2 SSB 5119 - H COMM AMD ADOPTED 4/11/95

3 By Committee on Appropriations

- 5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the 6 following:
- 7 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. The intent of this act is to:
- 8 (1) Simplify the calculation of postretirement adjustments so that
- 9 they can be more easily communicated to plan I active and retired
- 10 members;
- 11 (2) Provide postretirement adjustments based on years of service
- 12 rather than size of benefit;
- 13 (3) Provide postretirement adjustments at an earlier age;
- 14 (4) Provide postretirement adjustments to a larger segment of plan
- 15 I retirees; and
- 16 (5) Simplify administration by reducing the number of plan I
- 17 postretirement adjustments to one.
- 18 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 41.32 RCW
- 19 under the subchapter heading "Plan I" to read as follows:
- 20 (1) Beginning July 1, 1995, and annually thereafter, the retirement
- 21 allowance of a person meeting the requirements of this section shall be
- 22 increased by the annual increase amount.
- 23 (2) The following persons shall be eligible for the benefit
- 24 provided in subsection (1) of this section:
- 25 (a) A beneficiary who has received a retirement allowance for at
- 26 least one year and has attained at least age sixty-six by July 1st in
- 27 the calendar year in which the annual increase is given; or
- 28 (b) A beneficiary whose retirement allowance is lower than the
- 29 minimum benefit provided under section 3 of this act.
- 30 (3) The following persons shall also be eligible for the benefit
- 31 provided in subsection (1) of this section:
- 32 (a) A beneficiary receiving the minimum benefit on June 30, 1995,
- 33 under RCW 41.32.485; or
- 34 (b) A recipient of a survivor benefit on June 30, 1995, which has
- 35 been increased by RCW 41.32.575.

- 1 (4) If otherwise eligible, those receiving an annual adjustment 2 under RCW 41.32.530(1)(d) shall be eligible for the annual increase 3 adjustment in addition to the benefit that would have been received 4 absent this section.
- 5 (5) Those receiving a temporary disability benefit under RCW 6 41.32.540 shall not be eligible for the benefit provided by this 7 section.
- 8 (6) The legislature reserves the right to amend or repeal this 9 section in the future and no member or beneficiary has a contractual 10 right to receive this postretirement adjustment not granted prior to 11 that time.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 41.32 RCW under the subchapter heading "Plan I" to read as follows:
- (1) No one who becomes a beneficiary after June 30, 1995, shall receive a monthly retirement allowance of less than twenty-four dollars and twenty-two cents times the number of years of service creditable to the person whose service is the basis of such retirement allowance.
- 18 (2) If the retirement allowance payable was adjusted at the time 19 benefit payments to the beneficiary commenced, the minimum allowance 20 provided in this section shall be adjusted in a manner consistent with 21 that adjustment.
- (3) Beginning July 1, 1996, the minimum benefit set forth in subsection (1) of this section shall be adjusted annually by the annual increase.
- 25 (4) Those receiving a temporary disability benefit under RCW 26 41.32.540 shall not be eligible for the benefit provided by this 27 section.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 41.32 RCW under the subchapter heading "Plan I" to read as follows:
- (1) The amount of the July 1, 1993, increase to the retirement allowance of beneficiaries under this chapter as a result of the temporary adjustment authorized by section 2, chapter 519, Laws of 1993, shall be made a permanent adjustment on July 1, 1995.
- 34 (2) Beneficiaries receiving a benefit under RCW 41.32.485 who are 35 at least age seventy-nine shall receive on July 1, 1995, a permanent 36 adjustment of one dollar and eighteen cents per month per year of 37 service.

1 (3) Beneficiaries under this chapter who are not subject to 2 subsection (1) of this section and not receiving a benefit under RCW 3 41.32.485 shall receive the following permanent adjustment to their

4 retirement allowance on July 1, 1995:

- 5 (a) Those who are age seventy, thirty-nine cents per month per year 6 of service;
- 7 (b) Those who are age seventy-one, seventy-nine cents per month per 8 year of service; and
- 9 (c) Those who are at least age seventy-two, one dollar and eighteen 10 cents per month per year of service.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. A new section is added to chapter 41.40 RCW under the subchapter heading "Plan I" to read as follows:
- 13 (1) Beginning July 1, 1995, and annually thereafter, the retirement 14 allowance of a person meeting the requirements of this section shall be 15 increased by the annual increase amount.
- 16 (2) The following persons shall be eligible for the benefit 17 provided in subsection (1) of this section:
- 18 (a) A beneficiary who has received a retirement allowance for at 19 least one year and has attained at least age sixty-six by July 1st in 20 the calendar year in which the annual increase is given; or
- 21 (b) A beneficiary whose retirement allowance is lower than the 22 minimum benefit provided under section 7 of this act.
- 23 (3) The following persons shall also be eligible for the benefit 24 provided in subsection (1) of this section:
- 25 (a) A beneficiary receiving the minimum benefit on June 30, 1995, 26 under RCW 41.40.198; or
- (b) A recipient of a survivor benefit on June 30, 1995, which has been increased by RCW 41.40.325.
- 29 (4) If otherwise eligible, those receiving an annual adjustment 30 under RCW 41.40.188(1)(c) shall be eligible for the annual increase 31 adjustment in addition to the benefit that would have been received 32 absent this section.
- 33 (5) Those receiving a benefit under RCW 41.40.220(1), or a survivor 34 of a disabled member under RCW 41.44.170(5) shall be eligible for the 35 benefit provided by this section.
- 36 (6) The legislature reserves the right to amend or repeal this 37 section in the future and no member or beneficiary has a contractual

