5 member had twenty (20) years of service in a hazardous position.
- 6 2. The minimum service required to participate in benefits as provided by  
7 paragraph (a) of this subsection shall be waived for a member who is  
8 disabled by a duty-related injury as defined in KRS 61.621, and the  
9 member shall be entitled to the benefits payable under this subsection as  
10 though the member has twenty (20) years of service in a nonhazardous  
11 position.
- 12 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the minimum service  
13 required to participate in benefits as provided by paragraph (a) of this  
14 subsection shall be waived for a member who dies as a direct result of an  
15 act in line of duty as defined in KRS 16.505 or who dies as a result of a  
16 duty-related injury as defined in KRS 61.621, and the premium for the  
17 member's spouse and for each dependent child as defined in KRS 16.505  
18 shall be paid in full by the systems so long as they individually remain  
19 eligible for a monthly retirement benefit.
- 20 (d) Except as provided by paragraph (c)3. of this subsection, the monthly  
21 insurance contribution amount shall be increased July 1 of each year by one  
22 and one-half percent (1.5%). The increase shall be cumulative and shall  
23 continue to accrue after the member's retirement for as long as a monthly  
24 insurance contribution is payable to the retired member or beneficiary.
- 25 (e) The benefits of this subsection provided to a member whose participation  
26 begins on or after July 1, 2003, shall not be considered as benefits protected  
27 by the inviolable contract provisions of KRS 61.692, 16.652, and 78.852. The

1 General Assembly reserves the right to suspend or reduce the benefits  
2 conferred in this subsection if in its judgment the welfare of the  
3 Commonwealth so demands.

4 (f) An employee whose membership date is on or after September 1, 2008, who  
5 retires and is reemployed in a regular full-time position required to participate  
6 in one (1) of the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems shall  
7 not be eligible for health insurance coverage or benefits provided by this  
8 section and shall take coverage with his or her employing agency during the  
9 period of reemployment in a regular full-time position.

10 ➔Section 29. KRS 64.475 is amended to read as follows:

11 (1) There is hereby established an advisory council to be known as the Executive  
12 Branch Compensation Advisory Council.

13 (a) The council shall consist of three (3) voting members: the state budget  
14 director, the secretary of the Governor's Executive Cabinet, and the secretary  
15 of the Finance and Administration Cabinet.

16 (b) The state budget director shall serve as the chair of the council.

17 (c) If a voting member is unable to attend a meeting of the council, he shall  
18 designate, in writing, a member of his staff to attend in his place, and such  
19 designation shall confer on such designee, for that meeting only, the authority  
20 to act, including the right to vote on any matter coming before the council.

21 (2) The council shall be attached to the Personnel Cabinet for administrative purposes.  
22 Personnel Cabinet staff shall provide necessary administrative and operational  
23 support for the council. The council may, from time to time, utilize the services of  
24 professional and technical personnel employed by other agencies of state  
25 government, if the need arises. The council shall meet on a quarterly basis at a time  
26 and place to be determined by the council. Additional meetings may be called upon  
27 request of two (2) voting members of the council.

- 1 (3) The duties of the council shall include the following:
- 2 (a) Advise and make recommendations to the secretary of the Personnel Cabinet
- 3 on appropriate salaries for the following:
- 4 1. The heads of the various departments in the executive branch of state
- 5 government, with the exception of:
- 6 a. Departments headed by constitutionally elected officers;
- 7 b. The Department of Education;
- 8 c. The Council on Postsecondary Education; and
- 9 d. The Kentucky Authority for Educational Television;
- 10 2. The heads of offices, as defined in KRS 12.010;
- 11 3. The administrative heads of boards and commissions and for their
- 12 employees, if they are not covered by the salary schedules set forth in
- 13 KRS Chapter 16, KRS Chapter 18A, or KRS Chapter 151B,
- 14 notwithstanding any other statute to the contrary empowering a board,
- 15 commission, authority, or other administrative body for which the
- 16 Personnel Cabinet provides personnel and payroll services except for
- 17 any board governing any of the Kentucky Retirement Systems, *the*
- 18 *County Employees Retirement System, the Kentucky Public Pensions*
- 19 *Authority*, the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority, the
- 20 Kentucky Authority for Educational Television, or the Council on
- 21 Postsecondary Education to establish, set, or approve the salaries of its
- 22 administrative head and other employees;
- 23 4. Requests from boards, commissions, or cabinet heads to approve salary
- 24 increases in excess of those increases provided other state employees to
- 25 individuals in the positions listed in paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of this
- 26 subsection;
- 27 (b) Advise the secretary of the Personnel Cabinet on requests from agencies to

1 establish or abolish a separate salary schedule, or schedules, reflective of the  
2 marketplace need to recruit and hire classified employees in technical or  
3 professional fields when the classified service salary schedule is inadequate. A  
4 positive recommendation of such requests shall not be granted unless  
5 significant credible evidence exists of a job market shortage and an  
6 inadequacy of the classified or unclassified salary schedules to recruit and  
7 retain competent, qualified applicants for such positions; and

8 (c) Recommend that the Personnel Cabinet conduct salary surveys of the  
9 executive branch positions outlined in subsection (3)(a)1., 2., and 3. of this  
10 section, using state governments in the seven (7) states contiguous to the  
11 Commonwealth, other states in the southeastern United States, and private  
12 sector employers, where appropriate.

13 (4) The council's recommendations shall:

14 (a) Take into consideration the provisions of KRS 64.640, if the specific position  
15 in question is subject to the provisions of KRS 64.640; and

16 (b) Not take into consideration the provisions of KRS 64.640, if the specific  
17 position in question is exempt from the provisions of KRS 64.640.

18 ➔Section 30. KRS 64.640 is amended to read as follows:

19 (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2) of this section, and excepting  
20 officers elected by popular vote, employees of the General Assembly, including  
21 employees of the Legislative Research Commission, members of boards and  
22 commissions, those officers and employees of Kentucky Educational Television  
23 exempt from classified service as provided in KRS 18A.115, presidents and  
24 employees of the state universities and the state colleges, officers employed by the  
25 Department of Kentucky State Police under KRS Chapter 16, and persons employed  
26 by the commissioner of parks on a temporary basis under KRS 148.026, the  
27 Personnel Cabinet shall prepare schedules of compensation, payable out of the State

1 Treasury, with a minimum salary rate, and other salary rates as are deemed  
2 necessary or advisable, for the office or position of employment of every state  
3 officer and employee, including specifically the offices and positions of  
4 employment in every constitutional administrative department, statutory  
5 administrative department, independent agency, board, commission, or other unit of  
6 state government. The language of any statute empowering a board, commission,  
7 authority, or other administrative body for which the Personnel Cabinet provides  
8 personnel and payroll services, except for any board governing any of the Kentucky  
9 Retirement Systems, *the County Employees Retirement System, the Kentucky*  
10 *Public Pensions Authority*, the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority,  
11 the Kentucky Authority for Educational Television, or the Council on  
12 Postsecondary Education, to establish, set, or approve the salaries of its  
13 administrative head and other employees to the contrary notwithstanding, the  
14 establishment or setting of salaries for administrative heads or other employees shall  
15 be subject to the approval of the secretary of the Personnel Cabinet. The schedules  
16 and rates shall be based upon studies of the duties and responsibilities of the offices  
17 and positions and upon a comparison with rates being paid for similar or  
18 comparable services elsewhere, and in the preparation of such schedules, the  
19 Personnel Cabinet shall ascertain and record the duties, responsibilities, and  
20 authority pertaining to the various offices and positions in the state service, and  
21 classify such positions in the manner provided in KRS 18A.030, 18A.035, 18A.110,  
22 18A.130, 18A.135, and 18A.150 to 18A.160. No such schedule shall become  
23 effective until it has been approved by the Governor by executive order.

24 (2) The Governor shall set the compensation payable out of the State Treasury to each  
25 officer or position in the state service, which officer or position heads a statutory  
26 administrative department, independent agency, or other unit of state government,  
27 except for those excluded under subsection (1) of this section. Such compensation

1 shall be based upon studies of the duties and responsibilities and classification of  
2 the positions by the Governor and upon a comparison with compensation being paid  
3 for similar or comparable services elsewhere, provided, however, such  
4 compensation shall not exceed the total taxable compensation of the Governor  
5 derived from state sources, the provisions of KRS 64.660 to the contrary  
6 notwithstanding. For the purposes of this section, the total taxable compensation of  
7 the Governor from state sources shall include the amount provided for  
8 compensation to the Governor under KRS 64.480 and any benefits or discretionary  
9 spending accounts that are imputed as taxable income for federal tax purposes.

10 (3) The compensation payable out of the State Treasury to officers and employees  
11 subordinate to any office or position covered by subsection (2) of this section shall  
12 not exceed the maximum rate established pursuant to subsection (2) of this section  
13 for such office or position, except with respect to physicians as provided in KRS  
14 64.655 and employees of the Public Service Commission of Kentucky whose  
15 compensation shall be fixed, within constitutional limits, by the Personnel Cabinet  
16 with the approval of the Governor as provided in subsection (1) of this section.

17 (4) Nothing in this section shall preclude the allowance of maintenance to officers and  
18 employees of the state.

19 ➔Section 31. KRS 70.293 is amended to read as follows:

20 (1) Individuals employed under KRS 70.291 to 70.293 shall:

21 (a) Serve for a term not to exceed one (1) year. The one (1) year employment term  
22 may be renewed annually at the discretion of the employing county police  
23 department or sheriff's office;

24 (b) Receive compensation according to the standard procedures applicable to the  
25 employing county police department or sheriff's office; and

26 (c) Be employed based upon need as determined by the county police department  
27 or the employing sheriff's office.

- 1 (2) Notwithstanding any provisions of KRS 16.505 to 16.652, 18A.225 to 18A.2287,  
2 61.510 to 61.705, or 78.510 to 78.852 to the contrary:
- 3 (a) Individuals employed under KRS 70.291 to 70.293 shall continue to receive  
4 all retirement and health insurance benefits to which they were entitled upon  
5 retiring in the applicable system administered by Kentucky Retirement  
6 Systems **or the County Employees Retirement System**;
- 7 (b) Individuals employed under KRS 70.291 to 70.293 shall not be eligible to  
8 receive health insurance coverage through the county police department, the  
9 sheriff's office, or the fiscal court of the county police department or sheriff's  
10 office;
- 11 (c) The county police department, sheriff's office, or fiscal court of the county  
12 police department or sheriff's office shall not pay any employer contributions  
13 or retiree health expense reimbursements to the Kentucky Retirement Systems  
14 required by KRS 61.637(17) for individuals employed under KRS 70.291 to  
15 70.293; and
- 16 (d) The county police department, sheriff's office, or fiscal court of the county  
17 police department or sheriff's office shall not pay any insurance contributions  
18 to the state health insurance plan, as provided by KRS 18A.225 to 18A.2287,  
19 for individuals employed under KRS 70.291 to 70.293.
- 20 (3) Individuals employed under KRS 70.291 to 70.293 shall be subject to any merit  
21 system, civil service, or other legislative due process provisions applicable to the  
22 county police department or sheriff's office. A decision not to renew a one (1) year  
23 appointment term under this section shall not be considered a disciplinary action or  
24 deprivation subject to due process.
- 25 ➔Section 32. KRS 78.510 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as follows:  
26 As used in KRS 78.510 to 78.852, unless the context otherwise requires:
- 27 (1) "System" means the County Employees Retirement System;

- 1 (2) "Board" means the board of trustees of the system as provided in Section 3 of this  
2 Act~~[KRS 78.780]~~;
- 3 (3) "County" means any county, or nonprofit organization created and governed by a  
4 county, counties, or elected county officers, sheriff and his employees, county clerk  
5 and his employees, circuit clerk and his deputies, former circuit clerks or former  
6 circuit clerk deputies, or political subdivision or instrumentality, including school  
7 boards, cities, charter county governments~~[government]~~,~~[—or]~~ urban-county  
8 governments, consolidated local governments, or unified local  
9 governments~~[government]~~ participating in the system by order appropriate to its  
10 governmental structure, as provided in KRS 78.530, and if the board is willing to  
11 accept the agency, organization, or corporation, the board being hereby granted the  
12 authority to determine the eligibility of the agency to participate;
- 13 (4) "School board" means any board of education participating in the system by order  
14 appropriate to its governmental structure, as provided in KRS 78.530, and if the  
15 board is willing to accept the agency or corporation, the board being hereby granted  
16 the authority to determine the eligibility of the agency to participate;
- 17 (5) "Examiner" means the medical examiners as provided in KRS 61.665;
- 18 (6) "Employee" means every regular full-time appointed or elective officer or employee  
19 of a participating county and the coroner of a participating county, whether or not he  
20 qualifies as a regular full-time officer. The term shall not include persons engaged  
21 as independent contractors, seasonal, emergency, temporary, and part-time workers.  
22 In case of any doubt, the board shall determine if a person is an employee within the  
23 meaning of KRS 78.510 to 78.852;
- 24 (7) "Employer" means a county, as defined in subsection (3) of this section, the elected  
25 officials of a county, or any authority of the county having the power to appoint or  
26 elect an employee to office or employment in the county;
- 27 (8) "Member" means any employee who is included in the membership of the system or



1 any former employee whose membership has not ceased~~[not been terminated]~~ under  
2 Section 34 of this Act~~[KRS 61.535]~~;

3 (9) "Service" means the total of current service and prior service as defined in this  
4 section;

5 (10) "Current service" means the number of years and months of employment as an  
6 employee, on and after July 1, 1958, for which creditable compensation is paid and  
7 employee contributions deducted, except as otherwise provided;

8 (11) "Prior service" means the number of years and completed months, expressed as a  
9 fraction of a year, of employment as an employee, prior to July 1, 1958, for which  
10 creditable compensation was paid. An employee shall be credited with one (1)  
11 month of prior service only in those months he received compensation for at least  
12 one hundred (100) hours of work. Twelve (12) months of current service in the  
13 system shall be required to validate prior service;

14 (12) "Accumulated contributions" means the sum of all amounts deducted from the  
15 compensation of a member and credited to his individual account in the members'  
16 account, including employee contributions picked up after August 1, 1982, pursuant  
17 to KRS 78.610(4), together with interest credited,~~[or investment returns earned as~~  
18 ~~provided by KRS 61.5956,]~~ on the amounts, and any other amounts the member  
19 shall have contributed thereto, including interest credited thereon~~[or investment~~  
20 ~~returns earned as provided by KRS 61.5956]~~. "Accumulated contributions" shall not  
21 include employee contributions that are deposited into accounts established  
22 pursuant to 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(h) within the funds established in KRS ~~[16.510,~~  
23 ~~61.515, and]~~ 78.520, as prescribed by KRS 61.702(2)(b);

24 (13) "Creditable compensation":

25 (a) Except as limited~~[provided]~~ by paragraph ~~[(b) or ]~~(c) of this subsection,  
26 means all salary, wages, and fees, including payments for compensatory time,  
27 paid to the employee as a result of services performed for the employer or for

