SENATE BILL No. 99

By Legislative Educational Planning Committee

1-25

AN ACT concerning retirement; related to plan for certain employees of state board of regents and educational institutions thereunder; amending K.S.A. 74-4925b, 74-4925e and 76-746 and K.S.A. 2004 Supp. 74-12 4925 and repealing the existing sections.

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 2004 Supp. 74-4925 is hereby amended to read as follows: 74-4925. (1) The state board of regents shall:

Assist Sponsor and maintain a retirement plan under section 403(b) of the federal internal revenue code for all those members of the faculty and other persons who are employed by the state board of regents or by educational institutions under its the board's management and who are in the unclassified service under the Kansas civil service act as provided in subsection (1)(f) of K.S.A. 75-2935 and amendments thereto, except health eare employees, as defined by subsection (1)(f) of K.S.A. 75-2935 and amendments thereto, in the purchase of retirement annuities for their service rendered after December 31, 1961-, including effective on the first day of the first payroll period commencing with or following July 1, 1994, county extension agents employed by Kansas state university under K.S.A. 2-615, and amendments thereto shall be eligible for assistance by the state board of regents in the purchase of retirement annuities under this section. the state board of regents shall not assist any such person, except not including: (i) Health care employees, as defined by subsection (1)(f) of K.S.A. 75-2935, and amendments thereto; (ii) cooperative extension service employees covered by a federal retirement plan; or (iii) student employees. An eligible employee who is employed after December 31, 1961, until such person has been employed for a waiting period of at least one year except that (i) the state board of regents may assist any newly employed person immediately if at the time of the commencement of employment the person is covered by a valid retirement annuity contract issued by a company described in subsection (2) which was entered into pursuant to a retirement pension plan adopted for faeulty members or other persons, or both, employed by an institution of higher education and to which such person or such person's employer on such person's behalf has been making contributions for at least one year,

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and (ii) all periods of employment with (A) participating employers under the Kansas public employees retirement system, for which employment participating service credit accrued, or (B) institutions of higher education in other states for which employment retirement benefits accrued under a retirement system or plan provided for such employment, shall be eredited toward satisfaction of such one-year waiting period if served, in either ease, during the five years immediately preceding employment with the state board of regents or with an educational institution under its management in the unclassified service under the Kansas civil service act as provided in subsection (1)(f) of K.S.A. 75-2935 and amendments thereto, in addition to such employment with the state board of regents or with an educational institution under its management; no period of employment as a student employee, as a seasonal or temporary employee or as a part-time employee, whose employment requires less than 1,000 hours of work per year, shall be eredited toward the one-year waiting period under subsection (1)(a); this act shall not apply to persons employed in such temporary and part-time positions designated by the state board of regents as exceptions hereto shall participate in such retirement plan when the employee has completed one year of service with the state board of regents or an educational institution under its management, except that: (i) A newly employed eligible employee shall begin participation in the plan immediately, if at the time of the commencement of employment, the eligible employee is covered as a result of employment with an institution of higher education located in the United States, by a retirement plan or program to which employer contributions have been made and benefits accrued for at least one year within the five-year period immediately preceding employment with the state board of regents or with an educational institution under its management; and (ii) all service while in a position eligible for benefits under any state of Kansas retirement plan with respect to which the employee's participation is mandatory, including service during such plan's waiting period, shall be credited toward the year of service requirement, and an eligible employee who has at least one year in a position eligible for benefits under such retirement plan shall be immediately eligible to participate in the state board of regents retirement plan, except that this one-year period must be completed within the five-year period immediately preceding employment with the state board of regents or with an educational institution under the board's management. For purposes of the immediately preceding clauses (i) and (ii), no period of employment as a student employee, seasonal or temporary employee or employee who works less than half-time shall count toward satisfaction of the year of service requirement. The state board of regents may exclude from eligibility under this subsection any persons employed in such temporary or part-time positions as the board designates;