- 1 right to receive this postretirement adjustment not granted prior to
- 2 that time.
- 3 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 41.40 RCW 4 under the subchapter heading "Part I" to read as follows:
- 5 For the purposes of sections 5, 7, and 8 of this act, "beneficiary"
- 6 means a beneficiary under RCW 41.40.010 or 41.44.030, or both RCW
- 7 41.40.010 and 41.44.030.
- 8 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 7.** A new section is added to chapter 41.40 RCW 9 under the subchapter heading "Plan I" to read as follows:
- 10 (1) Except as provided in subsections (4) and (5) of this section,
- 11 no one who becomes a beneficiary after June 30, 1995, shall receive a
- 12 monthly retirement allowance of less than twenty-four dollars and
- 13 twenty-two cents times the number of years of service creditable to the
- 14 person whose service is the basis of such retirement allowance.
- 15 (2) Where the retirement allowance payable was adjusted at the time
- 16 benefit payments to the beneficiary commenced, the minimum allowance
- 17 provided in this section shall be adjusted in a manner consistent with
- 18 that adjustment.
- 19 (3) Beginning July 1, 1996, the minimum benefit set forth in
- 20 subsection (1) of this section shall be adjusted annually by the annual
- 21 increase.
- 22 (4) Those receiving a benefit under RCW 41.40.220(1) or under RCW
- 23 41.44.170 (3) and (5) shall not be eligible for the benefit provided by
- 24 this section.
- 25 (5) For persons who served as elected officials and whose
- 26 accumulated employee contributions and credited interest was less than
- 27 seven hundred fifty dollars at the time of retirement, the minimum
- 28 benefit under subsection (1) of this section shall be ten dollars per
- 29 month per each year of creditable service.
- 30 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 8.** A new section is added to chapter 41.40 RCW
- 31 under the subchapter heading "Plan I" to read as follows:
- 32 (1) The amount of the July 1, 1993, increase to the retirement
- 33 allowance of beneficiaries under this chapter as a result of the
- 34 temporary adjustment authorized by section 3, chapter 519, Laws of
- 35 1993, shall be made a permanent adjustment on July 1, 1995.

- 1 (2) Beneficiaries receiving a benefit under RCW 41.40.198 who are 2 at least age seventy-nine shall receive on July 1, 1995, a permanent 3 adjustment of one dollar and eighteen cents per month per year of 4 service.
- 5 (3) Beneficiaries under this chapter who are not subject to 6 subsection (1) of this section and are not receiving a benefit under 7 RCW 41.40.198 shall receive the following permanent adjustment to their 8 retirement allowance on July 1, 1995:
- 9 (a) Those who are age seventy, thirty-nine cents per month per year 10 of service;
- 11 (b) Those who are age seventy-one, seventy-nine cents per month per 12 year of service; and
- 13 (c) Those who are at least age seventy-two, one dollar and eighteen 14 cents per month per year of service.
- 15 **Sec. 9.** RCW 41.32.010 and 1994 c 298 s 3, 1994 c 247 s 2, and 1994 c 197 s 12 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:
- 17 As used in this chapter, unless a different meaning is plainly 18 required by the context:
- (1)(a) "Accumulated contributions" for plan I members, means the sum of all regular annuity contributions and, except for the purpose of withdrawal at the time of retirement, any amount paid under RCW 41.50.165(2) with regular interest thereon.
- (b) "Accumulated contributions" for plan II members, means the sum of all contributions standing to the credit of a member in the member's individual account, including any amount paid under RCW 41.50.165(2), together with the regular interest thereon.
- (2) "Actuarial equivalent" means a benefit of equal value when computed upon the basis of such mortality tables and regulations as shall be adopted by the director and regular interest.
- 30 (3) "Annuity" means the moneys payable per year during life by 31 reason of accumulated contributions of a member.
- 32 (4) "Member reserve" means the fund in which all of the accumulated 33 contributions of members are held.
- (5)(a) "Beneficiary" for plan I members, means any person in receipt of a retirement allowance or other benefit provided by this chapter.

- 1 (b) "Beneficiary" for plan II members, means any person in receipt 2 of a retirement allowance or other benefit provided by this chapter 3 resulting from service rendered to an employer by another person.
- 4 (6) "Contract" means any agreement for service and compensation 5 between a member and an employer.
- 6 (7) "Creditable service" means membership service plus prior 7 service for which credit is allowable. This subsection shall apply 8 only to plan I members.
- 9 (8) "Dependent" means receiving one-half or more of support from a 10 member.
- 11 (9) "Disability allowance" means monthly payments during 12 disability. This subsection shall apply only to plan I members.
- 13 (10)(a) "Earnable compensation" for plan I members, means:
- (i) All salaries and wages paid by an employer to an employee member of the retirement system for personal services rendered during a fiscal year. In all cases where compensation includes maintenance the employer shall fix the value of that part of the compensation not paid in money.
- 19 (ii) "Earnable compensation" for plan I members also includes the 20 following actual or imputed payments, which are not paid for personal 21 services:

2324

25

26

27

- (A) Retroactive payments to an individual by an employer on reinstatement of the employee in a position, or payments by an employer to an individual in lieu of reinstatement in a position which are awarded or granted as the equivalent of the salary or wages which the individual would have earned during a payroll period shall be considered earnable compensation and the individual shall receive the equivalent service credit.
- 29 (B) If a leave of absence, without pay, is taken by a member for 30 the purpose of serving as a member of the state legislature, and such member has served in the legislature five or more years, the salary 31 which would have been received for the position from which the leave of 32 absence was taken shall be considered as compensation earnable if the 33 34 employee's contribution thereon is paid by the employee. In addition, 35 where a member has been a member of the state legislature for five or more years, earnable compensation for the member's two highest 36 37 compensated consecutive years of service shall include a sum not to exceed thirty-six hundred dollars for each of such two consecutive 38

1 years, regardless of whether or not legislative service was rendered 2 during those two years.