1 time during which the member is on paid leave, which are includable on the  
2 member's federal form W-2 wage and tax statement under the heading "wages,  
3 tips, other compensation", including employee contributions picked up after  
4 August 1, 1982, pursuant to KRS 78.610(4). *The creditable compensation of*  
5 *fee officers who receive salary, fees, maintenance, or other perquisites as a*  
6 *result of their official duties is the gross amount received decreased by the*  
7 *cost of salary paid deputies and clerks and the cost of office supplies and*  
8 *other official expenses;*

9 (b) Includes:

- 10 1. Lump-sum bonuses, severance pay, or employer-provided payments for  
11 purchase of service credit, which shall be averaged over the employee's  
12 service with the system in which it is recorded if it is equal to or greater  
13 than one thousand dollars (\$1,000);
- 14 2. Cases where compensation includes maintenance and other perquisites,  
15 but the board shall fix the value of that part of the compensation not paid  
16 in money;
- 17 3. Lump-sum payments for creditable compensation paid as a result of an  
18 order of a court of competent jurisdiction, the Personnel Board, or the  
19 Commission on Human Rights, or for any creditable compensation paid  
20 in anticipation of settlement of an action before a court of competent  
21 jurisdiction, the Personnel Board, or the Commission on Human Rights,  
22 including notices of violations of state or federal wage and hour statutes  
23 or violations of state or federal discrimination statutes, which shall be  
24 credited to the fiscal year during which the wages were earned or should  
25 have been paid by the employer. This subparagraph shall also include  
26 lump-sum payments for reinstated wages pursuant to KRS 61.569,  
27 which shall be credited to the period during which the wages were

- 1 earned or should have been paid by the employer;
- 2 4. Amounts which are not includable in the member's gross income by
- 3 virtue of the member having taken a voluntary salary reduction provided
- 4 for under applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code; and
- 5 5. Elective amounts for qualified transportation fringes paid or made
- 6 available on or after January 1, 2001, for calendar years on or after
- 7 January 1, 2001, that are not includable in the gross income of the
- 8 employee by reason of 26 U.S.C. sec. 132(f)(4); and

9 (c) Excludes:

- 10 1. ~~Uniform, equipment, or any other expense allowances paid on or after~~
- 11 ~~January 1, 2019,~~ Living allowances, expense reimbursements, lump-
- 12 sum payments for accrued vacation leave, sick leave except as provided
- 13 in KRS 78.616(5), and other items determined by the board;
- 14 2. For employees who begin participating on or after September 1, 2008,
- 15 lump-sum payments for compensatory time;
- 16 3. Training incentive payments for city officers paid as set out in KRS
- 17 64.5277 to 64.5279;
- 18 4. For employees who begin participating on or after August 1, 2016,
- 19 nominal fees paid for services as a volunteer; ***and***
- 20 5. ~~For employees who are employed in a nonhazardous position, who~~
- 21 ~~began participating prior to September 1, 2008, and who retire after July~~
- 22 ~~1, 2023, lump-sum payments for compensatory time upon termination of~~
- 23 ~~employment; and~~
- 24 6. ~~Any salary or wages paid to an employee for services as a Kentucky~~
- 25 State Police school resource officer as defined by KRS 158.441;

26 (14) "Final compensation" means:

- 27 (a) For a member who begins participating before September 1, 2008, who is

1 employed in a nonhazardous position, the creditable compensation of the  
2 member during the five (5) fiscal years he was paid at the highest average  
3 monthly rate divided by the number of months of service credit during that  
4 five (5) year period multiplied by twelve (12). The five (5) years may be  
5 fractional and need not be consecutive~~[-, except that for members retiring on or~~  
6 ~~after January 1, 2019, the five (5) fiscal years shall be complete fiscal years].~~  
7 If the number of months of service credit during the five (5) year period is less  
8 than forty-eight (48)~~[- for members retiring prior to January 1, 2019],~~ one (1)  
9 or more additional fiscal years shall be used~~[-. If a member retiring on or after~~  
10 ~~January 1, 2019, does not have five (5) complete fiscal years that each contain~~  
11 ~~twelve (12) months of service credit, then one (1) or more additional fiscal~~  
12 ~~years, which may contain less than twelve (12) months of service credit, shall~~  
13 ~~be added until the number of months in the final compensation calculation is~~  
14 ~~at least sixty (60) months];~~

- 15 (b) For a member who is employed in a nonhazardous position, whose effective  
16 retirement date is between August 1, 2001, and January 1, 2009, and whose  
17 total service credit is at least twenty-seven (27) years and whose age and years  
18 of service total at least seventy-five (75), final compensation means the  
19 creditable compensation of the member during the three (3) fiscal years the  
20 member was paid at the highest average monthly rate divided by the number  
21 of months of service credit during that three (3) year period multiplied by  
22 twelve (12). The three (3) years may be fractional and need not be  
23 consecutive. If the number of months of service credit during the three (3)  
24 year period is less than twenty-four (24), one (1) or more additional fiscal  
25 years shall be used~~[-. Notwithstanding the provision of KRS 61.565, the~~  
26 ~~funding for this paragraph shall be provided from existing funds of the~~  
27 ~~retirement allowance];~~

- 1 (c) For a member who begins participating before September 1, 2008, who is  
2 employed in a hazardous position, as provided in KRS 61.592~~], and who~~  
3 ~~retired prior to January 1, 2019]~~, the creditable compensation of the member  
4 during the three (3) fiscal years he was paid at the highest average monthly  
5 rate divided by the number of months of service credit during that three (3)  
6 year period multiplied by twelve (12). The three (3) years may be fractional  
7 and need not be consecutive. If the number of months of service credit during  
8 the three (3) year period is less than twenty-four (24), one (1) or more  
9 additional fiscal years, which may contain less than twelve (12) months of  
10 service credit, shall be used;
- 11 (d) For a member who begins participating on or after September 1, 2008, but  
12 prior to January 1, 2014, who is employed in a nonhazardous position, the  
13 creditable compensation of the member during the five (5) complete fiscal  
14 years immediately preceding retirement divided by five (5). Each fiscal year  
15 used to determine final compensation must contain twelve (12) months of  
16 service credit. If the member does not have five (5) complete fiscal years that  
17 each contain twelve (12) months of service credit, then one (1) or more  
18 additional fiscal years, which may contain less than twelve (12) months of  
19 service credit, shall be added until the number of months in the final  
20 compensation calculation is at least sixty (60) months; or
- 21 (e) For a member who begins participating on or after September 1, 2008, but  
22 prior to January 1, 2014, who is employed in a hazardous position as provided  
23 in KRS 61.592~~], or for a member who begins participating prior to September~~  
24 ~~1, 2008, who is employed in a hazardous position as provided in KRS 61.592,~~  
25 ~~who retires on or after January 1, 2019]~~, the creditable compensation of the  
26 member during the three (3) complete fiscal years he was paid at the highest  
27 average monthly rate divided by three (3). Each fiscal year used to determine

1 final compensation must contain twelve (12) months of service credit. If the  
2 member does not have three (3) complete fiscal years that each contain twelve  
3 (12) months of service credit, then one (1) or more additional fiscal years,  
4 which may contain less than twelve (12) months of service credit, shall be  
5 added until the number of months in the final compensation calculation is at  
6 least thirty-six (36) months;

7 (15) "Final rate of pay" means the actual rate upon which earnings of an employee were  
8 calculated during the twelve (12) month period immediately preceding the  
9 member's effective retirement date, and shall include employee contributions picked  
10 up after August 1, 1982, pursuant to KRS 78.610(4). The rate shall be certified to  
11 the system by the employer and the following equivalents shall be used to convert  
12 the rate to an annual rate: two thousand eighty (2,080) hours for eight (8) hour  
13 workdays, one thousand nine hundred fifty (1,950) hours for seven and one-half  
14 (7.5) hour workdays, two hundred sixty (260) days, fifty-two (52) weeks, twelve  
15 (12) months, one (1) year;

16 (16) "Retirement allowance" means the retirement payments to which a member is  
17 entitled;

18 (17) "Actuarial equivalent" means a benefit of equal value when computed upon the  
19 basis of the actuarial tables adopted by the board. In cases of disability retirement,  
20 the options authorized by KRS 61.635 shall be computed by adding ten (10) years  
21 to the age of the member, unless the member has chosen the Social Security  
22 adjustment option as provided for in KRS 61.635(8), in which case the member's  
23 actual age shall be used. For members who begin participating in the system prior to  
24 January 1, 2014, no disability retirement option shall be less than the same option  
25 computed under early retirement;

26 (18) "Normal retirement date" means the sixty-fifth birthday of a member unless  
27 otherwise provided in KRS 78.510 to 78.852;

- 1 (19) "Fiscal year" of the system means the twelve (12) months from July 1 through the  
2 following June 30, which shall also be the plan year. The "fiscal year" shall be the  
3 limitation year used to determine contribution and benefits limits as set out in 26  
4 U.S.C. sec. 415;
- 5 (20) "Agency reporting official" means the person designated by the participating  
6 employer~~[agency]~~ who shall be responsible for forwarding all employer and  
7 employee contributions and a record of the contributions to the system and for  
8 performing other administrative duties pursuant to the provisions of KRS 78.510 to  
9 78.852;
- 10 (21) "Regular full-time positions," as used in subsection (6) of this section, shall mean  
11 all positions that average one hundred (100) or more hours per month, determined  
12 by using the number of hours actually worked in a calendar or fiscal year, or eighty  
13 (80) or more hours per month in the case of noncertified employees of school  
14 boards, determined by using the number of hours actually worked in a calendar or  
15 school year, unless otherwise specified, except:
- 16 (a) Seasonal positions, which although temporary in duration, are positions which  
17 coincide in duration with a particular season or seasons of the year and that  
18 may recur regularly from year to year, in which case the period of time shall  
19 not exceed nine (9) months, except for employees of school boards, in which  
20 case the period of time shall not exceed six (6) months;
- 21 (b) Emergency positions that are positions that do not exceed thirty (30) working  
22 days and are nonrenewable;
- 23 (c) Temporary positions that are positions of employment with a participating  
24 agency for a period of time not to exceed twelve (12) months and not  
25 renewable;
- 26 (d) Probationary positions which are positions of employment with a participating  
27 employer that do not exceed twelve (12) months and that are used uniformly

- 1 by the participating agency on new employees who would otherwise be  
2 eligible for participation in the system. Probationary positions shall not be  
3 renewable by the participating employer for the same employee, unless the  
4 employee has not been employed with the participating employer for a period  
5 of at least twelve (12) months; or
- 6 (e) Part-time positions that are positions that may be permanent in duration, but  
7 that require less than a calendar or fiscal year average of one hundred (100)  
8 hours of work per month, determined by using the number of months actually  
9 worked within a calendar or fiscal year, in the performance of duty, except in  
10 case of noncertified employees of school boards, the school term average shall  
11 be eighty (80) hours of work per month, determined by using the number of  
12 months actually worked in a calendar or school year, in the performance of  
13 duty;
- 14 (22) "Alternate participation plan" means a method of participation in the system as  
15 provided for by KRS 78.530(3);
- 16 (23) "Retired member" means any former member receiving a retirement allowance or  
17 any former member who has on file at the retirement office the necessary  
18 documents for retirement benefits and is no longer contributing to the system;
- 19 (24) "Current rate of pay" means the member's actual hourly, daily, weekly, biweekly,  
20 monthly, or yearly rate of pay converted to an annual rate as defined in final rate of  
21 pay. The rate shall be certified by the employer;
- 22 (25) "Beneficiary" means the person, persons, estate, trust, or trustee designated by the  
23 member in accordance with KRS 61.542 or 61.705 to receive any available benefits  
24 in the event of the member's death. As used in KRS 61.702, beneficiary shall not  
25 mean an estate, trust, or trustee;
- 26 (26) "Recipient" means the retired member, the person or persons designated as  
27 beneficiary by the member and drawing a retirement allowance as a result of the



- 1 member's death, or a dependent child drawing a retirement allowance. An alternate  
2 payee of a qualified domestic relations order shall not be considered a recipient,  
3 except for purposes of ~~[KRS 61.623]~~;
- 4 (27) "Person" means a natural person;
- 5 (28) "School term or year" means the twelve (12) months from July 1 through the  
6 following June 30;
- 7 (29) "Retirement office" means the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority~~[Kentucky~~  
8 ~~Retirement Systems]~~ office building in Frankfort;
- 9 (30) "Delayed contribution payment" means an amount paid by an employee for current  
10 service obtained under KRS 61.552. The amount shall be determined using the  
11 same formula in KRS 61.5525, except the determination of the actuarial cost for  
12 classified employees of a school board shall be based on their final compensation,  
13 and the payment shall not be picked up by the employer. A delayed contribution  
14 payment shall be deposited to the member's account and considered as accumulated  
15 contributions of the individual member. In determining payments under this  
16 subsection, the formula found in this subsection shall prevail over the one found in  
17 KRS 212.434;
- 18 (31) "Participating" means an employee is currently earning service credit in the system  
19 as provided in KRS 78.615;
- 20 (32) "Month" means a calendar month;
- 21 (33) "Membership date" means the date upon which the member began participating in  
22 the system as provided in KRS 78.615;
- 23 (34) "Participant" means a member, as defined by subsection (8) of this section, or a  
24 retired member, as defined by subsection (23) of this section;
- 25 (35) "Qualified domestic relations order" means any judgment, decree, or order,  
26 including approval of a property settlement agreement, that:
- 27 (a) Is issued by a court or administrative agency; and

1 (b) Relates to the provision of child support, alimony payments, or marital  
2 property rights to an alternate payee;

3 (36) "Alternate payee" means a spouse, former spouse, child, or other dependent of a  
4 participant, who is designated to be paid retirement benefits in a qualified domestic  
5 relations order;

6 (37) "Accumulated employer credit" means the employer pay credit deposited to the  
7 member's account and interest credited on such amounts as provided by ~~KRS~~  
8 ~~16.583 and 61.597~~];

9 (38) "Accumulated account balance" means:

10 (a) For members who began participating in the system prior to January 1, 2014,  
11 the member's accumulated contributions; ***or***

12 (b) For members who began participating in the system on or after January 1,  
13 2014, in the hybrid cash balance plan as provided by KRS 16.583 and 61.597,  
14 the combined sum of the member's accumulated contributions and the  
15 member's accumulated employer credit; ~~or~~

16 ~~(c) For nonhazardous members who are participating in the 401(a) money~~  
17 ~~purchase plan as provided by KRS 61.5956, the combined sum of the~~  
18 ~~member's accumulated contributions and the member's accumulated employer~~  
19 ~~contributions in the 401(a) money purchase plan];~~

20 (39) "Volunteer" means an individual who:

21 (a) Freely and without pressure or coercion performs hours of service for an  
22 employer participating in one (1) of the systems administered by Kentucky  
23 Retirement Systems ***or the County Employees Retirement System*** without  
24 receipt of compensation for services rendered, except for reimbursement of  
25 actual expenses, payment of a nominal fee to offset the costs of performing  
26 the voluntary services, or both; and