- (b) require such members of the faculty and others described in subsection (1)(a) who are so assisted by eligible to participate in the retirement plan of the state board of regents, as provided in subsection (1)(a), to contribute an amount toward the purchase of such retirement annuities of to such plan equal to 5.5% of their salaries such member's compensation, such contributions to be made through payroll deductions and on a pretax basis;
- (c) contribute an amount toward the purchase of such retirement annuities to the retirement plan of the state board of regents, as provided in subsection (1)(a), equal to the percentage amount, as prescribed by K.S.A. 74-4925e and amendments thereto, of the total amount of the salaries compensation on which such members of the faculty and others other persons described in subsection (1)(a) contribute during such period for which the contribution of the state board of regents is made; and
- provide, under such rules and regulations as the state board of regents may adopt, for the retirement of any such member of the faculty or other person described in subsection (1)(a) on account of age or condition of health, retirement of such member of the faculty or other person described in subsection (1)(a) on account of age to be not earlier than the 55th birthday and prior to January 1, 1994, not later than the end of the academic year following the 70th year. On and after January 1, 1994, there shall be no mandatory retirement on account of age. Any person who retires under this section and who receives benefits from the Kansas publie employees retirement system for prior service eredit shall have such benefits calculated in accordance with the applicable provisions of K.S.A. 74-4914 and 74-4915 and amendments thereto make the contributions required under subsections (1)(b) and (1)(c) in accordance with section 403(b) of the federal internal revenue code and all other applicable sections of the federal internal revenue code and the applicable regulations thereunder.
- (2) For the purposes of this section the state board of regents may contract with:
- (a) Any life insurance company authorized to do business in this state; or
- (b) any life insurance company organized and operated without profit to any private shareholder or individual exclusively for the purpose of aiding and strengthening educational institutions by issuing insurance and annuity contracts only to or for the benefit of such institution and individuals engaged in the services of such institutions, whether or not such company is authorized to do business in Kansas. No premium tax or income tax shall be due or payable on such annuity contract or contracts for such retirement programs issued by a company described in this subsection (2)(b), except that neither the purchase nor the issuance of such

retirement annuities from or by a company described in this subsection (2)(b) shall constitute the effecting of a contract of insurance a bank or approved non-bank trustee or custodian under section 401(f) of the federal internal revenue code, the assets of which are invested in regulated investment company stock.

- (3) (a) Such member of the faculty or other person described in subsection (1)(a) shall also be a member of the Kansas public employees retirement system, but only for the purpose of granting retirement benefits based on prior service only which was rendered prior to January 1, 1962, which shall be credited to the member as provided in subsection (1) of K.S.A. 74-4913 and amendments thereto, except that such member of the faculty or other person described in subsection (1)(a) who was employed prior to July 1, 1962, who has not yet retired and who is employed on July 1, 1988, on an academic year contract, shall receive credit for 12 months of prior service for each nine months of prior service for which such member or person was employed on an academic year contract prior to July 1, 1962. For the purpose of determining eligibility for a vested benefit, service by such a member of the faculty or other person after December 31, 1961, shall be construed to be credited service under subsection (2) of K.S.A. 74-4917 and amendments thereto.
- (b) Any member of the faculty or other person described in subsection (1)(a) who retires after 10 years of continuous service immediately preceding retirement shall be granted a retirement benefit based on prior service only which was rendered prior to January 1, 1962. Application for such benefit shall be in such form and manner as prescribed by the board shall prescribe of trustees of the Kansas public employees retirement system.
- (4) For the purpose of establishing a procedure whereby the state board of regents and any member of the faculty or other person described in subsection (1)(a), subject to rules and regulations of the state board of regents, may take advantage of section 403(a) or (b) of the federal internal revenue code of 1986 or any other section of the federal internal revenue eode of 1986 which defers or excludes amounts from inclusion in income, any member of the faculty or any other person described in subsection (1)(a), whether or not such person has satisfied the one-year waiting period requirement under subsection (1)(a), may request in writing that the state board of regents reduce such person's annual salary, as fixed by the board, in an amount equal to not less than 5% nor more than the percentage allowed under section 403(b) of the federal internal revenue code of 1986, as designated by such member of the faculty or other person described in subsection (1)(a), of the gross amount of such annual salary. In the event of such request by a faculty member or other person who is required to make the contribution as provided in subsection (1)(b), such