- 3 (iii) For members employed less than full time under written 4 contract with a school district, or community college district, in an instructional position, for which the member receives service credit of 5 less than one year in all of the years used to determine the earnable 6 7 compensation used for computing benefits due under RCW 41.32.497, 8 41.32.498, and 41.32.520, the member may elect to have earnable 9 compensation defined as provided in RCW 41.32.345. For the purposes of 10 this subsection, the term "instructional position" means a position in which more than seventy-five percent of the member's time is spent as 11 a classroom instructor (including office hours), a librarian, or a 12 Earnable compensation shall be so defined only for the 13 counselor. purpose of the calculation of retirement benefits and only as necessary 14 15 to insure that members who receive fractional service credit under RCW 41.32.270 receive benefits proportional to those received by members 16 who have received full-time service credit. 17
- 18 (iv) "Earnable compensation" does not include:
- 19 (A) Remuneration for unused sick leave authorized under RCW 20 41.04.340, 28A.400.210, or 28A.310.490;
- 21 (B) Remuneration for unused annual leave in excess of thirty days 22 as authorized by RCW 43.01.044 and 43.01.041.
- (b) "Earnable compensation" for plan II members, means salaries or 23 24 wages earned by a member during a payroll period for personal services, 25 including overtime payments, and shall include wages and salaries 26 deferred under provisions established pursuant to sections 403(b), 414(h), and 457 of the United States Internal Revenue Code, but shall 27 exclude lump sum payments for deferred annual sick leave, unused 28 29 accumulated vacation, unused accumulated annual leave, or any form of 30 severance pay.
- "Earnable compensation" for plan II members also includes the 32 following actual or imputed payments which, except in the case of 33 (b)(ii)(B) of this subsection, are not paid for personal services:
- (i) Retroactive payments to an individual by an employer on reinstatement of the employee in a position or payments by an employer to an individual in lieu of reinstatement in a position which are awarded or granted as the equivalent of the salary or wages which the individual would have earned during a payroll period shall be

- 1 considered earnable compensation, to the extent provided above, and the 2 individual shall receive the equivalent service credit.
- 3 (ii) In any year in which a member serves in the legislature the 4 member shall have the option of having such member's earnable 5 compensation be the greater of:
- 6 (A) The earnable compensation the member would have received had 7 such member not served in the legislature; or
- 8 (B) Such member's actual earnable compensation received for 9 teaching and legislative service combined. Any additional contributions to the retirement system required because compensation earnable under (b)(ii)(A) of this subsection is greater than compensation earnable under (b)(ii)(B) of this subsection shall be paid by the member for both member and employer contributions.
- (11) "Employer" means the state of Washington, the school district, or any agency of the state of Washington by which the member is paid.
- 16 (12) "Fiscal year" means a year which begins July 1st and ends June 30th of the following year.
- 18 (13) "Former state fund" means the state retirement fund in 19 operation for teachers under chapter 187, Laws of 1923, as amended.
- 20 (14) "Local fund" means any of the local retirement funds for 21 teachers operated in any school district in accordance with the 22 provisions of chapter 163, Laws of 1917 as amended.
- 23 (15) "Member" means any teacher included in the membership of the 24 retirement system. Also, any other employee of the public schools who, 25 on July 1, 1947, had not elected to be exempt from membership and who, 26 prior to that date, had by an authorized payroll deduction, contributed 27 to the member reserve.
- (16) "Membership service" means service rendered subsequent to the first day of eligibility of a person to membership in the retirement system: PROVIDED, That where a member is employed by two or more employers the individual shall receive no more than one service credit month during any calendar month in which multiple service is rendered.
- 33 The provisions of this subsection shall apply only to plan I members.
- 34 (17) "Pension" means the moneys payable per year during life from 35 the pension reserve.
- 36 (18) "Pension reserve" is a fund in which shall be accumulated an 37 actuarial reserve adequate to meet present and future pension 38 liabilities of the system and from which all pension obligations are to 39 be paid.

- 1 (19) "Prior service" means service rendered prior to the first date 2 of eligibility to membership in the retirement system for which credit 3 is allowable. The provisions of this subsection shall apply only to 4 plan I members.
- 5 (20) "Prior service contributions" means contributions made by a 6 member to secure credit for prior service. The provisions of this 7 subsection shall apply only to plan I members.
- 8 (21) "Public school" means any institution or activity operated by 9 the state of Washington or any instrumentality or political subdivision 10 thereof employing teachers, except the University of Washington and 11 Washington State University.
- 12 (22) "Regular contributions" means the amounts required to be 13 deducted from the compensation of a member and credited to the member's 14 individual account in the member reserve. This subsection shall apply 15 only to plan I members.
- 16 (23) "Regular interest" means such rate as the director may 17 determine.
- 18 (24)(a) "Retirement allowance" for plan I members, means monthly 19 payments based on the sum of annuity and pension, or any optional 20 benefits payable in lieu thereof.
- 21 (b) "Retirement allowance" for plan II members, means monthly 22 payments to a retiree or beneficiary as provided in this chapter.
- 23 (25) "Retirement system" means the Washington state teachers' 24 retirement system.
- 25 (26)(a) "Service" for plan I members means the time during which a 26 member has been employed by an employer for compensation.
- 27 (i) If a member is employed by two or more employers the individual 28 shall receive no more than one service credit month during any calendar 29 month in which multiple service is rendered.
- (ii) As authorized by RCW 28A.400.300, up to forty-five days of sick leave may be creditable as service solely for the purpose of determining eligibility to retire under RCW 41.32.470.
- (iii) As authorized in RCW 41.32.065, service earned in an out-ofstate retirement system that covers teachers in public schools may be applied solely for the purpose of determining eligibility to retire under RCW 41.32.470.
- 37 (b) "Service" for plan II members, means periods of employment by 38 a member for one or more employers for which earnable compensation is 39 earned subject to the following conditions:

- (i) A member employed in an eligible position or as a substitute shall receive one service credit month for each month of September through August of the following year if he or she earns earnable compensation for eight hundred ten or more hours during that period and is employed during nine of those months, except that a member may not receive credit for any period prior to the member's employment in an eligible position except as provided in RCW 41.32.812 and 41.50.132;
 - (ii) If a member is employed either in an eligible position or as a substitute teacher for nine months of the twelve month period between September through August of the following year but earns earnable compensation for less than eight hundred ten hours but for at least six hundred thirty hours, he or she will receive one-half of a service credit month for each month of the twelve month period;

9

10

11

12

13

24

25

26

27

28

- 14 (iii) All other members in an eligible position or as a substitute 15 teacher shall receive service credit as follows:
- 16 (A) A service credit month is earned in those calendar months where 17 earnable compensation is earned for ninety or more hours;
- 18 (B) A half-service credit month is earned in those calendar months 19 where earnable compensation is earned for at least seventy hours but 20 less than ninety hours; and
- 21 (C) A quarter-service credit month is earned in those calendar 22 months where earnable compensation is earned for less than seventy 23 hours.
 - (iv) Any person who is a member of the teachers' retirement system and who is elected or appointed to a state elective position may continue to be a member of the retirement system and continue to receive a service credit month for each of the months in a state elective position by making the required member contributions.
- (v) When an individual is employed by two or more employers the individual shall only receive one month's service credit during any calendar month in which multiple service for ninety or more hours is rendered.
- (vi) As authorized by RCW 28A.400.300, up to forty-five days of sick leave may be creditable as service solely for the purpose of determining eligibility to retire under RCW 41.32.470. For purposes of plan II "forty-five days" as used in RCW 28A.400.300 is equal to two service credit months. Use of less than forty-five days of sick leave is creditable as allowed under this subsection as follows:
 - (A) Less than eleven days equals one-quarter service credit month;

- 1 (B) Eleven or more days but less than twenty-two days equals one-2 half service credit month;
 - (C) Twenty-two days equals one service credit month;

26

27

28 29

30

- 4 (D) More than twenty-two days but less than thirty-three days 5 equals one and one-quarter service credit month;
- 6 (E) Thirty-three or more days but less than forty-five days equals 7 one and one-half service credit month.
- 8 (vii) As authorized in RCW 41.32.065, service earned in an out-of-9 state retirement system that covers teachers in public schools may be 10 applied solely for the purpose of determining eligibility to retire 11 under RCW 41.32.470.
- 12 (viii) The department shall adopt rules implementing this 13 subsection.
- 14 (27) "Service credit year" means an accumulation of months of 15 service credit which is equal to one when divided by twelve.
- 16 (28) "Service credit month" means a full service credit month or an 17 accumulation of partial service credit months that are equal to one.
- (29) "Teacher" means any person qualified to teach who is engaged 18 19 by a public school in an instructional, administrative, or supervisory 20 capacity. The term includes state, educational service district, and school district superintendents and their assistants and all employees 21 certificated by the superintendent of public instruction; and in 22 addition thereto any full time school doctor who is employed by a 23 24 public school and renders service of an instructional or educational 25 nature.
 - (30) "Average final compensation" for plan II members, means the member's average earnable compensation of the highest consecutive sixty service credit months prior to such member's retirement, termination, or death. Periods constituting authorized leaves of absence may not be used in the calculation of average final compensation except under RCW 41.32.810(2).
- 32 (31) "Retiree" means any person in receipt of a retirement 33 allowance or other benefit provided by this chapter resulting from 34 service rendered to an employer while a member. A person is in receipt 35 of a retirement allowance as defined in subsection (24) of this section 36 or other benefit as provided by this chapter when the department mails, 37 causes to be mailed, or otherwise transmits the retirement allowance 38 warrant.

- 1 (32) "Department" means the department of retirement systems 2 created in chapter 41.50 RCW.
- 3 (33) "Director" means the director of the department.
- 4 (34) "State elective position" means any position held by any 5 person elected or appointed to state-wide office or elected or 6 appointed as a member of the legislature.
- 7 (35) "State actuary" or "actuary" means the person appointed 8 pursuant to RCW 44.44.010(2).
 - (36) "Substitute teacher" means:

- 10 (a) A teacher who is hired by an employer to work as a temporary 11 teacher, except for teachers who are annual contract employees of an 12 employer and are guaranteed a minimum number of hours; or
- 13 (b) Teachers who either (i) work in ineligible positions for more 14 than one employer or (ii) work in an ineligible position or positions 15 together with an eligible position.
- (37)(a) "Eligible position" for plan II members from June 7, 1990, through September 1, 1991, means a position which normally requires two or more uninterrupted months of creditable service during September through August of the following year.
- (b) "Eligible position" for plan II on and after September 1, 1991, means a position that, as defined by the employer, normally requires five or more months of at least seventy hours of earnable compensation during September through August of the following year.
- (c) For purposes of this chapter an employer shall not define "position" in such a manner that an employee's monthly work for that employer is divided into more than one position.
- 27 (d) The elected position of the superintendent of public 28 instruction is an eligible position.
- 29 (38) "Plan I" means the teachers' retirement system, plan I 30 providing the benefits and funding provisions covering persons who 31 first became members of the system prior to October 1, 1977.
- 32 (39) "Plan II" means the teachers' retirement system, plan II 33 providing the benefits and funding provisions covering persons who 34 first became members of the system on and after October 1, 1977.
- 35 (40) "Index" means, for any calendar year, that year's annual 36 average consumer price index, Seattle, Washington area, for urban wage 37 earners and clerical workers, all items compiled by the bureau of labor 38 statistics, United States department of labor.