27 (b) If a retired member, does not become an employee, leased employee, or

1 independent contractor of the employer for which he or she is performing  
2 volunteer services for a period of at least twelve (12)~~twenty-four (24)~~ months  
3 following the retired member's most recent retirement date;

4 (40) "Nominal fee" means compensation earned for services as a volunteer that does not  
5 exceed five hundred dollars (\$500) per month. Compensation earned for services as  
6 a volunteer from more than one (1) participating employer during a month shall be  
7 aggregated to determine whether the compensation exceeds the five hundred dollars  
8 (\$500) per month maximum provided by this subsection;

9 (41) "Nonhazardous position" means a position that does not meet the requirements of  
10 KRS 61.592 or has not been approved by the board as a hazardous position;

11 ~~[(42) "Accumulated employer contribution" means the employer contribution deposited  
12 to the member's account and any investment returns on such amounts as provided  
13 by KRS 61.5956; and]~~

14 **(42) "Hazardous position" means a position that meets the requirements of Section  
15 24 of this Act and has been approved by the board as hazardous;**

16 **(43) "Level-percentage-of-payroll amortization method" means a method of  
17 determining the annual amortization payment on the unfunded actuarial accrued  
18 liability as expressed as a percentage of payroll over a set period of years. Under  
19 this method, the percentage of payroll shall be projected to remain constant for  
20 all years remaining in the set period and the unfunded actuarially accrued  
21 liability shall be projected to be fully amortized at the conclusion of the set  
22 period;**

23 **(44) "Increment" means twelve (12) months of service credit which are purchased.  
24 The twelve (12) months need not be consecutive. The final increment may be less  
25 than twelve (12) months;**

26 **(45)**~~[(43)] "Monthly average pay" means the higher of the member's monthly final rate of  
27 pay or the average monthly creditable compensation earned by the deceased~~

1 member during his or her last twelve (12) months of employment;

2 **(46) "Authority" means the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority as provided by**  
3 **Section 2 of this Act; and**

4 **(47) "Executive director" means the executive director of the Kentucky Public**  
5 **Pensions Authority.**

6 ➔Section 33. KRS 78.530 is amended to read as follows:

7 (1) (a) Each county and school board, as defined in KRS 78.510, will participate in  
8 the system by appropriate order authorizing such participation which has been  
9 entered and duly recorded in the records of the governing body of the county  
10 or school board. In cases where general purpose county government does not  
11 participate, but the sheriff and his employees or the county clerk and his  
12 employees do, the sheriff or the clerk shall retain the order in his office. The  
13 authority to issue and properly record such order of participation being hereby  
14 granted, permits such county to participate in the system. The effective date of  
15 such participation shall be fixed in the order.

16 (b) Notwithstanding any statute to the contrary, after April 9, 2002, the systems  
17 shall deny the request for participation of any agency which does not have an  
18 irrevocable contract with the state Personnel Cabinet for health insurance  
19 coverage under KRS 18A.225 to 18A.229 for its active employees, except  
20 that:

21 1. County governments entering the system between April 9, 2002, and  
22 July 1, 2003, under this section shall be excluded from this requirement;  
23 and

24 2. Agencies entering the system on or after April 9, 2002, which were  
25 established by a merger or an interlocal agreement to provide public  
26 services shall be excluded from this requirement if all agencies entering  
27 into the merger or interlocal agreement had an initial participation date

1 with the system prior to April 9, 2002.

2 (2) Once a county or school board participates, it shall thereafter continue to  
3 participate, except as provided in KRS 78.535.

4 (3) (a) Concurrent with the adoption of the appropriate resolution to participate in the  
5 system, a county may elect the alternate participation plan which will require  
6 the county to purchase on behalf of each employee electing coverage, at the  
7 time the county elected to participate in the system as provided under  
8 subsection (1)(b) and (c) of Section 35 of this Act~~[KRS 78.540(2)]~~, current  
9 service credit for employment in regular full-time positions between July 1,  
10 1958, and the participation date of the county. Cities which participate in the  
11 system pursuant to subsection (6) of this section, KRS 79.080, 90.400, 90.410,  
12 95.520, 95.621, 95.761, 95.768, 95.852, or 96.180 shall be required to  
13 purchase on behalf of each employee electing coverage only as much service  
14 credit as the employee has accumulated in the city-administered plan, up to  
15 the participation date of the city. Accumulated service shall include service for  
16 which an employee received a refund pursuant to KRS 95.620 or 95.866, if  
17 such refund has been repaid. If the employee has not yet repaid the refund, he  
18 may make payment to the system by any method acceptable to the system, and  
19 the requirement of five (5) years of continuous reemployment prior to  
20 repayment of refunds shall not apply. Upon the employee's repayment, the city  
21 shall purchase the associated service credit for the employee. Cost of such  
22 service credit over and above that which would be funded within the existing  
23 employer contribution rate shall be determined by the board's consulting  
24 actuary. The expense of such actuarial service shall be paid by the county;

25 (b) The county shall establish a payment schedule subject to approval by the  
26 board for payment of the cost of such service over and above that which  
27 would be funded within the existing employer contribution rate. The

1 maximum period allowed in a payment schedule shall be thirty (30) years,  
2 with interest at the rate actuarially assumed by the board. A shorter period is  
3 desirable and the board may approve any payment schedule provided it is not  
4 longer than a thirty (30) year period, except that cities which participate in the  
5 system pursuant to subsection (6) of this section, KRS 79.080, 90.400, 90.410,  
6 95.520, 95.621, 95.761, 95.768, 95.852, or 96.180 may, at their option, extend  
7 the payment schedule to a maximum of thirty (30) years, may choose to make  
8 level payments at the interest rate actuarially assumed by the board over the  
9 life of the payment schedule chosen, and may retain employer contributions  
10 and the earnings thereon attributable to employees electing coverage;

- 11 (c) A city entering the system under the alternate participation plan, may, by  
12 ordinance, levy a special property tax to pay for current service credit  
13 purchased for the period between July 1, 1958, and the participation date of  
14 the city. The special tax shall be to pay, within a period of no more than  
15 fifteen (15) years, for the cost of such service credit over that which would be  
16 funded within the existing employer contribution rate, as determined by the  
17 board's consulting actuary. The reason for levying the special tax and the  
18 disposition of the proceeds shall be part of the ordinance levying the tax. The  
19 special tax shall be rescinded when the unfunded prior service liability has  
20 been amortized, and shall not be subject to the provisions of KRS 132.017 or  
21 132.027. In addition, the city may maintain any tax, the proceeds of which had  
22 been devoted to funding pension obligations under the locally administered  
23 plan prior to participation in the system, for the purpose of funding current  
24 service costs incurred after the date of participation. The city may increase the  
25 tax to pay current service costs which exceed the local pension system costs to  
26 which the tax had been devoted, but the city shall not collect from the tax  
27 more revenues than are necessary to pay current service costs incurred after

1 the date of participation. The city may continue the tax so long as it  
2 participates in the system, and the tax shall not be subject to the provisions of  
3 KRS 132.017 or 132.027. The city shall not collect either tax authorized by  
4 this paragraph if its participation has been terminated pursuant to Section 34  
5 of this Act~~[KRS 61.522]~~;

6 (d) The county may at a later date purchase current service credit from July 1,  
7 1958, to the participation date of the county by alternate participation plan for  
8 those employees who rejected membership in the system at the time the  
9 county first participated. In addition, the employer shall pay the employer  
10 contributions on the creditable compensation of the employees who later elect  
11 membership from the participation date of the county to the date the member  
12 elects participation. The employee shall pay the employee contributions on his  
13 creditable compensation from the participation date of the county to the date  
14 he elects membership plus interest at the current actuarial rate compounded  
15 annually on the employee and employer contributions. Cost of the service  
16 credit over and above that which would be funded within the existing  
17 employer contribution rate shall be determined by the board's consulting  
18 actuary. The expense of the actuarial service shall be paid by the county. The  
19 county shall pay the cost of the service by lump sum or by adding it to the  
20 existing payment schedule established under paragraph (b) of this subsection;

21 (e) A county which did not participate by alternate participation may, until July 1,  
22 1991, purchase current service credit for those employees who rejected  
23 membership in the system at the time the county first participated. The  
24 employer shall pay the employer contributions on the creditable compensation  
25 of the employees who later elect membership from the participation date of  
26 the county to the date the member elects participation. The employee shall pay  
27 the employee contributions on his creditable compensation from the

1 participation date of the county to the date he elects membership plus interest  
2 at the current actuarial rate compounded annually on the employee and  
3 employer contributions. The county shall pay the cost of the service credit by  
4 lump sum or by establishing a payment schedule under paragraph (b) of this  
5 subsection; and

6 (f) A county which participated in the system but did not elect the alternate  
7 participation plan may at a later date elect the alternate participation plan. In  
8 this case, the county shall purchase on behalf of each employee participating  
9 in the system current service credit for employment in regular full-time  
10 positions between July 1, 1958, or a later date selected by the county  
11 government, and the participation date of the county. The county shall also  
12 purchase, for employees who decide to participate when the county elects the  
13 alternate participation plan, current service credit for employment in regular  
14 full-time positions between July 1, 1958, or the later date selected by the  
15 county government, and the participation date of the county. In addition, the  
16 county shall pay the employer contributions on the creditable compensation of  
17 the employees who later elect membership from the participation date of the  
18 county to the date the member elects participation. The employee shall pay the  
19 employee contributions on his creditable compensation from the participation  
20 date of the county to the date he elects membership plus interest at the current  
21 actuarial rate compounded annually on the employee and employer  
22 contributions. Cost of the service credit over that which would be funded  
23 within the existing employer contribution rate shall be determined by the  
24 board's consulting actuary. The expense of the actuarial service shall be paid  
25 by the county. The county shall pay the cost of the service by lump sum or by  
26 a payment schedule established under paragraph (b) of this subsection.

27 (g) Notwithstanding any other provision of the Kentucky Revised Statutes to the



1 contrary, this subsection shall not apply to members who begin participating  
2 in the system on or after January 1, 2014, and no county that elects to  
3 participate in the system on or after January 1, 2014, shall be eligible to  
4 participate under the alternate participation plan.

5 (4) Every school board not participating on June 21, 1974, shall enact a resolution of  
6 participation no later than July 1, 1976.

7 (5) The order of the governing body of a county, as provided for in subsection (1) of  
8 this section, may exclude from participation in the system hospitals and any other  
9 semi-independent agency. Each such excluded agency shall be identified in the  
10 order authorizing participation and such excluded agency may participate in the  
11 system as a separate agency.

12 (6) (a) After August 1, 1988, except as permitted by KRS 65.156, no local  
13 government retirement system shall be created pursuant to KRS 70.580 to  
14 70.598 and any local government retirement systems created pursuant to KRS  
15 79.080, 90.400, 90.410, 95.768, and KRS Chapter 96 shall be closed to new  
16 members. New employees who would have been granted membership in such  
17 retirement systems shall instead be granted membership in the County  
18 Employees Retirement System. Employees who would have been granted  
19 membership in retirement systems created pursuant to KRS 95.768, or any  
20 other policemen or firefighters who would have been granted membership in  
21 retirement systems created pursuant to KRS 79.080, 90.400, or 90.410, or any  
22 such policemen or firefighter members employed on or prior to August 1,  
23 1988, who transfer to the County Employees Retirement System, shall be  
24 certified by their employers as working in hazardous positions. Each city  
25 participating in the County Employees Retirement System pursuant to this  
26 subsection shall execute the appropriate order authorizing such participation,  
27 shall select the alternate participation plan as described in subsection (3) of

1           this section, and shall pay for the actuarial services necessary to determine the  
2           additional costs of alternate participation. Cities which closed their local  
3           pension systems to new members and participated in the system prior to July  
4           15, 1988, whose employees at the time of transition were given the option to  
5           join the system shall not be required to offer said employees a second option  
6           to join the system.

7           (b) Notwithstanding any statute to the contrary, after April 9, 2002, the  
8           system~~systems~~ shall deny the request for participation of any agency which  
9           does not have an irrevocable contract with the state Personnel Cabinet for  
10          health insurance coverage under KRS 18A.225 to 18A.229 for its active  
11          employees, except that agencies entering the system on or after April 9, 2002,  
12          which were established by a merger or an interlocal agreement to provide  
13          public services shall be excluded from this requirement if all agencies entering  
14          into the merger or interlocal agreement had an initial participation date with  
15          the system prior to April 9, 2002.

16       (7) Any city which closed a police and firefighter pension plan to new members  
17       between January 1, 1988, and July 15, 1988, and participated in the system under  
18       the alternate participation plan shall, if its police and firefighters were not covered  
19       by Social Security, or any city which operates a pension under KRS 90.400 or  
20       90.410, shall be required to certify that its police and firefighters are working in  
21       hazardous positions, and shall offer its police and firefighters in service at the time  
22       of entry a second option to participate under hazardous duty coverage if they were  
23       not offered hazardous duty coverage at the time of their first option. The provisions  
24       of subsection (3)(b) of this section notwithstanding, a city affected by this  
25       subsection may, at its option, extend its payment schedule to the County Employees  
26       Retirement System for alternate participation to thirty (30) years at the rate  
27       actuarially assumed by the board.

1           ➔Section 34. KRS 78.535 is amended to read as follows:

2           Notwithstanding any other provision of KRS 78.510 to 78.852 to the contrary:

3           (1) For purposes of this section:

4           (a) "Active member" means a member who is participating in the system;

5           (b) "Employer" means the governing body of a county as defined by KRS  
6           78.510;

7           (c) "Employer's effective cessation date" means the last day of the system's  
8           plan year in the year in which the employer has elected to cease  
9           participation in the system, provided the employer has met the requirements  
10           of this section and has given the system sufficient notice as provided by  
11           administrative regulations promulgated by the system; and

12           (d) "Inactive member" means a member who is not participating with the  
13           system.

14           (2) Any employer participating in the County Employees Retirement System on July  
15           1, 2015, may:

16           (a) If the employer is a nonstock nonprofit corporation organized under KRS  
17           Chapter 273, voluntarily cease participation in the system subject to the  
18           requirements and restrictions of this section; or

19           (b) Be required to involuntarily cease participation in the system under the  
20           provisions of this section if the board has determined the employer is no  
21           longer qualified to participate in a governmental plan or has failed to  
22           comply with the provisions of KRS 78.510 to 78.852.