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person shall not be required to make such contribution and the state board of regents shall provide a sum equal to the percentage amount, as prescribed by K.S.A. 74-4925e and amendments thereto, of the gross annual salary of the member of the faculty or other person and shall purchase for and on behalf of each such person whose salary has been so reduced a retirement annuity contract or contracts, the annual premiums for which shall be equal to the sum of the amount of the salary reduction of the member of the faculty or other person and the amount paid by the state board of regents. In the event of such request by a faculty member or other person who is serving the one-year waiting period pursuant to subsection (1)(a) who is not required to make the contribution as provided in subsection (1)(b), the state board of regents shall purchase for and on behalf of each such person whose salary has been so reduced a retirement annuity contract or contracts, the annual premiums for which shall be equal to the sum of the amount of the salary reduction of the member of the faculty or other person, but the state board of regents shall not provide the sum equal to the percentage amount, as prescribed by K.S.A. 74-4925e and amendments thereto, of the gross annual salary of such person as provided for such person who is required to make the contribution as provided in subsection (1)(b). Such retirement annuity contracts may be purchased by the state board of regents from companies described in subsection (2)(a) and subsection (2)(b) or from noninsurance companies who offer retirement plans that meet the requirements of section 403(b) of the federal internal revenue code of 1986, except that the state board of regents may require that the first 5% of the gross amount of such person's annual salary which is reduced under this subsection (4) and the amount equal to the percentage amount, as prescribed by K.S.A. 74-4925e and amendments thereto, of the gross amount of such person's annual salary which is provided by the state board of regents for the purchase of retirement annuity contracts under this subsection (4), if required to be provided under this subsection (4), shall be used to purchase such retirement annuity contracts from such company or companies as may be designated by the state board of regents for such purposes. The director of accounts and reports is authorized to draw warrants on the state treasurer upon the filing with the director of proper vouchers for the amount of the premium on the retirement annuity contract to be paid pursuant to the terms of such contracts and this act. (5) All employees who are described in subsection (1)(a) and who commence such employment on and after July 1, 1976, shall receive as-

sistance under subsection (1) and shall be covered by a valid retirement annuity contract issued by a company described in subsection (2).

(6) Any employee of the state board of regents or of an educational institution under its management, other than an elected official, who is

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receiving or is eligible for assistance by the state board of regents in the purchase of a retirement annuity under this section and who becomes ineligible for such assistance because such employee's position is reclassified to a position in the classified service under the Kansas eivil service act or who becomes ineligible for such assistance because such employee transfers to a position in the classified service under the Kansas eivil service act with the state board of regents or an educational institution under its management, shall become a member of the Kansas public employees retirement system in accordance with the provisions of subsection (5) of K.S.A. 74-4911 and amendments thereto, unless such employee files a written election in the office of the Kansas public employees retirement system, in the form and manner prescribed by the board of trustees thereof, to remain eligible for assistance by the state board of regents under this section Any employee who becomes eligible to participate in the retirement plan of the state board of regents, as provided in subsection (1)(a), after a reclassification or transfer from a position covered by the Kansas public employees retirement system, and who has accrued benefits under the Kansas public employees retirement system, may file a onetime, irrevocable written election to continue participation in the Kansas public employees retirement system. Failure to file such written election shall be presumed to be an election not to continue participation in the Kansas public employees retirement system and to become a participant in the retirement plan of the state board of regents. Any participant in the retirement plan of the state board of regents who is reclassified or transferred to a position for the state board of regents or an educational institution under its management that qualifies for participation in the Kansas public employees retirement system in accordance with subsection (5) of K.S.A 74-4911, and amendments thereto, may file a one-time irrevocable written election to continue participation in the retirement plan of the state board of regents. Failure to file such written election shall be presumed to be an election not to remain eligible for assistance by the state board of regents under this section and to become a member of the Kansas public employees retirement system under subsection (5) of K.S.A. 74-4911, and amendments thereto. Such election shall be filed prior to the first day of the first complete payroll period occurring after the effective date of such reclassification or transfer, and shall be effective on the first day of the first complete payroll period after the effective date of such reclassification or transfer. Failure to file such written election shall be presumed to be an election not to remain eligible for assistance by the state board of regents under this section and to become a member of the Kansas public employees retirement system under subsection (5) of K.S.A. 74-4911 and amendments thereto. Such election, whether to remain eligible for such assistance or to become a member of such system,

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41 42 shall be effective as of the effective date of such reclassification or transfer and shall be irrevocable.