- "Index A" means the index for the year prior to the 1 (41)2 determination of a postretirement adjustment.
- 3 (42) "Index B" means the index for the year prior to index A.
- 4 (43) "Index year" means the earliest calendar year in which the 5 index is more than sixty percent of index A.
- (44) "Adjustment ratio" means the value of index A divided by index 6 7 В.
- 8 (45) "Annual increase" means, initially, fifty-nine cents per month
- per year of service which amount shall be increased each July 1st by 9
- 10 three percent, rounded to the nearest cent.
- Sec. 10. RCW 41.40.010 and 1994 c 298 s 2, 1994 c 247 s 5, 1994 c 11
- 12 197 s 23, and 1994 c 177 s 8 are each reenacted and amended to read as
- 13 follows:
- 14 As used in this chapter, unless a different meaning is plainly
- 15 required by the context:
- 16 (1) "Retirement system" means the public employees' retirement
- 17 system provided for in this chapter.
- 18 (2) "Department" means the department of retirement systems created
- 19 in chapter 41.50 RCW.
- 20 (3) "State treasurer" means the treasurer of the state of
- Washington. 21
- "Employer" for plan I members, means every branch, 22 (4)(a)
- 23 department, agency, commission, board, and office of the state, any
- 24 political subdivision or association of political subdivisions of the
- state admitted into the retirement system, and legal entities 25
- authorized by RCW 35.63.070 and 36.70.060 or chapter 39.34 RCW; and the 26
- term shall also include any labor quild, association, or organization 27
- the membership of a local lodge or division of which is comprised of at
- 28
- 29 least forty percent employees of an employer (other than such labor
- guild, association, or organization) within this chapter. The term may 30
- also include any city of the first class that has its own retirement 31
- 32 system.
- (b) "Employer" for plan II members, means every branch, department, 33
- 34 agency, commission, board, and office of the state, and any political
- subdivision and municipal corporation of the state admitted into the 35
- 36 retirement system, including public agencies created pursuant to RCW
- 35.63.070, 36.70.060, and 39.34.030. 37

- (5) "Member" means any employee included in the membership of the 1 retirement system, as provided for in RCW 41.40.023. RCW 41.26.045 2 does not prohibit a person otherwise eligible for membership in the 3 4 retirement system from establishing such membership effective when he 5 or she first entered an eligible position.
 - (6) "Original member" of this retirement system means:

30

31

32

- 7 (a) Any person who became a member of the system prior to April 1, 8 1949;
- 9 (b) Any person who becomes a member through the admission of an 10 employer into the retirement system on and after April 1, 1949, and 11 prior to April 1, 1951;
- (c) Any person who first becomes a member by securing employment 12 13 with an employer prior to April 1, 1951, provided the member has rendered at least one or more years of service to any employer prior to 14 15 October 1, 1947;
- 16 (d) Any person who first becomes a member through the admission of 17 an employer into the retirement system on or after April 1, 1951, provided, such person has been in the regular employ of the employer 18 19 for at least six months of the twelve-month period preceding the said 20 admission date;
- (e) Any member who has restored all contributions that may have 21 been withdrawn as provided by RCW 41.40.150 and who on the effective 22 23 date of the individual's retirement becomes entitled to be credited 24 with ten years or more of membership service except that the provisions 25 relating to the minimum amount of retirement allowance for the member 26 upon retirement at age seventy as found in RCW 41.40.190(4) shall not 27 apply to the member;
- (f) Any member who has been a contributor under the system for two 28 or more years and who has restored all contributions that may have been 29 withdrawn as provided by RCW 41.40.150 and who on the effective date of the individual's retirement has rendered five or more years of service for the state or any political subdivision prior to the time of the 33 admission of the employer into the system; except that the provisions relating to the minimum amount of retirement allowance for the member 34 upon retirement at age seventy as found in RCW 41.40.190(4) shall not 36 apply to the member.
- 37 (7) "New member" means a person who becomes a member on or after April 1, 1949, except as otherwise provided in this section. 38

- (8)(a) "Compensation earnable" for plan I members, means salaries 1 2 or wages earned during a payroll period for personal services and where the compensation is not all paid in money, maintenance compensation 3 4 shall be included upon the basis of the schedules established by the member's employer. Compensation that a member receives for being in 5 standby status is also compensation earnable, subject to the conditions 6 7 of this subsection. A member is in standby status when not being paid 8 for time actually worked and only when both of the following conditions 9 (i) The member is required to be present at, or in the 10 immediate vicinity of, a specified location; and (ii) the employer requires the member to be prepared to report immediately for work, if 11 the need arises, although the need may not arise. Standby compensation 12 13 is regular salary for the purposes of RCW 41.50.150(2).
- 14 (A) "Compensation earnable" for plan I members also includes the 15 following actual or imputed payments, which are not paid for personal 16 services:
- (I) Retroactive payments to an individual by an employer on reinstatement of the employee in a position, or payments by an employer to an individual in lieu of reinstatement in a position which are awarded or granted as the equivalent of the salary or wage which the individual would have earned during a payroll period shall be considered compensation earnable and the individual shall receive the equivalent service credit;
 - (II) If a leave of absence is taken by an individual for the purpose of serving in the state legislature, the salary which would have been received for the position from which the leave of absence was taken, shall be considered as compensation earnable if the employee's contribution is paid by the employee and the employer's contribution is paid by the employer or employee.
- 30 (III) Assault pay only as authorized by RCW 27.04.100, 72.01.045, 31 and 72.09.240;
- (IV) Compensation that a member would have received but for a disability occurring in the line of duty only as authorized by RCW 41.40.038; and
- (V) Compensation that a member receives due to participation in the leave sharing program only as authorized by RCW 41.04.650 through 41.04.670.
 - (B) "Compensation earnable" does not include:

25

26

27

28 29

- 1 (I) Remuneration for unused sick leave authorized under RCW 2 41.04.340, 28A.400.210, or 28A.310.490;
- 3 (II) Remuneration for unused annual leave in excess of thirty days 4 as authorized by RCW 43.01.044 and 43.01.041.
- 5 (b) "Compensation earnable" for plan II members, means salaries or wages earned by a member during a payroll period for personal services, 6 7 including overtime payments, and shall include wages and salaries 8 deferred under provisions established pursuant to sections 403(b), 9 414(h), and 457 of the United States Internal Revenue Code, but shall 10 exclude nonmoney maintenance compensation and lump sum or other payments for deferred annual sick leave, unused accumulated vacation, 11 unused accumulated annual leave, or any form of severance pay. 12 13 Compensation that a member receives for being in standby status is also compensation earnable, subject to the conditions of this subsection. 14 15 A member is in standby status when not being paid for time actually worked and only when both of the following conditions exist: (i) The 16 17 member is required to be present at, or in the immediate vicinity of, a specified location; and (ii) the employer requires the member to be 18 19 prepared to report immediately for work, if the need arises, although 20 the need may not arise. Standby compensation is regular salary for the
- "Compensation earnable" for plan II members also includes the following actual or imputed payments, which are not paid for personal services:

purposes of RCW 41.50.150(2).

- 25 (A) Retroactive payments to an individual by an employer on 26 reinstatement of the employee in a position, or payments by an employer 27 to an individual in lieu of reinstatement in a position which are 28 awarded or granted as the equivalent of the salary or wage which the 29 individual would have earned during a payroll period shall be 30 considered compensation earnable to the extent provided above, and the 31 individual shall receive the equivalent service credit;
- 32 (B) In any year in which a member serves in the legislature, the 33 member shall have the option of having such member's compensation 34 earnable be the greater of:
- 35 (I) The compensation earnable the member would have received had 36 such member not served in the legislature; or
- 37 (II) Such member's actual compensation earnable received for 38 nonlegislative public employment and legislative service combined. Any 39 additional contributions to the retirement system required because

- 1 compensation earnable under (b)(ii)(B)(II) of this subsection is 2 greater than compensation earnable under (b)(ii)(B)(I) of this 3 subsection shall be paid by the member for both member and employer 4 contributions;
- 5 (C) Assault pay only as authorized by RCW 27.04.100, 72.01.045, and 72.09.240;
- 7 (D) Compensation that a member would have received but for a 8 disability occurring in the line of duty only as authorized by RCW 9 41.40.038; and
- 10 (E) Compensation that a member receives due to participation in the 11 leave sharing program only as authorized by RCW 41.04.650 through 12 41.04.670.
- (9)(a) "Service" for plan I members, except as provided in RCW 13 14 41.40.088, means periods of employment in an eligible position or 15 positions for one or more employers rendered to any employer for which 16 compensation is paid, and includes time spent in office as an elected 17 or appointed official of an employer. Compensation earnable earned in full time work for seventy hours or more in any given calendar month 18 19 shall constitute one service credit month except as provided in RCW 41.40.088. Compensation earnable earned for less than seventy hours in 20 any calendar month shall constitute one-quarter service credit month of 21 22 service except as provided in RCW 41.40.088. Only service credit months and one-quarter service credit months shall be counted in the 23 24 computation of any retirement allowance or other benefit provided for 25 in this chapter. Any fraction of a year of service shall be taken into 26 account in the computation of such retirement allowance or benefits. Time spent in standby status, whether compensated or not, is not 27 28 service.
- (i) Service by a state employee officially assigned by the state on a temporary basis to assist another public agency, shall be considered as service as a state employee: PROVIDED, That service to any other public agency shall not be considered service as a state employee if such service has been used to establish benefits in any other public retirement system.
- (ii) An individual shall receive no more than a total of twelve service credit months of service during any calendar year. If an individual is employed in an eligible position by one or more employers the individual shall receive no more than one service credit month

- 1 during any calendar month in which multiple service for seventy or more 2 hours is rendered.
- (iii) A school district employee may count up to forty-five days of sick leave as creditable service solely for the purpose of determining eligibility to retire under RCW 41.40.180 as authorized by RCW 28A.400.300. For purposes of plan I "forty-five days" as used in RCW 28A.400.300 is equal to two service credit months. Use of less than forty-five days of sick leave is creditable as allowed under this subsection as follows:
- 10 (A) Less than twenty-two days equals one-quarter service credit 11 month;
 - (B) Twenty-two days equals one service credit month;