23           (3) (a) If an employer desires to voluntarily cease participation in the County  
24           Employees Retirement System as provided by subsection (2)(a) of this  
25           section:

26           1. The employer shall adopt a resolution requesting to cease  
27           participation in the system and shall submit the resolution to the

- 1                   board for its approval;
- 2                   2. The cessation of participation in the system shall apply to all
- 3                   employees of the employer;
- 4                   3. The employer shall pay for all administrative costs of an actuarial
- 5                   study to be completed by the County Employees Retirement System
- 6                   consulting actuary and for any other administrative costs for
- 7                   discontinuing participation in the system as determined by the board
- 8                   and as provided by this section;
- 9                   4. The employer shall provide an alternative retirement program for
- 10                  employees who will no longer be covered by the system, which may
- 11                  include a voluntary defined contribution plan;
- 12                  5. If the alternative retirement program established by the employer
- 13                  meets the qualification requirements under 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(a) and
- 14                  is capable of accepting trustee-to-trustee transfers of both pre-tax and
- 15                  post-tax contributions, an employee of the employer ceasing
- 16                  participation may seek to transfer his or her account balance to the
- 17                  employer's qualified alternate retirement program within sixty (60)
- 18                  days of the employer's effective cessation date. An employee's election
- 19                  to transfer his or her account balance within sixty (60) days of the
- 20                  employer's effective cessation date is an irrevocable waiver of the right
- 21                  to obtain service credits in the system for the time worked for the
- 22                  employer ceasing participation; and
- 23                  6. The employer shall pay by lump sum to the system the full actuarial
- 24                  cost of the benefits accrued by its current and former employees in the
- 25                  system as determined separately for the pension fund and the
- 26                  insurance fund by the actuarial study required by subparagraph 3. of
- 27                  this paragraph. The full actuarial cost shall not include any employee

1           who seeks to transfer his or her account balance to the alternative  
2           retirement program as provided by subparagraph 5. of this paragraph  
3           within sixty (60) days of the employer's effective cessation date. The  
4           actuarial cost shall be fixed, and the employer shall not be subject to  
5           any increases or subsequent adjustments, once the lump sum is paid.

6           (b) If the board determines an employer must involuntarily cease participation  
7           in the system as provided by subsection (2)(b) of this section:

8           1. The cessation of participation in the system shall apply to all  
9           employees of the employer;

10          2. The employer shall pay for all administrative costs of an actuarial  
11          study to be completed by the County Employees Retirement System  
12          consulting actuary and for any other administrative costs for  
13          discontinuing participation in the system as determined by the board  
14          and as provided by this section; and

15          3. The employer shall pay by lump sum to the system the full actuarial  
16          cost of the benefits accrued by its current and former employees in the  
17          system as determined separately for the pension fund and the  
18          insurance fund by the actuarial study required by subparagraph 2. of  
19          this paragraph. The actuarial cost shall be fixed, and the employer  
20          shall not be subject to any increases or subsequent adjustments, once  
21          the lump sum is paid.

22          (4) Any employee hired on or after the employer's effective cessation date by an  
23          employer who has ceased participation in the system as provided by this section  
24          shall not, regardless of his or her membership date in the County Employees  
25          Retirement System, be eligible to participate in the County Employees Retirement  
26          System through the employer that ceased participation for the duration of his or  
27          her employment with that employer.

1 (5) If an employer has ceased participation in the system as provided by this section:

2 (a) The rights of recipients and the vested rights of inactive members accrued  
3 as of the employer's effective cessation date shall not be impaired or  
4 reduced in any manner as a result of the employer ceasing participation in  
5 the system; and

6 (b) Employees of the employer ceasing participation shall accrue benefits  
7 through the employer's effective cessation date but shall not accrue any  
8 additional benefits in the County Employees Retirement System, including  
9 earning years of service credit through the ceased employer, after the  
10 employer's effective cessation date for as long as they remain employed by  
11 the employer. The day after the employer's effective cessation date, each  
12 employee described by this paragraph shall be considered an inactive  
13 member with respect to his or her employment with the employer that  
14 ceased participation and, subject to the provisions and limitations of KRS  
15 78.510 to 78.852, shall:

16 1. Retain his or her accounts with the County Employees Retirement  
17 System and have those accounts credited with interest in accordance  
18 with KRS 78.510 to 78.852;

19 2. Retain his or her vested rights in accordance with paragraph (a) of  
20 this subsection; and

21 3. Be eligible to take a refund of his or her accumulated account balance  
22 in accordance with KRS 61.625 or any other available distribution if  
23 eligible.

24 (6) For purposes of this section, the full actuarial cost shall be determined by the  
25 County Employees Retirement System consulting actuary separately for the  
26 pension fund and the insurance fund using the assumptions and methodology  
27 established by the system specifically for determining the full actuarial cost of

1 ceasing participation as of the employer's effective cessation date. For purposes  
 2 of determining the full actuarial cost, the assumed rate of return used to calculate  
 3 the cost shall be the lesser of the assumed rate of return utilized in the system's  
 4 most recent actuarial valuation or the yield on a thirty (30) year United States  
 5 treasury bond as of the employer's effective cessation date, but shall in no case be  
 6 lower than the assumed rate of return utilized in the system's most recent  
 7 actuarial valuation minus three and one-half percent (3.5%).

8 (7) The system shall promulgate administrative regulations pursuant to KRS Chapter  
 9 13A to administer this section.

10 (8) Any employer who voluntarily ceases participation, or who is required to  
 11 involuntarily cease participation as provided in this section, shall hold the  
 12 Commonwealth harmless from damages, attorney's fees, and costs from legal  
 13 claims for any cause of action brought by any member or retired member of the  
 14 departing employer.

15 ~~[(1) If a participating county fails to fully comply with the provisions of KRS 78.510 to~~  
 16 ~~78.852, the board may require the county to involuntarily cease participation in the~~  
 17 ~~system as provided by KRS 61.522.]~~

18 ~~(9)~~[(2)] In lieu of cessation of participation of a county which fails to fully comply  
 19 with the provisions of KRS 78.510 to 78.852, the board may file an action in the  
 20 Franklin Circuit Court to collect money owed and to attach so much of the general  
 21 fund of the delinquent county as is necessary to achieve full compliance with the  
 22 provisions of KRS 78.625.

23 (10) The board may utilize the provisions of subsection (3)(b) or (4) of Section 38 of  
 24 this Act to ensure employer compliance and payment of any amount payable by  
 25 an employer under the provisions of this section.

26 ➔Section 35. KRS 78.540 is amended to read as follows:

27 Membership in the system shall consist of the following:

1 (1) (a) All persons who become employees of a participating county after the date the  
2 county first participates in the system, except that:

3 1. Mayors and members of city legislative bodies may decline prior to their  
4 participation in the system; and

5 2. City managers or other appointed local government executives who  
6 participate in a retirement system, other than Social Security, may  
7 decline prior to their participation in the system;

8 ~~(b)(2)~~ ~~(a)~~ All persons who are employees of a county on the date the county  
9 first participates in the system, either in service or on authorized leave from  
10 service, and who elect within thirty (30) days next following the county's  
11 participation, or in the case of persons on authorized leave, within thirty (30)  
12 days of their return to active service, to become members and thereby agree to  
13 make contributions as provided in KRS 78.520 to 78.852;

14 ~~(c)(b)~~ All persons who are employees of a county who did not elect to  
15 participate within thirty (30) days of the date the county first participated in  
16 the system or within thirty (30) days of their return to active service and who  
17 subsequently elect to participate the first day of a month after the county's date  
18 of participation;

19 ~~(d)(3)~~ All persons who declined participation as provided by paragraph (a) ~~in~~  
20 ~~subsection (1)~~ of this subsection ~~section~~ and who later elect to participate.  
21 Persons who elect to participate under this paragraph ~~subsection~~ may  
22 purchase service credit for any prior years by paying a delayed contribution  
23 payment, provided the person began participating in the system prior to  
24 January 1, 2014. The service shall not be included in the member's total  
25 service for purposes of determining benefits under KRS 61.702; and

26 ~~(e)(4)~~ All persons electing coverage in the system under KRS 78.530(3)(d).

27 ~~(2)(5)~~ The provisions of subsection ~~subsections~~ (1)(a) to (1)(c) ~~and (2)~~ of this



1 section notwithstanding, cities which participate in the CERS and close existing  
 2 local pension systems to new, or all members pursuant to the provisions of KRS  
 3 78.530, 95.520, 95.621, or 95.852 shall not be required to provide membership in  
 4 the County Employees Retirement System to employees in any employee category  
 5 not covered by a city pension system at the date of participation.

6 ~~(3)~~~~(6)~~ Membership in the system shall not include:

7 (a) Persons who are not eligible to participate in the system as provided by  
 8 Section 34 of this Act; or~~[KRS 61.522 or those]~~

9 (b) Employees who are simultaneously participating in another state-administered  
 10 defined benefit plan within Kentucky other than those administered by the  
 11 Kentucky Retirement Systems or the County Employees Retirement System,  
 12 except for employees who have ceased to contribute to one (1) of the state-  
 13 administered retirement plans as provided in KRS 21.360.

14 (4) (a) The membership of any person in the system shall cease:

15 1. Upon withdrawal of his accumulated account balance at or any time  
 16 after termination of employment, regardless of length of service;

17 2. Upon retirement;

18 3. Upon death;

19 4. For persons hired prior to August 1, 2000, upon termination of  
 20 employment with prejudice, as defined by paragraph (b) of this  
 21 subsection; or

22 5. For persons hired on or after August 1, 2000, upon conviction of a  
 23 felony relating to the person's employment as provided in paragraph  
 24 (c) of this subsection.

25 (b) For purposes of KRS 78.510 to 78.852, termination of employment with  
 26 prejudice shall mean termination as the result of conviction of the member  
 27 in a court of competent jurisdiction of embezzlement or larceny of public

1           *funds or property or malfeasance in office, or the forcing of a member to*  
 2           *make restitution for any funds or property criminally taken by the member*  
 3           *at the time of termination of employment.*

4           *(c) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, an employee hired on*  
 5           *or after August 1, 2000, who participates in the system and who is*  
 6           *convicted, in any state or federal court of competent jurisdiction, of a felony*  
 7           *related to his employment shall forfeit rights and benefits earned under the*  
 8           *system, except for the return of his accumulated contributions and interest*  
 9           *credited on those contributions. The payment of retirement benefits ordered*  
 10           *forfeited shall be stayed pending any appeal of the conviction. If the*  
 11           *conviction is reversed on final judgment, no retirement benefit shall be*  
 12           *forfeited. The employer shall notify the system when an employee is*  
 13           *convicted under the provisions of this subsection.*

14           *(d) When membership ceases, except in the case of retirement, the member*  
 15           *shall thereafter lose all right to any retirement allowance or benefits under*  
 16           *KRS 78.510 to 78.852 arising from service prior to the date of such*  
 17           *cessation of membership.*

18           ➔Section 36. KRS 78.610 is amended to read as follows:

- 19           (1) Each employee shall, commencing on August 1, 1990, contribute, for each pay  
 20           period for which he receives compensation, five percent (5%) of his creditable  
 21           compensation.
- 22           (2) The agency reporting official of a participating county shall cause to be deducted  
 23           from the "creditable compensation" of each employee for each and every payroll  
 24           period subsequent to the date the county participated in the system the contribution  
 25           payable by the member as provided in KRS 78.510 to 78.852. The agency reporting  
 26           official shall promptly pay the deducted employee contributions to the system in  
 27           accordance with KRS 78.625.

- 1 (3) The deductions provided for in subsection (2) of this section shall be made  
2 notwithstanding that the minimum compensation provided by law for any employee  
3 shall be reduced thereby. Every employee shall be deemed to consent and agree to  
4 the deductions made as provided in subsection (2) of this section; and payment of  
5 salary or compensation less the deductions shall be a full and complete discharge of  
6 all claims for services rendered by the person during the period covered by the  
7 payment, except as to any benefits provided by KRS 78.510 to 78.852.
- 8 (4) Each employer shall, solely for the purpose of compliance with Section 414(h) of  
9 the United States Internal Revenue Code, pick up the employee contributions  
10 required by this section for all compensation earned after August 1, 1982, and the  
11 contributions picked up shall be treated as employer contributions in determining  
12 tax treatment under the United States Internal Revenue Code and KRS 141.010.  
13 These contributions shall not be included as gross income of the employee until the  
14 contributions are distributed or made available to the employee. The picked-up  
15 employee contribution shall satisfy all obligations to the retirement system satisfied  
16 prior to August 1, 1982, by the employee contribution, and the picked-up employee  
17 contribution shall be in lieu of an employee contribution. Each employer shall pay  
18 these picked-up employee contributions from the same source of funds which is  
19 used to pay earnings to the employee. The employee shall have no option to receive  
20 the contributed amounts directly instead of having them paid by the employer to the  
21 system. Employee contributions picked up after August 1, 1982, shall be treated for  
22 all purposes of KRS 78.510 to 78.852 in the same manner and to the same extent as  
23 employee contributions made prior to August 1, 1982.
- 24 (5) The provisions of this section shall not apply to individuals who are not eligible for  
25 membership as provided by Section 34 of this Act~~[KRS 61.522]~~.
- 26 ➔Section 37. KRS 78.615 is amended to read as follows:
- 27 (1) Employee contributions shall be deducted each payroll period from the creditable

1 compensation of each employee of an agency participating in the system while he is  
2 classified as regular full-time as defined in KRS 78.510 unless the person did not  
3 elect to become a member as provided by KRS 78.540~~[(2)]~~ or is not eligible to  
4 participate in the system as provided by Section 34 of this Act~~[KRS 61.522]~~. After  
5 August 1, 1982, employee contributions shall be picked up by the employer  
6 pursuant to KRS 78.610(4).

7 (a) For employees who are not employed by a school board, service credit shall  
8 be allowed for each month contributions are deducted or picked up during a  
9 fiscal or calendar year, if the employee receives creditable compensation for  
10 an average of one hundred (100) hours or more of work per month based on  
11 the actual hours worked in a calendar or fiscal year. If the average number of  
12 hours of work is less than one hundred (100) hours per month, the employee  
13 shall be allowed credit only for those months he receives creditable  
14 compensation for one hundred (100) hours of work.

15 (b) For noncertified employees of school boards, for service prior to July 1, 2000,  
16 service credit shall be allowed for each month contributions are deducted or  
17 picked up under the employee's employment contract during a school year  
18 determined by dividing the actual number of contracted calendar days worked  
19 by twenty (20) and rounded to the nearest whole month if the employee  
20 receives creditable compensation for an average of eighty (80) or more hours  
21 of work per month based on the employee's employment contract. The school  
22 board shall certify the number of calendar days worked, the rate of pay, and  
23 the hours in a work day for each employee monthly or annually. The employer  
24 shall file at the retirement office the final monthly report or the annual report  
25 for a fiscal year no later than twenty (20) days following the completion of the  
26 fiscal year. The retirement system shall impose a penalty on the employer of  
27 one thousand dollars (\$1,000) if the information is not submitted by the date

1 required with an additional two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) for each  
2 additional thirty (30) day period the information is reported late.

- 3 1. If the employee works fewer than the number of contracted calendar  
4 days, the employee shall receive service credit determined by dividing  
5 the actual number of contracted calendar days worked by twenty (20)  
6 and rounded to the nearest whole month, provided that the number of  
7 hours worked during the period averages eighty (80) or more hours.
- 8 2. If the employee works fewer than the number of contracted calendar  
9 days and the average number of hours worked is less than eighty (80) per  
10 month, then the employee shall receive service credit for each calendar  
11 month in which he worked eighty (80) or more hours.
- 12 3. The retirement system shall refund contributions and service credit for  
13 any period for which the employee is not given credit under this  
14 subsection.

15 (c) For noncertified employees of school boards, for service on and after July 1,  
16 2000, at the close of each fiscal year, the retirement system shall add service  
17 credit to the account of each employee who made contributions to his or her  
18 account during the year. Employees shall be entitled to a full year of service  
19 credit if their total paid calendar days were not less than one hundred eighty  
20 (180) calendar days for a regular school or fiscal year. In the event an  
21 employee is paid for less than one hundred eighty (180) calendar days, the  
22 employee may purchase credit according to administrative regulations  
23 promulgated by the system. In no case shall more than one (1) year of service  
24 be credited for all service performed in one (1) fiscal year. Employees who  
25 complete their employment contract prior to the close of a fiscal year and elect  
26 to retire prior to the close of a fiscal year shall have their service credit  
27 reduced by eight percent (8%) for each calendar month that the retirement

1 becomes effective prior to July 1. Employees who are employed and paid for  
2 less than the number of calendar days required in their normal employment  
3 year shall be entitled to pro rata service credit for the fractional service. This  
4 credit shall be based upon the number of calendar days employed and the  
5 number of calendar days in the employee's annual employment agreement or  
6 normal employment year. Service credit may not exceed the ratio between the  
7 school or fiscal year and the number of months or fraction of a month the  
8 employee is employed during that year.

9 (d) Notwithstanding paragraph (c) of this subsection, a noncertified employee of a  
10 school board who retires between July 1, 2000, and August 1, 2001, may  
11 choose to have service earned between July 1, 2000, and August 1, 2001,  
12 credited as described in paragraph (b) of this subsection, if the employee or  
13 retired member notifies the retirement system within one (1) year of his initial  
14 retirement. The decision once made shall be irrevocable.

15 (2) Employee contributions shall not be deducted from the creditable compensation of  
16 any employee or picked up by the employer while he is seasonal, emergency,  
17 temporary, or part-time. No service credit shall be earned.

18 (3) Contributions shall not be made or picked up by the employer and no service credit  
19 shall be earned by a member while on leave except:

20 (a) A member on military leave shall be entitled to service credit in accordance  
21 with KRS 61.555; and

22 (b) A member on educational leave who meets the criteria established by the state  
23 Personnel Cabinet for approved educational leave, who is receiving seventy-  
24 five percent (75%) or more of full salary, shall receive service credit and shall  
25 pay member contributions in accordance with KRS 78.610, and his employer  
26 shall pay employer contributions or the contributions shall be picked up in  
27 accordance with Section 8 of this Act ~~[KRS 61.565]~~. If a tuition agreement is

1 broken by the member, the member and employer contributions paid or picked  
2 up during the period of educational leave shall be refunded.

3 (4) The retirement office, upon detection, shall refund any erroneous employer and  
4 employee contributions made to the retirement system and any interest credited in  
5 accordance with KRS 78.640.

6 ➔Section 38. KRS 78.625 is amended to read as follows:

7 (1) *The employer shall prepare the reporting records necessary for the system to*  
8 *administer the provisions of KRS 78.510 to 78.852 and, from time to time, shall*  
9 *furnish the information the system may require in the discharge of its duties.*  
10 *Upon employment of an employee, the employer shall inform him or her of his or*  
11 *her duties and obligations in connection with the system as a condition of*  
12 *employment.*

13 (2) The agency reporting official of the county shall file the following at the retirement  
14 office on or before the tenth day of the month following the period being reported:

15 (a) The employee and employer contributions required under KRS 78.610,  
16 *Section 8 of this Act*~~[61.565]~~, and *Section 28 of this Act*~~[61.702]~~;

17 (b) The employer contributions and reimbursements for retiree health insurance  
18 premiums required under KRS 61.637; and

19 (c) A record of all contributions to the system on the forms prescribed by the  
20 systems.

21 ~~(3)~~~~(2)~~ (a) If the agency reporting official fails to file at the retirement office all  
22 contributions and reports on or before the tenth day of the month following  
23 the period being reported, interest on the delinquent contributions at the  
24 actuarial rate adopted by the board compounded annually, but not less than  
25 one thousand dollars (\$1,000), may be added to the amount due the system.

26 (b) Delinquent contributions, with interest at the rate adopted by the board  
27 compounded annually, or penalties may be recovered by action in the Franklin

1 Circuit Court against the county liable or may, at the request of the board, be  
 2 deducted from any other moneys payable to the county by any department or  
 3 agency of the state.

4 ~~(4)~~~~(3)~~ If an agency is delinquent in the payment of contributions due in accordance  
 5 with any of the provisions of KRS 78.510 to 78.852, refunds and retirement  
 6 allowance payments to members of this agency may be suspended until the  
 7 delinquent contributions, with interest at the rate adopted by the board compounded  
 8 annually, or penalties have been paid to the system.

9 **(5) The system may at any time conduct an audit of the employer in order to**  
 10 **determine if the employer is complying with the provisions of KRS 78.510 to**  
 11 **78.852. The system shall have access to and may examine all books, accounts,**  
 12 **reports, correspondence files, and records of any employer. Every employer,**  
 13 **employee, or agency reporting official of a county, as defined in subsection (3) of**  
 14 **Section 32 of this Act, having records in its possession or under its control, shall**  
 15 **permit access to and examination of the records upon the request of the system.**

16 ➔Section 39. KRS 78.852 is amended to read as follows:

17 (1) For members who begin participating in the County Employees Retirement System  
 18 prior to January 1, 2014, it is hereby declared that in consideration of the  
 19 contributions by the members and in further consideration of benefits received by  
 20 the county from the member's employment, KRS 78.510 to 78.852 shall, **except as**  
 21 **provided in KRS 6.696 effective September 16, 1993,** constitute an inviolable

22 contract of the Commonwealth, and the benefits provided therein shall not be  
 23 subject to reduction or impairment by alteration, amendment, or repeal~~], except:~~

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

25 ~~(b) The General Assembly reserves the right to amend, reduce, or suspend any~~  
 26 ~~legislative changes to the provisions of KRS 78.510 to 78.852 that become~~  
 27 ~~effective on or after July 1, 2018].~~



- 1 (2) (a) For members who begin participating in the County Employees Retirement  
2 System on or after January 1, 2014, the General Assembly reserves the right to  
3 amend, suspend, or reduce the benefits and rights provided under KRS 78.510  
4 to 78.852 if, in its judgment, the welfare of the Commonwealth so demands,  
5 except that the amount of benefits the member has accrued at the time of  
6 amendment, suspension, or reduction shall not be affected.
- 7 (b) For purposes of this subsection, the amount of benefits the member has  
8 accrued at the time of amendment, suspension, or reduction shall be limited to  
9 the accumulated account balance the member has accrued at the time of  
10 amendment, suspension, or reduction.
- 11 (c) The provisions of this subsection shall not be construed to limit the General  
12 Assembly's authority to change any other benefit or right specified by KRS  
13 78.510 to 78.852, except the benefits specified by paragraph (b) of this  
14 subsection, for members who begin participating in the County Employees  
15 Retirement System on or after January 1, 2014.
- 16 (3) The provisions of this section shall not be construed to limit the General Assembly's  
17 authority to amend, reduce, or suspend the benefits and rights of members of the  
18 County Employees Retirement System as provided by KRS 78.510 to 78.852 that  
19 the General Assembly had the authority to amend, reduce, or suspend, prior to July  
20 1, 2013.
- 21 **(4) The responsibility for funding the provisions of KRS 78.510 to 78.852 shall be the**  
22 **responsibility of the employers participating in the County Employees Retirement**  
23 **System. For any employer failing to fund the requirements of KRS 78.510 to**  
24 **78.852, the board shall have the full authority under the law to:**
- 25 **(a) Require the employer to involuntarily cease participating and pay all costs**  
26 **for ceasing participation as provided by Section 34 of this Act; or**
- 27 **(b) Suspend benefit payments and refunds or to seek legal action as provided by**

1                    *Section 38 of this Act for any employer failing to fund the requirements of*  
 2                    *KRS 78.510 to 78.852.*

3                    ➔Section 40. KRS 78.545 is amended to read as follows:

4                    The following matters shall be administered *for the County Employees Retirement*  
 5                    *System* in the same manner subject to the same limitations and requirements as provided  
 6                    for the Kentucky Employees Retirement System as follows:

- 7                    (1) ~~{Cessation of membership, conditions, as provided for by KRS 61.535;~~  
 8                    ~~(2)—~~Statement of member and employer, as provided for by KRS 61.540;  
 9                    ~~(2){(3)}~~ Beneficiary to be designated by member, change, rights, as provided for by  
 10                    KRS 61.542;  
 11                    ~~(3){(4)}~~ Service credit determination, as provided for by KRS 61.545;  
 12                    ~~{(5)— Cessation of membership, loss of benefits, as provided for by KRS 61.550;}~~  
 13                    ~~(4){(6)}~~ Service credit, Armed Forces, as provided for by KRS 61.555;  
 14                    ~~(5){(7)}~~ Normal and early retirement eligibility requirements, as provided for by KRS  
 15                    61.559;  
 16                    ~~(6){(8)}~~ Retirement allowance increases as provided for by KRS 61.691;  
 17                    ~~(7){(9)}~~ Retirement application procedure, effective retirement date, as provided for by  
 18                    KRS 61.590;  
 19                    ~~(8){(10)}~~ Disability retirement, conditions, as provided for by KRS 61.600;  
 20                    ~~(9){(11)}~~ Disability retirement, allowance, as provided for by KRS 61.605;  
 21                    ~~(10){(12)}~~ Medical examination after disability retirement, as provided for by KRS  
 22                    61.610;  
 23                    ~~(11){(13)}~~ Disability retirement allowance, reduction, as provided for by KRS 61.615;  
 24                    ~~(12){(14)}~~ Determination of retirement allowance, as provided for by KRS 61.595;  
 25                    ~~(13){(15)}~~ Refund of contributions, conditions, as provided for by KRS 61.625;  
 26                    ~~(14){(16)}~~ Refund of contributions, death after retirement, as provided for by KRS  
 27                    61.630;

- 1 **(15) Recontribution and delayed contribution payments, purchase of service credit,**  
2 **interest, and installment payments, as provided for by Section 43 of this Act;**
- 3 ~~**(16)**~~~~(17)~~ Optional retirement plans, as provided for by KRS 61.635;
- 4 ~~**(17)**~~~~(18)~~ Suspension of retirement payments on reemployment, reinstatement, as  
5 provided for by KRS 61.637;
- 6 ~~**(18)**~~~~(19)~~ Death before retirement, beneficiary's options, as provided for by KRS  
7 61.640;
- 8 ~~**(19)**~~~~(20)~~ Board of trustees, conflict of interest, as provided for by KRS 61.655;
- 9 ~~**(20)**~~~~(21)~~ Custodian of funds, payments made, when, as provided for by KRS 61.660;
- 10 ~~**(21)**~~~~(22)~~ Medical examiners and hearing procedures, as provided for by KRS 61.665;
- 11 ~~(23) Actuarial bases, as provided for by KRS 61.670;~~
- 12 ~~(24) Employer's administrative duties, as provided for by KRS 61.675;]~~
- 13 ~~**(22)**~~~~(25)~~ Correction of errors in records, as provided for by KRS 61.685;
- 14 ~~**(23)**~~~~(26)~~ Exemptions of retirement allowances, and qualified domestic relations orders,  
15 as provided for by KRS 61.690;
- 16 ~~**(24)**~~~~(27)~~ Credit for service prior to membership date, as provided for by KRS 61.526;
- 17 ~~(28) Creditable compensation of fee officers, as provided for by KRS 61.541;]~~
- 18 ~~**(25)**~~~~(29)~~ Members' account, confidential, as provided for by KRS 61.661;
- 19 ~~**(26)**~~~~(30)~~ Retirement plan for employees determined to be in a hazardous position, as  
20 provided for by KRS 61.592;
- 21 ~~**(27)**~~~~(31)~~ Maximum disability benefit, as provided for by KRS 61.607;
- 22 ~~**(28)**~~~~(32)~~ Consent of employees to deductions and reciprocal arrangement between  
23 systems, as provided for by KRS 61.680;
- 24 ~~(33) Employer contributions, as provided for by KRS 61.565;~~
- 25 ~~(34) Recontribution and delayed contribution payments, purchase of service credit,~~  
26 ~~interest, and installment payments, as provided for by KRS 61.552;]~~
- 27 ~~**(29)**~~~~(35)~~ Hospital and medical insurance plan, as provided for by KRS 61.702;

- 1 ~~(30)~~~~(36)~~ Death benefit, as provided by KRS 61.705;
- 2 ~~(31)~~~~(37)~~ Reinstated employee, contributions on creditable compensation, as provided  
3 for by KRS 61.569;
- 4 ~~(32)~~~~(38)~~ Statement to be made under oath, good faith reliance, as provided for in KRS  
5 61.699;
- 6 ~~(33)~~~~(39)~~ Disability procedure for members in hazardous positions as provided for in  
7 KRS 16.582;
- 8 ~~(34)~~~~(40)~~ Direct deposit of recipient's retirement allowance as provided for in KRS  
9 61.623;
- 10 ~~(35)~~~~(41)~~ Death or disability from a duty-related injury as provided in KRS 61.621;
- 11 ~~(36)~~~~(42)~~ Purchase of service credit effective July 1, 2001, as provided in KRS 61.5525;
- 12 ~~(37)~~~~(43)~~ Payment of small accounts upon death of member, retiree, or recipient without  
13 formal administration of the estate as provided in KRS 61.703;
- 14 ~~(38)~~~~(44)~~ Hybrid cash balance plan ~~and 401(a) money purchase plan~~ provided to new  
15 members as provided by KRS ~~61.5956 and~~ 61.597;
- 16 ~~(39)~~~~(45)~~ Employer payment of increases in creditable compensation and adjustments to  
17 creditable compensation during the last five (5) years of employment as provided by  
18 KRS 61.598;
- 19 ~~(40)~~~~(46)~~ Calculation of retirement allowance, as provided by KRS 61.599;
- 20 ~~(47) Voluntary and involuntary cessation of participation by a participating agency as~~  
21 ~~provided by KRS 61.522;~~ and
- 22 ~~(41)~~~~(48)~~ Benefit election for members of the Kentucky Retirement Systems ~~who~~  
23 ~~began participating prior to July 1, 2019,~~ as provided by KRS 61.5955.
- 24 **Effective April 1, 2021, as it relates to KRS 16.582, 61.545, 61.552, 61.590, 61.598,**  
25 **61.600, 61.615, 61.655, 61.660, 61.665, 61.691, 61.703, and 61.705, references to**  
26 **"Kentucky Retirement Systems" or "systems administered by Kentucky Retirement**  
27 **Systems" as it relates to benefit eligibility shall include the County Employees**

1 Retirement System and references to "Kentucky Retirement Systems" or the  
2 "Kentucky Retirement Systems board of trustees" as it relates to administrative  
3 decisions, duties, requirements, or conflict of interest provisions shall for purposes of  
4 the County Employees Retirement System mean the County Employees Retirement  
5 System or County Employees Retirement System board of trustees, as applicable.