- 13 (C) More than twenty-two days but less than forty-five days equals 14 one and one-quarter service credit month.
- 15 (b) "Service" for plan II members, means periods of employment by a member in an eligible position or positions for one or more employers 16 17 for which compensation earnable is paid. Compensation earnable earned for ninety or more hours in any calendar month shall constitute one 18 19 service credit month except as provided in RCW 41.40.088. Compensation 20 earnable earned for at least seventy hours but less than ninety hours in any calendar month shall constitute one-half service credit month of 21 service. Compensation earnable earned for less than seventy hours in 22 23 any calendar month shall constitute one-quarter service credit month of 24 Time spent in standby status, whether compensated or not, is service. 25 not service.
- Any fraction of a year of service shall be taken into account in the computation of such retirement allowance or benefits.
- (i) Service in any state elective position shall be deemed to be full time service, except that persons serving in state elective positions who are members of the teachers' retirement system or law enforcement officers' and fire fighters' retirement system at the time of election or appointment to such position may elect to continue membership in the teachers' retirement system or law enforcement officers' and fire fighters' retirement system.
- (ii) A member shall receive a total of not more than twelve service credit months of service for such calendar year. If an individual is employed in an eligible position by one or more employers the individual shall receive no more than one service credit month during

1 any calendar month in which multiple service for ninety or more hours 2 is rendered.

- 3 (iii) Up to forty-five days of sick leave may be creditable as 4 service solely for the purpose of determining eligibility to retire 5 under RCW 41.40.180 as authorized by RCW 28A.400.300. For purposes of 6 plan II "forty-five days" as used in RCW 28A.400.300 is equal to two 7 service credit months. Use of less than forty-five days of sick leave 8 is creditable as allowed under this subsection as follows:
 - (A) Less than eleven days equals one-quarter service credit month;
- 10 (B) Eleven or more days but less than twenty-two days equals one-11 half service credit month;
- 12 (C) Twenty-two days equals one service credit month;
- 13 (D) More than twenty-two days but less than thirty-three days 14 equals one and one-quarter service credit month;
- 15 (E) Thirty-three or more days but less than forty-five days equals 16 one and one-half service credit month.
- 17 (10) "Service credit year" means an accumulation of months of 18 service credit which is equal to one when divided by twelve.
- 19 (11) "Service credit month" means a month or an accumulation of 20 months of service credit which is equal to one.
- 21 (12) "Prior service" means all service of an original member 22 rendered to any employer prior to October 1, 1947.
 - (13) "Membership service" means:

9

- 24 (a) All service rendered, as a member, after October 1, 1947;
- 25 (b) All service after October 1, 1947, to any employer prior to the time of its admission into the retirement system: PROVIDED, That an 26 27 amount equal to the employer and employee contributions which would have been paid to the retirement system on account of such service 28 29 shall have been paid to the retirement system with interest (as 30 computed by the department) on the employee's portion prior to retirement of such person, by the employee or his or her employer, 31 except as qualified by RCW 41.40.023: PROVIDED FURTHER, That employer 32 contributions plus employee contributions with interest submitted by 33 34 the employee under this subsection shall be placed in the employee's 35 individual account in the employees' savings fund and be treated as any other contribution made by the employee, with the exception that the 36 37 contributions submitted by the employee in payment of the employer's obligation, together with the interest the director may apply to the 38 39 employer's contribution, shall be excluded from the calculation of the

1 member's annuity in the event the member selects a benefit with an 2 annuity option;

- (c) Service not to exceed six consecutive months of probationary 3 4 service rendered after April 1, 1949, and prior to becoming a member, in the case of any member, upon payment in full by such member of the 5 total amount of the employer's contribution to the retirement fund 6 7 which would have been required under the law in effect when such probationary service was rendered if the member had been a member 8 9 during such period, except that the amount of the employer's 10 contribution shall be calculated by the director based on the first month's compensation earnable as a member; 11
 - (d) Service not to exceed six consecutive months of probationary service, rendered after October 1, 1947, and before April 1, 1949, and prior to becoming a member, in the case of any member, upon payment in full by such member of five percent of such member's salary during said period of probationary service, except that the amount of the employer's contribution shall be calculated by the director based on the first month's compensation earnable as a member.

12

13

14 15

16 17

18

31

3233

34

35

3637

- 19 (14)(a) "Beneficiary" for plan I members, means any person in 20 receipt of a retirement allowance, pension or other benefit provided by 21 this chapter.
- (b) "Beneficiary" for plan II members, means any person in receipt of a retirement allowance or other benefit provided by this chapter resulting from service rendered to an employer by another person.
- 25 (15) "Regular interest" means such rate as the director may 26 determine.
- (16) "Accumulated contributions" means the sum of all contributions standing to the credit of a member in the member's individual account, including any amount paid under RCW 41.50.165(2), together with the regular interest thereon.
 - (17)(a) "Average final compensation" for plan I members, means the annual average of the greatest compensation earnable by a member during any consecutive two year period of service credit months for which service credit is allowed; or if the member has less than two years of service credit months then the annual average compensation earnable during the total years of service for which service credit is allowed.
 - (b) "Average final compensation" for plan II members, means the member's average compensation earnable of the highest consecutive sixty months of service credit months prior to such member's retirement,

- termination, or death. Periods constituting authorized leaves of 1 2 absence may not be used in the calculation of average final compensation except under RCW 41.40.710(2).
- 4 (18) "Final compensation" means the annual rate of compensation earnable by a member at the time of termination of employment. 5
- 6 (19) "Annuity" means payments for life derived from accumulated 7 contributions of a member. All annuities shall be paid in monthly 8 installments.
- 9 (20) "Pension" means payments for life derived from contributions 10 made by the employer. All pensions shall be paid in monthly installments. 11
- (21) "Retirement allowance" means the sum of the annuity and the 12 13 pension.
- 14 (22) "Employee" means any person who may become eligible for 15 membership under this chapter, as set forth in RCW 41.40.023.
- 16 (23) "Actuarial equivalent" means a benefit of equal value when 17 computed upon the basis of such mortality and other tables as may be adopted by the director. 18
- 19 (24) "Retirement" means withdrawal from active service with a 20 retirement allowance as provided by this chapter.
- (25) "Eligible position" means: 21