6 ➔Section 41. KRS 95.022 is amended to read as follows:

7 (1) As used in this section:

8 (a) "City" means any incorporated city, consolidated local government, unified  
9 local government, urban-county government, or charter county government,  
10 operating under the law of this Commonwealth, and the offices and agencies  
11 thereof; and

12 (b) "Police officer" has the same meaning as "police officer" in KRS 15.420 and  
13 as "officer" in KRS 16.010.

14 (2) Subject to the limitations of subsection (7) of this section, a city may employ  
15 individuals as police officers under this section who have retired from the Kentucky  
16 Employees Retirement System, the County Employees Retirement System, or the  
17 State Police Retirement System.

18 (3) To be eligible for employment under this section, an individual shall have:

19 (a) Participated in the Law Enforcement Foundation Program fund under KRS  
20 15.410 to 15.510 or retired as a commissioned officer pursuant to KRS  
21 Chapter 16;

22 (b) Retired with at least twenty (20) years of service credit;

23 (c) Been separated from service for the period required by KRS 61.637 so that the  
24 member's retirement is not voided;

25 (d) Retired with no administrative charges pending; and

26 (e) Retired with no preexisting agreement between the individual and the city  
27 prior to the individual's retirement for the individual to return to work for the

1 city.

2 (4) Individuals employed under this section shall:

3 (a) Serve for a term not to exceed one (1) year. The one (1) year employment term  
4 may be renewed annually at the discretion of the employing city;

5 (b) Receive compensation according to the standard procedures applicable to the  
6 employing city; and

7 (c) Be employed based upon need as determined by the employing city.

8 (5) Notwithstanding any provisions of KRS 16.505 to 16.652, 18A.225 to 18A.2287,  
9 61.510 to 61.705, or 78.510 to 78.852 to the contrary:

10 (a) Individuals employed under this section shall continue to receive all  
11 retirement and health insurance benefits to which they were entitled upon  
12 retiring in the applicable system administered by Kentucky Retirement  
13 Systems *or the County Employees Retirement System*;

14 (b) Individuals employed under this section shall not be eligible to receive health  
15 insurance coverage through the employing city;

16 (c) The city shall not pay any employer contributions or retiree health expense  
17 reimbursements to the Kentucky Retirement Systems required by KRS  
18 61.637(17) for individuals employed under this section; and

19 (d) The city shall not pay any insurance contributions to the state health insurance  
20 plan, as provided by KRS 18A.225 to 18A.2287, for individuals employed  
21 under this section.

22 (6) Individuals employed under this section shall be subject to any merit system, civil  
23 service, or other legislative due process provisions applicable to the employing city.  
24 A decision not to renew a one (1) year appointment term under this section shall not  
25 be considered a disciplinary action or deprivation subject to due process.

26 (7) A city government shall be limited in the number of retired police officers that it  
27 may hire under this section as follows:

- 1 (a) A city government that employed an average of five (5) or fewer police  
2 officers over the course of calendar year 2015 shall not be limited in the  
3 number of officers that they may hire under this section;
- 4 (b) A city government that employed an average of more than five (5) but fewer  
5 than one hundred (100) police officers over the course of calendar year 2015  
6 shall not hire more than five (5) police officers or a number equal to twenty-  
7 five percent (25%) of the police officers employed by the city in calendar year  
8 2015, whichever is greater; and
- 9 (c) A city government that employed an average of ~~more than~~ one hundred  
10 (100) ***or more*** police officers over the course of calendar year 2015 shall not  
11 hire more than twenty-five (25) police officers or a number equal to ten  
12 percent (10%) of the police officers employed by the city in calendar year  
13 2015, whichever is greater.

14 ➔Section 42. KRS 95.290 is amended to read as follows:

- 15 (1) The city legislative body in cities of the first class may enact ordinances providing  
16 for a system of pensions for retired and disabled members of the police and fire  
17 divisions of the department of public safety and their dependents, may appropriate  
18 funds for the purpose of paying such pensions, may allot and pay to the policemen's  
19 pension fund or the firefighters' pension fund or either or both of them, all fines and  
20 forfeitures imposed upon members of the respective divisions, and may provide for,  
21 assess, and collect contributions from the members for the benefit of the fund.
- 22 (2) (a) There shall be a governing body of the policemen's pension fund, and a  
23 governing body of the firefighters' pension fund. The governing bodies of the  
24 respective funds shall hold title to all assets in their respective funds, and shall  
25 have exclusive authority relating to investment of the assets of the funds,  
26 including contracting with investment advisors or managers to perform  
27 investment services as deemed necessary and prudent by the board. A majority

1 of the governing body of each fund shall be composed of persons receiving  
2 pension benefits from the respective pension systems, and no more than one  
3 (1) member of the city legislative body may be a member of the governing  
4 body of either the policemen's or the firefighters' pension fund, except if there  
5 are fewer than six (6) active and retired members of the policemen's or the  
6 firefighters' pension fund, the governing body of the pension fund shall be  
7 composed of the mayor, city treasurer or chief financial officer, and two (2)  
8 employees appointed by the mayor from the city's respective police  
9 department or fire department. To be effective, an action of the governing  
10 body of a fund shall require only a simple majority of the votes cast at a  
11 properly convened meeting of the governing body where a quorum is present,  
12 with a quorum being a majority of the members of a governing body.

13 (b) If all liabilities to all individuals entitled to benefits from the policemen's  
14 pension fund or firefighters' pension fund have been satisfied, the ordinances  
15 establishing the fund may be repealed by the majority vote of the duly elected  
16 members of the entire legislative body. If repealed, the governing body of the  
17 policemen's or firefighters' pension fund shall, within sixty (60) days of repeal,  
18 proceed with the liquidation of any residual assets of the fund. All residual  
19 assets liquidated pursuant to this paragraph shall be distributed by the  
20 governing body to the city's general fund provided the return of assets  
21 complies with federal and state law governing the distribution of assets.  
22 Within thirty (30) days following the distribution of residual assets, the  
23 governing body of the fund shall as its last act file a complete report with the  
24 legislative body of the city, for retention by the city clerk the same as for other  
25 city records, of the actions taken to dissolve the fund and liquidate residual  
26 assets of the fund.

27 (3) Any policemen's pension fund or any firefighters' pension fund established under



1 the provisions of this section shall be held or distributed for, and only for, any of the  
2 following purposes of the respective fund as applicable:

- 3 (a) Paying pensions, and any bonus payments under applicable ordinances;
- 4 (b) Making payments to the city for transfer to the County Employees Retirement  
5 System for alternate participation pursuant to KRS 78.530(3)(a) and 78.531(2)  
6 or for the distribution of residual assets in the event the fund is dissolved  
7 pursuant to subsection (2)(b) of this section;
- 8 (c) Transferring pension assets through investment contract or other financial  
9 instrument for the purpose of amortizing unfunded service liabilities; and
- 10 (d) Payment from the city to the County Employees Retirement System for future  
11 pension contributions required pursuant to Sections 8 and 28 of this Act~~[KRS~~  
12 ~~61.565]~~.

13 Pursuant to the terms of this section, if policemen of the city of the first class elect  
14 entry into the County Employees Retirement System and thereby create excess  
15 funds over those required to provide for the purposes set forth in paragraphs (a), (b),  
16 and (c) of this subsection, these excess funds shall be distributed to the city for use  
17 by the city for any other purpose it may elect, including, but not limited to, the  
18 establishment of a reserve for payment under paragraph (d) of this subsection. The  
19 governing board of the fund may annually expend for the necessary expenses  
20 connected with the fund, including but not limited to expenses for medical,  
21 actuarial, accounting, and legal services, the amount such governing board deems  
22 proper.

- 23 (e) Payment from the city to the County Employees Retirement System for future  
24 pension contributions required pursuant to Sections 8 and 28 of this Act~~[KRS~~  
25 ~~61.565]~~. Pursuant to the terms of this section, if firefighters of the city of the  
26 first class elect entry into the County Employees Retirement System and  
27 thereby create excess funds over those required to provide for the purposes set

1           forth in paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of this subsection, these excess funds shall  
2           be distributed according to the terms of an agreement negotiated between the  
3           city and the union organization representing the firefighters. The city may use  
4           its share of the distributed excess funds for any purpose it may elect,  
5           including, but not limited to, the establishment of a reserve for payment under  
6           paragraph (e) of this subsection.

7       (4)   (a)   The governing body of each pension fund shall insure that all of the assets in  
8           the fund are distributed for the purposes in subsection (3) of this section, and  
9           only for these purposes. If in any calendar year the assets in either fund exceed  
10          those needed for the actuarial liability for payment of pension benefits and any  
11          anticipated liabilities under subsection (3)(b) and (c) of this section, the  
12          legislative body of the city establishing the pension system shall insure by  
13          pension bonus ordinance that a portion of these excess funds be distributed in  
14          an equitable manner to all eligible pension recipients. Nothing in this  
15          subsection shall be construed to require any change to be made to any pension  
16          ordinance as it exists on July 15, 1998.

17          (b)   The governing board of either fund may annually expend for the necessary  
18          expenses connected with the fund, including but not limited to expenses for  
19          medical, actuarial, accounting, and legal or other professional services, the  
20          amount such governing board deems proper.

21       (5)   Any ordinance establishing a pension fund under this section shall make equitable  
22          provision for the rights of persons having an interest in assets transferred to the fund  
23          from any fund heretofore established by statute.

24       (6)   To assure equal protection for the beneficiaries of either fund, any action taken by  
25          the city executive or legislative body in cities of the first class that affects a  
26          policemen's pension fund or a firefighters' pension fund established under this  
27          section shall, to the maximum extent permitted by law, treat each fund in a uniform

1 manner and shall not cause any change to be made to the structure or operation of  
2 either fund, whether through legislation, litigation, compromise, settlement, or  
3 otherwise, unless any proposed change is offered to the other fund before it takes  
4 effect. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to require any change to be  
5 made to any pension ordinance as it exists on July 15, 1998.

6 (7) The legislative body in a city of the first class shall issue the appropriate order,  
7 pursuant to KRS 78.530(1), directing participation for policemen in the County  
8 Employees Retirement System. All new employees who would have been granted  
9 membership in the local policemen's pension system shall be members of the  
10 County Employees Retirement System. All active members of the local policemen's  
11 pension system at the time of transition to the County Employees Retirement  
12 System may choose membership in the County Employees Retirement System or  
13 may retain membership in the local system. The city shall elect the alternate  
14 participation plan, pursuant to KRS 78.530(3), for policemen who transfer to the  
15 County Employees Retirement System. Notwithstanding the provisions of KRS  
16 78.530(3)(b), the city may, at its option, extend the payment period for the cost of  
17 alternate participation to a maximum of twenty (20) years with the interest at the  
18 rate actuarially assumed by the board. The city shall have the right to use assets in  
19 the local pension fund, other than assets necessary to pay benefits to the remaining  
20 active members of the local policemen's pension system and to retirees and their  
21 survivors as determined by actuarial valuation, to assist in the payment of the  
22 annual installment cost of alternate participation. All policemen who become  
23 members of the County Employees Retirement System pursuant to this section shall  
24 be granted hazardous duty coverage, and the city may, at its option, purchase  
25 accumulated sick leave for each policeman upon retirement pursuant to KRS  
26 78.616.

27 (8) The legislative body in a city of the first class may issue the appropriate order,

1       pursuant to KRS 78.530(1), directing participation for firefighters in the County  
2       Employees Retirement System. In the event that the legislative body in a city of the  
3       first class issues such an order, then all new employees who would have been  
4       granted membership in the local firefighters' pension system shall be members of  
5       the County Employees Retirement System. All active members of the local  
6       firefighters' pension system at the time of transition to the County Employees  
7       Retirement System may choose membership in the County Employees Retirement  
8       System or may retain membership in the local system. The city shall elect the  
9       alternate participation plan, pursuant to KRS 78.530(3), for firefighters who transfer  
10      to the County Employees Retirement System. Notwithstanding the provisions of  
11      KRS 78.530(3)(b), the city may, at its option, extend the payment period for the cost  
12      of alternate participation to a maximum of twenty (20) years with the interest at the  
13      rate actuarially assumed by the board. The city shall have the right to use assets in  
14      the local firefighters' pension fund, other than assets necessary to pay benefits to the  
15      remaining active members of the local firefighters' pension system and to retirees  
16      and their survivors as determined by actuarial valuation, to assist in the payment of  
17      the annual installment cost of alternate participation. After certification by the  
18      County Employees Retirement System of eligibility for hazardous duty coverage,  
19      each firefighter who becomes a member of the County Employees Retirement  
20      System pursuant to this section shall be granted hazardous duty coverage.

21      (9) Notwithstanding the provisions of Sections 8 and 28 of this Act~~[KRS 61.565]~~,  
22      which relate to the contributions required of participating employers, any city of the  
23      first class participating in the County Employees Retirement System hazardous duty  
24      pension plan which has in effect a collective bargaining agreement with a group of  
25      employees who participate in said plan, shall have the right to enter into agreement  
26      with its employees or with their respective collective bargaining representatives.  
27      This agreement may include, but is not limited to, specifications of what portion of

1 the required employer contribution shall be borne by the participating employer and  
2 what portion shall be borne by the participating employee. This provision in no way  
3 modifies the employer's obligation to remit the contributions required by the County  
4 Employees Retirement System pursuant to Sections 8 and 28 of this Act~~[KRS~~  
5 ~~61.565]~~, whether such contributions are borne by the city or by its participating  
6 employees.

7 (10) With regard to the employer participation or employer contributions pursuant to  
8 Sections 8 and 28 of this Act~~[KRS 61.565]~~ as it relates to future pension  
9 contribution requirements or as it relates to payback period or interest charge for  
10 service liability cost under alternate participation, if any statute or any resolution of  
11 the appropriate state board of trustees having authority over employer participation  
12 or employer contribution grants any terms or conditions to any city of the home rule  
13 class, or to any county, or to any urban-county government, which are more  
14 favorable in terms of participation than terms or conditions granted to any city of  
15 the first class, then said provisions for employer participation or contribution shall  
16 be available to the city of the first class, at its option and effective upon adoption by  
17 the city of the first class and notification to the County Employees Retirement  
18 System.

19 ➔Section 43. KRS 61.552 is amended to read as follows:

20 (1) (a) Any employee participating in one (1) of the state-administered retirement  
21 systems who has been refunded his accumulated account balance under the  
22 provisions of KRS 16.645(21), 61.625, or 78.545(15), thereby losing service  
23 credit, may regain the credit by paying to the system from which he received  
24 the refund or refunds the amount or amounts refunded with interest at a rate  
25 determined by the board of the respective retirement system.

26 (b) Service purchased under this subsection shall not be used in determining a  
27 retirement allowance until the member has accrued at least six (6) months of

1 service credit in a state-administered retirement system, excluding the service  
2 purchased under this subsection. If the member does not accrue at least six (6)  
3 months of service credit in a state-administered retirement system, excluding  
4 service purchased under this subsection, then the payment plus interest as  
5 provided in KRS 61.575 shall be refunded upon retirement, death, or written  
6 request following termination of employment. The service requirement shall  
7 be waived if the member dies or becomes disabled as provided for by KRS  
8 16.582, 61.600, or 61.621.

9 (c) Service purchased under this subsection on or after January 1, 2014, shall not  
10 be used to determine the member's participation date in the system. Members  
11 participating in the 401(a) money purchase plan as provided by KRS 61.5956  
12 shall not be eligible to purchase service under this subsection.

13 (2) Any employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by  
14 Kentucky Retirement Systems, who has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if  
15 age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five  
16 (65) in the systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems, and who did  
17 not elect membership in the County Employees Retirement System, as provided in  
18 KRS 78.540~~[(2)]~~, may purchase service credit in the County Employees Retirement  
19 System for the service he would have received had he elected membership.

20 (3) Any employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by  
21 Kentucky Retirement Systems, who has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if  
22 age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five  
23 (65) in the systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems, and who did  
24 not elect membership in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System, as provided  
25 in KRS 61.525(2), may purchase service credit in the Kentucky Employees  
26 Retirement System for the service he would have received had he elected  
27 membership.

- 1 (4) An employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by  
2 Kentucky Retirement Systems, who has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if  
3 age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five  
4 (65) in the systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems, may  
5 purchase service credit in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System for service  
6 between July 1, 1956, and the effective date of participation of his department.
- 7 (5) (a) An employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered  
8 by Kentucky Retirement Systems, who has at least forty-eight (48) months of  
9 service if age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if under  
10 age sixty-five (65) in the systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement  
11 Systems, may purchase service credit in the County Employees Retirement  
12 System for service between July 1, 1958, and the effective date of  
13 participation of his county.
- 14 (b) An employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered  
15 by Kentucky Retirement Systems, who has at least forty-eight (48) months of  
16 service if age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if under  
17 age sixty-five (65) in the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement  
18 Systems may purchase service credit for the period of his service with an area  
19 development district created pursuant to KRS 147A.050 or with a business  
20 development corporation created pursuant to KRS 155.001 to 155.230 if that  
21 service was not covered by a state-administered retirement system. The  
22 employee may obtain credit for employment with a business development  
23 corporation only if the Kentucky Retirement Systems receives a favorable  
24 private letter ruling from the United States Internal Revenue Service or a  
25 favorable opinion letter from the United States Department of Labor.
- 26 (6) The member shall not receive service credit for the same period of time in which  
27 the member has service credit in one (1) of the systems administered by Kentucky

- 1 Retirement Systems or another public defined benefit retirement fund.
- 2 (7) Any employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by  
3 Kentucky Retirement Systems who has at least forty-eight (48) months' service if  
4 age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months' service if under age sixty-five (65)  
5 in the retirement systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems, who  
6 formerly worked for a state university in a nonteaching position which would have  
7 qualified as a regular full-time position had the university been a participating  
8 department, and who did not participate in a defined benefit retirement program at  
9 the university, may purchase service credit in any of the systems administered by  
10 Kentucky Retirement Systems in which the employee is a member for the service he  
11 would have received had his period of university employment been covered by the  
12 County Employees Retirement System, Kentucky Employees Retirement System, or  
13 State Police Retirement System.
- 14 (8) (a) Effective August 1, 1980, any county participating in the County Employees  
15 Retirement System may purchase current service, between July 1, 1958, and  
16 participation date of the county, for present employees of the county who have  
17 obtained coverage under KRS 78.540~~{(2)}~~.
- 18 (b) Effective July 1, 1973, any department participating in the Kentucky  
19 Employees Retirement System may purchase current service between July 1,  
20 1956, and participation date of the department, for present employees of the  
21 department who were employees on the participation date of the department  
22 and elected coverage under KRS 61.525(2).
- 23 (c) Cost of the service credit purchased under this subsection shall be determined  
24 by computing the discounted value of the additional service credit based on an  
25 actuarial formula recommended by the board's consulting actuary and  
26 approved by the board. A department shall make payment for the service  
27 credit within the same fiscal year in which the option is elected. The county



1 shall establish a payment schedule subject to approval by the board for  
2 payment of the service credit. The maximum period allowed in a payment  
3 schedule shall be ten (10) years with interest at the rate actuarially assumed by  
4 the board; however, a shorter period is desirable and the board may approve  
5 any schedule provided it is not longer than a ten (10) year period.

6 (d) If a county or department elects the provisions of this subsection, any present  
7 employee who would be eligible to receive service credit under the provisions  
8 of this subsection and has purchased service credit under subsection (4) or (5)  
9 of this section shall have his payment for the service credit refunded with  
10 interest at the rate paid under KRS 61.575 or 78.640.

11 (e) Any payments made by a county or department under this subsection shall be  
12 deposited to the retirement allowance account of the proper retirement system  
13 and these funds shall not be considered accumulated contributions of the  
14 individual members.

15 (9) Interest paid by a member of the Kentucky Employees Retirement System, County  
16 Employees Retirement System, or State Police Retirement System under this  
17 section or other similar statutes under KRS 16.505 to 16.652, 61.510 to 61.705, or  
18 78.510 to 78.852 prior to June 19, 1976, shall be credited to the individual  
19 member's account in the appropriate retirement system and considered as  
20 accumulated contributions of the member.

21 (10) Employees who served as assistants to officers and employees of the General  
22 Assembly who have at least forty-eight (48) months of service if age sixty-five (65)  
23 or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five (65) in the systems  
24 administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems and who were unable to acquire  
25 service under KRS 61.510(20) may purchase credit for the service performed after  
26 January 1, 1960.

27 (11) (a) Effective August 1, 1988, any employee participating in one (1) of the

1 retirement systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems who has at  
2 least forty-eight (48) months of service if age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty  
3 (60) months of service if under age sixty-five (65) in the systems administered  
4 by Kentucky Retirement Systems may purchase service credit for interim,  
5 seasonal, emergency, temporary, probationary, or part-time employment  
6 averaging one hundred (100) or more hours of work per month on a calendar  
7 or fiscal year basis. If the average number of hours of work is less than one  
8 hundred (100) per month, the member shall be allowed credit only for those  
9 months he receives creditable compensation for one hundred (100) or more  
10 hours of work.

11 (b) Any noncertified employee of a school board who has at least forty-eight (48)  
12 months of service if age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service  
13 if under age sixty-five (65) in the systems administered by Kentucky  
14 Retirement Systems may purchase service credit in the County Employees  
15 Retirement System for part-time employment prior to the 1990-91 school year  
16 which averaged eighty (80) or more hours of work per month on a calendar or  
17 fiscal year basis. If the average number of hours of work is less than eighty  
18 (80) per month, the noncertified employee of a school board shall be allowed  
19 to purchase service credit only for those months he received creditable  
20 compensation for eighty (80) or more hours of work.

21 (12) Any employee participating in one (1) of the systems administered by Kentucky  
22 Retirement Systems who has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if age sixty-  
23 five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five (65) in the  
24 systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems may purchase service credit  
25 for any period of approved educational leave, or for agency-approved leave to work  
26 for a work-related labor organization if the agency subsequently participated in the  
27 County Employees Retirement System. The employee may also purchase service

1 credit for agency-approved leave to work for a work-related labor organization if  
2 the agency subsequently participated in the County Employees Retirement System,  
3 but only if the Kentucky Retirement Systems receives a favorable private letter  
4 ruling from the United States Internal Revenue Service or a favorable opinion letter  
5 from the United States Department of Labor.

6 (13) Any employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by  
7 Kentucky Retirement Systems who has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if  
8 age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five  
9 (65) in the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems may purchase  
10 service credit for any period of authorized maternity leave, unpaid leave authorized  
11 under the Federal Family and Medical Leave Act, or for any period of authorized  
12 sick leave without pay.

13 (14) (a) Any employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered  
14 by Kentucky Retirement Systems may purchase service credit under any of the  
15 provisions of KRS 16.505 to 16.652, 61.510 to 61.705, or 78.510 to 78.852,  
16 or as otherwise required by 38 U.S.C. ch. 43, by:

17 1. Making a lump-sum payment on a before-tax basis as provided in  
18 subparagraph 3. of this paragraph, or on an after-tax basis if the  
19 employee is purchasing service credit under subsection (1) or (20) of this  
20 section, service available pursuant to 38 U.S.C. ch. 43 not otherwise  
21 provided for in this section, or grandfathered service as defined in  
22 paragraph (b) of this subsection;

23 2. Entering into an agreement to purchase service credit through an  
24 installment purchase of service agreement with the systems as provided  
25 by paragraph (c) of this subsection:

26 a. On a before-tax basis in which the service is purchased pursuant to  
27 the employer pick-up provisions in 26 U.S.C. sec. 414(h)(2); or

- 1           b. On an after-tax basis if the employee is purchasing service credit  
2           under subsection (1) or (20) of this section, service available  
3           pursuant to 38 U.S.C. ch. 43 not otherwise provided for in this  
4           section, or grandfathered service as defined in paragraph (b) of this  
5           subsection; or
- 6           3. Transferring funds to the systems through a direct trustee-to-trustee  
7           transfer as permitted under the applicable sections of the Internal  
8           Revenue Code and any regulations or rulings issued thereunder, through  
9           a direct rollover as contemplated by and permitted under 26 U.S.C. sec.  
10          401(a)(31) and any regulations or rulings issued thereunder, or through a  
11          rollover of funds pursuant to and permitted under the rules specified in  
12          26 U.S.C. secs. 402(c) and 408(d)(3). The Kentucky Retirement Systems  
13          shall accept the transfer or rollover to the extent permitted under the  
14          rules specified in the applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code  
15          and any regulations and rulings issued thereunder.
- 16          (b) For purposes of this subsection, "grandfathered service" means service  
17          purchases for which a member, whose membership date in the system is prior  
18          to July 1, 1999, is eligible to purchase under KRS 16.505 to 16.652, 61.510 to  
19          61.705, or 78.510 to 78.852, that were available for all members of the system  
20          to purchase on August 5, 1997.
- 21          (c) 1. For service purchased under a before-tax or after-tax installment  
22          purchase of service agreement as provided by paragraph (a)2. of this  
23          subsection, the cost of the service shall be computed in the same manner  
24          as for a lump-sum payment which shall be the principal, except that  
25          interest compounded annually at the actuarial rate in effect at the time  
26          the member elects to make the purchase shall be added for the period  
27          that the installments are to be made.

- 1           2. Multiple service purchases may be combined under a single installment  
2           agreement, except that no employee may make more than one (1)  
3           installment purchase at the same time.
- 4           3. For after-tax installment purchase of service agreements, the employee  
5           may elect to stop the installment payments by notifying the retirement  
6           system; may have the installment purchase recalculated to add one (1) or  
7           more additional service purchases; or may pay by lump sum the  
8           remaining principal or a portion of the remaining principal.
- 9           4. Before-tax installment purchase of service agreements shall be  
10          irrevocable, and the employee shall not be able to stop installment  
11          payments or to pay off the remaining balance of the purchase of service  
12          agreement, except upon termination of employment or death.
- 13          5. One (1) year of installment payments shall be made for each one  
14          thousand dollars (\$1,000) or any part thereof of the total cost, except that  
15          the total period allowed for installments shall not be less than one (1)  
16          year and shall not exceed five (5) years.
- 17          6. The employee shall pay the installments by payroll deduction for after-  
18          tax purchase of service agreements, and the employer shall pick up  
19          installments for before-tax purchase of service agreements. Upon  
20          notification by the retirement system, the employer shall report the  
21          installment payments either monthly or semimonthly continuously over  
22          each twelve (12) month period at the same time as, but separate from,  
23          regular employee contributions on the forms or by the computer format  
24          specified by the board.
- 25          7. The retirement system shall determine how much of the total cost  
26          represents payment for one (1) month of the service to be purchased and  
27          shall credit one (1) month of service to the member's account each time

1           this amount has been paid. The first service credited shall represent the  
2           first calendar month of the service to be purchased and each succeeding  
3           month of service credit shall represent the succeeding months of that  
4           service.

5           8. If the employee utilizing an installment purchase of service agreement  
6           dies, retires, does not continue employment in a position required to  
7           participate in the retirement system, or elects to stop an after-tax  
8           installment purchase of service agreement, the member, or in the case of  
9           death, the beneficiary, shall have sixty (60) days to pay the remaining  
10          principal or a portion of the remaining principal of the installment  
11          purchase of service agreement by lump sum, subject to the restrictions of  
12          paragraph (a)1. of this subsection, or by transfer of funds under  
13          paragraph (a)3. of this subsection, except that payment by the member  
14          shall be filed with the system prior to the member's effective retirement  
15          date. If the member or beneficiary does not pay the remaining cost, the  
16          retirement system shall refund to the member or the beneficiary the  
17          payment, payments, or portion of a payment that does not represent a  
18          full month of service purchased, except as provided by subsection (22)  
19          of this section.

20          9. If the employer does not report installment payments on an employee for  
21          sixty (60) days for an after-tax installment purchase of service  
22          agreement, except in the case of employees on military leave or sick  
23          leave without pay, the installment purchase shall cease and the  
24          retirement system shall refund to the employee the payment, payments,  
25          or portion of a payment that does not represent a full month of service  
26          purchased.

27          10. Installment payments of employees on military leave or sick leave

1 without pay shall be suspended during the period of leave and shall  
2 resume without recalculation upon the employee's return from leave.

3 11. If payments have ceased under subparagraph 8. or 9. of this paragraph  
4 and the member later becomes a participating employee in one (1) of the  
5 three (3) systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems, the  
6 employee may complete the adjusted original installment purchase by  
7 lump sum or installment payments, subject to the restrictions of this  
8 subsection. If the employee elects to renew the installment purchase, the  
9 cost of the remaining service shall be recalculated in accordance with  
10 paragraph (a) of this subsection.

11 (d) Except as provided by paragraph (a)2.a. of this subsection, the cost of  
12 purchasing service shall not be picked up, as described in KRS 16.545(4),  
13 61.560(4), or 78.610(4), by the employer.

14 (e) The cost of purchasing service credit under any provision of this section,  
15 except as provided by subsections (1) and (20) of this section, shall be  
16 determined by the delayed contribution method as provided by KRS 61.5525.

17 (f) Member payments, including interest, properly received pursuant to this  
18 subsection shall be deposited to the member's account and considered as  
19 accumulated contributions of the individual member.

20 (15) After August 1, 1998, any employee participating in one (1) of the retirement  
21 systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems who is age sixty-five (65) or  
22 older and has forty-eight (48) months of service credit or, if younger, who has sixty  
23 (60) months of service credit in systems administered by Kentucky Retirement  
24 Systems may purchase service credit in the system in which the employee has the  
25 service credit for up to ten (10) years service in a regular full-time position that was  
26 credited to a state or local government-administered public defined benefit plan in  
27 another state other than a defined benefit plan for teachers. The employee shall

1 provide proof that he is not eligible for a retirement benefit for the period of service  
2 from the other state's plan.