22

23 24

25

26

- (a) Any position that, as defined by the employer, normally requires five or more months of service a year for which regular compensation for at least seventy hours is earned by the occupant thereof. For purposes of this chapter an employer shall not define "position" in such a manner that an employee's monthly work for that employer is divided into more than one position;
- 28 (b) Any position occupied by an elected official or person appointed directly by the governor for which compensation is paid. 29
- 30 (26) "Ineligible position" means any position which does not 31 conform with the requirements set forth in subsection (25) of this 32 section.
- (27) "Leave of absence" means the period of time a member is 33 34 authorized by the employer to be absent from service without being 35 separated from membership.
- 36 (28) "Totally incapacitated for duty" means total inability to 37 perform the duties of a member's employment or office or any other work 38 for which the member is qualified by training or experience.

- 1 (29) "Retiree" means any person in receipt of a retirement 2 allowance or other benefit provided by this chapter resulting from 3 service rendered to an employer while a member. A person is in receipt 4 of a retirement allowance as defined in subsection (21) of this section 5 or other benefit as provided by this chapter when the department mails, 6 causes to be mailed, or otherwise transmits the retirement allowance 7 warrant.
- 8 (30) "Director" means the director of the department.
- 9 (31) "State elective position" means any position held by any 10 person elected or appointed to state-wide office or elected or 11 appointed as a member of the legislature.
- 12 (32) "State actuary" or "actuary" means the person appointed 13 pursuant to RCW 44.44.010(2).
- 14 (33) "Plan I" means the public employees' retirement system, plan 15 I providing the benefits and funding provisions covering persons who 16 first became members of the system prior to October 1, 1977.
- 17 (34) "Plan II" means the public employees' retirement system, plan 18 II providing the benefits and funding provisions covering persons who 19 first became members of the system on and after October 1, 1977.
- 20 (35) "Index" means, for any calendar year, that year's annual 21 average consumer price index, Seattle, Washington area, for urban wage 22 earners and clerical workers, all items, compiled by the bureau of 23 labor statistics, United States department of labor.
- 24 (36) "Index A" means the index for the year prior to the 25 determination of a postretirement adjustment.
- 26 (37) "Index B" means the index for the year prior to index A.
- 27 (38) "Index year" means the earliest calendar year in which the 28 index is more than sixty percent of index A.
- 29 (39) "Adjustment ratio" means the value of index A divided by index 30 B.
- 31 (40) "Annual increase" means, initially, fifty-nine cents per month
- 32 per year of service which amount shall be increased each July 1st by
- 33 three percent, rounded to the nearest cent.
- NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** The following acts or parts of acts are as each repealed:
- 36 (1) RCW 41.32.487 and 1989 c 272 s 6 & 1987 c 455 s 3;
- 37 (2) RCW 41.32.4871 and 1993 c 519 s 2;

- 1 (3) RCW 41.32.499 and 1991 c 35 s 56, 1973 2nd ex.s. c 32 s 1, & 2 1973 1st ex.s. c 189 s 9;
- 3 (4) RCW 41.32.575 and 1994 c 247 s 3 & 1989 c 272 s 3;
- 4 (5) RCW 41.40.195 and 1991 c 35 s 79, 1973 2nd ex.s. c 14 s 1, 1973
- 5 1st ex.s. c 190 s 11, 1971 ex.s. c 271 s 6, & 1970 ex.s. c 68 s 1;
- 6 (6) RCW 41.40.198 and 1989 c 272 s 8, 1987 c 455 s 2, 1986 c 306 s
- 7 3, & 1979 ex.s. c 96 s 1;
- 8 (7) RCW 41.40.1981 and 1989 c 272 s 9 & 1987 c 455 s 4;
- 9 (8) RCW 41.40.1983 and 1993 c 519 s 3; and
- 10 (9) RCW 41.40.325 and 1994 c 247 s 6 & 1989 c 272 s 2.
- 11 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 12.** RCW 41.32.488 is decodified.
- 12 NEW SECTION. Sec. 13. The department of retirement systems may 13 continue to pay cost-of-living adjustments consistent with the provisions of the statutes repealed by section 11 of this act, in lieu 14 of the benefits provided by sections 2, 4, 5, and 8 of this act, if the 15 department determines that: (1) A member earned service credit under 16 17 chapter 41.40 or 41.32 RCW on or after May 8, 1989; and (2) a retiree would receive greater increases in the next ten years under the 18 statutes repealed by section 11 of this act than under the provisions 19 of sections 2, 4, 5, and 8 of this act; and (3) the retiree does not 20 elect the benefits provided by this act over the benefits provided 21
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 14. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately."

The election

under the statutes repealed by section 11 of this act.

must be made in a manner prescribed by the department.

28 **SSB 5119** - H COMM AMD

22

23

30

29 By Committee on Appropriations

On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "purposes;" strike the remainder of the title and insert "reenacting and amending RCW 41.32.010 and 41.40.010; adding new sections to chapter 41.32 RCW; adding new sections to chapter 41.40 RCW; creating new sections;

- 1 decodifying RCW 41.32.488; repealing RCW 41.32.487, 41.32.4871,
- 2 41.32.499, 41.32.575, 41.40.195, 41.40.198, 41.40.1981, 41.40.1983, and
- 3 41.40.325; and declaring an emergency."

--- END ---