3 (16) After August 1, 1998, any employee participating in one (1) of the retirement  
4 systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems, who has sixty (60) or more  
5 months of service in the State Police Retirement System or in a hazardous position  
6 in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System or the County Employees  
7 Retirement System, may purchase service credit in the system in which the  
8 employee has the sixty (60) months of service credit for up to ten (10) years of  
9 service in a regular full-time position that was credited to a defined benefit  
10 retirement plan administered by a state or local government in another state, if the  
11 service could be certified as hazardous pursuant to KRS 61.592. The employee shall  
12 provide proof that he is not eligible for a retirement benefit for the period of service  
13 from the other unit of government's plan.

14 (17) Any employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by  
15 Kentucky Retirement Systems who has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if  
16 age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five  
17 (65) in the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems and who has  
18 completed service as a volunteer in the Kentucky Peace Corps, created by KRS  
19 154.1-720, may purchase service credit for the time served in the corps.

20 (18) An employee participating in any retirement system administered by Kentucky  
21 Retirement Systems who has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if age sixty-  
22 five (65), or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five (65) in the  
23 systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems, and who was formerly  
24 employed in a regional community services program for mental health and  
25 individuals with an intellectual disability, organized and operated under the  
26 provisions of KRS 210.370 to 210.480, which does not participate in a state-  
27 administered retirement system may purchase service credit for the period of his



1 service in the regional community program for mental health and individuals with  
2 an intellectual disability.

3 (19) An employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by  
4 Kentucky Retirement Systems who has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if  
5 age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five  
6 (65) in the systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems, who was  
7 employed by a vocational technical school in a noncertified part-time position  
8 averaging eighty (80) or more hours per month, determined by using the number of  
9 months actually worked within a calendar or fiscal year, may purchase service credit  
10 in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System.

11 (20) (a) Any person who is entitled to service credit for employment which was not  
12 reported in accordance with KRS 16.543, 61.543, or 78.615 may obtain credit  
13 for the service by paying the employee contributions due within six (6)  
14 months of notification by the system. No interest shall be added to the  
15 contributions. The service credit shall not be credited to the member's account  
16 until the employer contributions are received. If a retired member makes the  
17 payment within six (6) months, the retired member's retirement allowance  
18 shall be adjusted to reflect the added service after the employer contributions  
19 and any interest or penalties on the delinquent employer contributions are  
20 received by the retirement system.

21 (b) Any employee participating in one (1) of the state-administered retirement  
22 systems who is entitled to service credit under paragraph (a) of this subsection  
23 and who has not repaid the employee contributions due within six (6) months  
24 of notification by the system may regain the credit after the six (6) months by  
25 paying to the system the employee contributions plus interest at the actuarially  
26 assumed rate from the date of initial notification under paragraph (a) of this  
27 subsection. Service credit shall not be credited to the member's account until

1 the employer contributions and any interest or penalties on the delinquent  
2 employer contributions are received by the retirement system.

3 (c) Service purchased under this subsection by employees who begin participating  
4 on or after September 1, 2008, shall be considered service credited under KRS  
5 16.543(1), 61.543(1), or 78.615(1) for purposes of determining eligibility for  
6 retirement benefits under KRS 16.505 to 16.652, 61.510 to 61.705, and  
7 78.510 to 78.852.

8 (d) Employees who begin participating on or after January 1, 2014, in the hybrid  
9 cash balance plan provided by KRS 16.583 and 61.597 shall, upon payment of  
10 the employee and employer contributions due under this subsection, have their  
11 accumulated account balance increased by the employee contributions,  
12 employer pay credits, and interest credits that would have been credited to  
13 their member's account if the contributions had been paid on time.

14 (e) An employee participating in the 401(a) money purchase plan as provided by  
15 KRS 61.5956 shall, upon payment of the employee and employer  
16 contributions due under this subsection, have his or her accumulated account  
17 balance increased by the employee contributions and employer contributions  
18 that would have been credited to his or her member account if the  
19 contributions had been paid on time.

20 (f) Employer contributions payable under this subsection shall be considered  
21 delinquent and the employer shall be required to pay interest and any other  
22 penalties on the delinquent contributions in accordance with KRS  
23 61.675(3)(b) and 78.625~~(3)(2)~~(a) from the date the employee should have  
24 been reported and received service credit in accordance with KRS 16.543,  
25 61.543, and 78.615.

26 (21) Any employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by  
27 Kentucky Retirement Systems who has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if

1 age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five  
2 (65) in the systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems may  
3 purchase service credit for employment with a public agency that would have been  
4 eligible to participate under KRS 61.520 but which did not participate in the  
5 Kentucky Employees Retirement System or a political subdivision that would have  
6 been eligible to participate under KRS 78.530 but which did not participate in the  
7 County Employees Retirement System if the former public agency or political  
8 subdivision has merged with or been taken over by a participating department or  
9 county.

10 (22) Any employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by the  
11 Kentucky Retirement Systems prior to July 15, 2002, who has accrued at least forty-  
12 eight (48) months of service if age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of  
13 service if under age sixty-five (65) in the systems administered by the Kentucky  
14 Retirement Systems and who has total service in all state-administered retirement  
15 systems of at least one hundred eighty (180) months of service credit may purchase  
16 a combined maximum total of five (5) years of retirement service credit which is  
17 not otherwise purchasable under any of the provisions of KRS 16.505 to 16.652,  
18 61.510 to 61.705, and 78.510 to 78.852. The purchase shall be made in any of the  
19 systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems in which the employee is a  
20 member. The service purchased under this subsection shall not be used in  
21 determining a retirement allowance until the member has accrued at least two  
22 hundred forty (240) months of service, excluding service purchased under this  
23 subsection. If the member does not accrue at least two hundred forty (240) months  
24 of service, excluding service purchased under this subsection, upon retirement,  
25 death, or written request following termination, the payment, plus interest as  
26 provided in KRS 61.575, shall be refunded.

27 (23) An employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by

1 Kentucky Retirement Systems, who has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if  
2 age sixty-five (65), or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five  
3 (65), in the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems, may obtain  
4 credit in the County Employees Retirement System for the period of that employee's  
5 service with a community action agency created under KRS 273.405 to 273.453 if  
6 that service was not covered by a state-administered retirement system.

7 (24) An employee may obtain credit for regular full-time service with an agency prior to  
8 August 1, 1998, for which the employee did not receive credit due to KRS  
9 61.637(1). Service credit obtained under this subsection shall not be used in  
10 determining benefits under KRS 61.702. The employee may purchase credit for  
11 service prior to August 1, 1998, if:

12 (a) The employee retired from one (1) of the retirement systems administered by  
13 the Kentucky Retirement Systems and was reemployed prior to August 1,  
14 1998, earning less than the maximum permissible earnings under the Federal  
15 Social Security Act;

16 (b) The employee elected to participate in a second retirement account effective  
17 August 1, 1998, in accordance with KRS 61.637(7); and

18 (c) The employee has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if age sixty-five  
19 (65), or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five (65), in a  
20 second account in the systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems.

21 (25) An employee participating in one (1) of the retirement systems administered by the  
22 Kentucky Retirement Systems, who has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if  
23 age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of service if under age sixty-five  
24 (65) in the systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems, may obtain  
25 credit for the service in a regular full-time position otherwise creditable under the  
26 Kentucky Employees Retirement System, the County Employees Retirement  
27 System, or the State Police Retirement System for service in the United States

1 government, other than service in the Armed Forces, for which service is not  
2 otherwise given.

3 (26) An employee participating in a hazardous position in one (1) of the retirement  
4 systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems, who has at least forty-  
5 eight (48) months of service if age sixty-five (65) or at least sixty (60) months of  
6 service if under age sixty-five (65) in the systems administered by the Kentucky  
7 Retirement Systems, may obtain credit for service in a regular full-time position in  
8 an urban-county government that would qualify for hazardous duty coverage under  
9 KRS 61.592.

10 (27) Subsections (2) to (5), (7) to (13), (15) to (19), and (21) to (26) of this section shall  
11 not apply to members who begin participating in the systems administered by  
12 Kentucky Retirement Systems on or after January 1, 2014, or to members who  
13 make an election as provided by KRS 21.374, 61.5955, or 61.5956.

14 (28) Service purchases made pursuant to subsections (2) to (5), (7), (10) to (13), (15) to  
15 (19), (21) to (23), (25), and (26) of this section shall be purchased by the entire  
16 amount of service available pursuant to that subsection or by increments. Service  
17 purchases made pursuant to subsections (1), (20), and (24) of this section shall be  
18 purchased by the entire amount of service available.

19 ➔Section 44. The following KRS sections are repealed:

20 78.533 Employees of Metropolitan Park and Recreation Board of Jefferson County,  
21 credit for former service.

22 78.534 Participation of qualified circuit clerks and deputy clerks -- Transfer of service  
23 credit.

24 78.532 Employees formerly employed by private employer -- Credit for former service.

25 78.542 Required participation by retired hazardous members in an elected city or county  
26 office on June 21, 2001 -- Election not to participate -- Purchase of service credit.

27 78.780 Administration of systems by board of trustees of state system.

1           ➔Section 45. All administrative decisions made by the Kentucky Retirement  
2 Systems board of trustees prior to April 1, 2021, on behalf of the County Employees  
3 Retirement System, including but not limited to approval for hazardous positions,  
4 administrative decisions, and disability determinations, shall be implemented on April 1,  
5 2021, and shall not be reversed except under the authority granted by KRS 78.510 to  
6 78.852 to the County Employees Retirement System board of trustees or the Kentucky  
7 Public Pensions Authority as granted by Section 2 of this Act, as applicable, except that  
8 the retiree health plans established for the plan year beginning January 1, 2021, through  
9 December 31, 2021, by the Kentucky Retirement Systems board of trustees for recipients  
10 of the County Employees Retirement System shall not be altered by the County  
11 Employees Retirement System board of trustees for that specific plan year. All  
12 administrative regulations promulgated by the Kentucky Retirement Systems board of  
13 trustees prior to April 1, 2021, on behalf of the County Employees Retirement System  
14 shall continue to apply to the County Employees Retirement System on or after April 1,  
15 2021, and shall not be reversed except under the authority granted by KRS 78.510 to  
16 78.852 to the County Employees Retirement System board of trustees.

17           ➔Section 46. The three trustees elected by the County Employees Retirement  
18 System membership to serve a term on the Kentucky Retirement Systems board of  
19 trustees that includes April 1, 2021, shall serve as the three elected trustees of the County  
20 Employees Retirement System board of trustees as provided by Section 3 of this Act and  
21 shall serve for the duration of the terms for which they were elected. The two trustees  
22 elected by the Kentucky Employees Retirement System membership and the one trustee  
23 elected by the State Police Retirement System membership who are serving as trustees of  
24 the Kentucky Retirement Systems board of trustees immediately prior to the effective  
25 date of this Act shall serve as the three elected trustees of the Kentucky Retirement  
26 Systems board of trustees as provided by Section 4 of this Act and shall serve for the  
27 duration of the terms for which they were elected. The three trustees who were appointed

1 by a Governor to the Kentucky Retirement Systems board prior to April 1, 2021, who  
2 were selected by a Governor from lists submitted by the Kentucky Association of  
3 Counties, the Kentucky League of Cities, and the Kentucky School Boards Association  
4 and serving on the Kentucky Retirement Systems board immediately prior to April 1,  
5 2021, shall, notwithstanding any other provision of Section 3 of this Act to the contrary,  
6 serve on the County Employees Retirement System board of trustees as provided by  
7 Section 3 of this Act for the duration of their term of office and shall be considered the  
8 three trustees appointed by the Governor who have retirement experience as provided by  
9 subsection (1)(b) and (1)(d) of Section 3 of this Act. Notwithstanding any other provision  
10 of Section 4 of this Act to the contrary, the six trustees with investment experience  
11 appointed by a Governor to the Kentucky Retirement Systems board prior to April 1,  
12 2021, and serving on the Kentucky Retirement Systems board immediately prior to April  
13 1, 2021, shall serve for the duration of their term of office as the appointed trustees with  
14 investment experience and retirement experience of the newly constituted Kentucky  
15 Retirement Systems board of trustees effective April 1, 2021.

16       ➔Section 47. The Governor shall on or before March 1, 2021, appoint the three  
17 appointed trustees of the County Employees Retirement System board who must have  
18 investment experience as provided by subsection (1)(b) and (1)(d) of Section 3 of this Act  
19 so that the new trustees can assume their term of office on April 1, 2021. Notwithstanding  
20 the provisions of Section 3 of this Act as it relates solely to terms of office, the three  
21 trustees appointed by the Governor pursuant to Section 3 of this Act who must have  
22 investment experience shall be appointed to staggered terms, with one appointed trustee  
23 serving an initial term of two years, one appointed trustee serving an initial term of three  
24 years, and one appointed trustee serving an initial term of four years. The Kentucky  
25 League of Cities, the Kentucky Association of Counties, and the Kentucky School Boards  
26 Association shall submit a list of applicants with investment experience on or before  
27 January 1, 2021, to be appointed by the Governor pursuant to Section 3 of this Act.

1       ➔Section 48. Notwithstanding any other provision of statute to the contrary,  
2 including but not limited to any provision of KRS Chapter 12:

- 3 (1) The Governor shall have no authority to change any provision of KRS 16.505 to  
4 16.652, 61.510 to 61.705, and 78.510 to 78.852 as it relates to reorganizing,  
5 replacing, amending, or abolishing the membership of the County Employees  
6 Retirement System board of trustees as provided by Section 3 of this Act, the  
7 Kentucky Retirement Systems board of trustees as provided by KRS 61.645, or the  
8 Kentucky Public Pensions Authority as provided by Section 2 of this Act; and  
9 (2) Effective April 1, 2021, the board of trustees of the Kentucky Retirement Systems  
10 and the County Employees Retirement System shall include the number and  
11 composition of the boards established by Sections 3, and 4, 46, and 47 of this Act,  
12 as applicable respectively.

13       ➔Section 49. No provisions of this Act shall increase or decrease benefits being  
14 paid to retirees, beneficiaries, or recipients of the Kentucky Retirement Systems or the  
15 County Employees Retirement System nor shall any provisions of this Act increase or  
16 decrease benefits that have accrued to members of the Kentucky Retirement Systems or  
17 the County Employees Retirement System on the effective date of this Act.

18       ➔Section 50. The provisions of this Act shall not be construed to limit the  
19 General Assembly's authority to amend, reduce, or suspend any provision of KRS 16.505  
20 to 16.652, 61.510 to 61.705, or 78.510 to 78.852, that the General Assembly had the  
21 authority to amend, reduce, or suspend, prior to the effective date of any provision of this  
22 Act.

23       ➔Section 51. The provisions of Section 5. of 2019 Ky. Acts Chapter 182 shall  
24 apply to the County Employees Retirement System board.

25       ➔Section 52. Sections 1 to 46 of this Act take effect April 1, 2021.

26       ➔Section 53. Whereas ensuring the continuity of administration of the state-  
27 administered retirement systems is imperative, an emergency is declared to exist, and



- 1 Section 48 of this Act takes effect upon its passage and approval by the Governor or upon
- 2 its otherwise becoming law.