- (5) A participant in the retirement plan of the state board of regents, as provided in subsection (1)(a), who takes a leave of absence and accepts a position in the executive branch of government of the state of Kansas may file a one-time, irrevocable written election to continue participation in such retirement plan. Such election shall be filed prior to the first day of the first complete payroll period after commencement of service for the executive branch of government, and shall be effective as of the effective date of such employment. Failure to file such a written election shall be presumed to be an election not to continue participation in the retirement plan of the state board of regents. The state board of regents shall contribute an amount to the retirement plan on behalf of an eligible employee who has made such an election equal to the percentage amount, as prescribed by K.S.A. 74-4925e, and amendments thereto, of the employee's compensation from the state for providing such services.
- A participant in the retirement plan of the state board of regents, as provided in subsection (1)(a), who takes a leave of absence and is elected or appointed as a member of the legislature of the state of Kansas may file a one-time, irrevocable written election to continue participation in such retirement plan for purposes of subsection (1)(c) only. Such election shall be filed prior to the first day of the first complete payroll period after commencement of service for the legislature or, for any employee who is a member of the legislature on January 8, 2001, prior to the first day of the first complete payroll period after July 1, 2001. Elections shall be effective as of the effective date of such employment, except that for any employee who files an election as provided in this subsection and who was a member of the legislature on January 8, 2001, such election shall be effective on January 8, 2001. Failure to file such a written election shall be presumed to be an election not to continue participation in the retirement plan of the state board of regents. The state board of regents shall contribute an amount to the retirement plan on behalf of an eligible employee who has made such an election equal to the percentage amount, as prescribed by K.S.A. 74-4925e, and amendments thereto, of the compensation of such employee in effect on the date immediately preceding such leave of absence. Any employee who makes an election as provided under this subsection shall be eligible for the insured death benefit and insured disability benefit in the same manner as provided under the provisions of K.S.A. 74-4927a, and amendments thereto. The provisions of this subsection are intended to further the public policy of encouraging persons to serve in elective office.
- (7) The state board of regents shall adopt uniform *rules*, *regulations* and policies applicable to members of the faculty and other persons, who

are employed by the state board of regents or by any educational institution under its management and who are in the unclassified service under the Kansas civil service act as provided in subsection (1)(f) of K.S.A. 75-2935 and amendments thereto, except health care employees, as defined by subsection (1)(f) of K.S.A. 75-2935 and amendments thereto described in subsection (1)(a), for the purposes of administering the provisions of this section and the provision of retirement annuities and other benefits hereunder retirement plan of the state board of regents, as provided in subsection (1)(a). All assistance provided actions undertaken by the state board of regents for such persons, and agreements entered into therefor, pursuant to this section prior to the effective date are hereby authorized, confirmed and validated.

(8) Any employee described in subsection (1)(a) who is on leave of absence and who accepts a position in the executive branch of government may file a written election in the office of the Kansas public employees retirement system, in the form and manner prescribed by the board, to remain eligible for assistance by the state board of regents under this section prior to the first day of the first complete payroll period occurring after the commencement of such service in the executive branch of government. Failure to file such written election shall be presumed to be an election not to remain eligible for assistance by the state board of regents. The state board of regents shall contribute an amount toward the purchase of retirement annuities on behalf of such employee equal to the sum of the amounts provided in subsection (1)(e).

(9) Any employee described in subsection (1)(a) who is on leave of absence and who is elected or appointed as a member of the legislature may file a written election in the office of the state board of regents, in the form and manner prescribed by the board, to remain eligible for assistance by the state board of regents under this section prior to the first day of the first complete payroll period occurring after the commencement of such service in the legislature or for any employee who is a member of the legislature on January 8, 2001, prior to the first day of the first complete payroll period occurring after July 1, 2001. Failure to file such written election shall be presumed to be an election not to remain eligible for assistance by the state board of regents. For any employee who files an election as provided in this subsection and who was a member of the legislature on January 8, 2001, such election shall be effective on January 8, 2001. The state board of regents shall contribute an amount toward the purchase of retirement annuities on behalf of such employee equal to the percentage amount, as prescribed by K.S.A. 74-4925c, and amendments thereto, on the biweekly rate of the salary of such employee with the state board of regents in effect on the date preceding such leave of absence and continuing throughout such leave of

absence. Any such employee who makes an election as provided by this subsection shall be eligible for the insured death benefit and insured disability benefit in the same manner as provided under the provisions of K.S.A. 74-4927a, and amendments thereto. The provisions of this section are intended to further the public policy of encouraging persons to serve in elective office.

(10) Any employee who filed a written election under subsection (9) prior to July 1, 2001, and who is a member of the legislature after January 14, 2002, may file a written election in the office of the state board of regents, in a form and manner prescribed by the board, to be eligible for an amount to be contributed for any periods prior to January 8, 2001, that an employee was on leave of absence and who was elected or appointed as a member of the legislature. The board of regents shall submit a request to the director of legislative administrative services to calculate an amount to be contributed toward the purchase of the employee's retirement annuities and to include in the request a certification of the dates for leaves of absence taken by the employee prior to January 8, 2001, for the purpose of serving in the legislature during regular sessions. The amount shall be calculated by the director of legislative administrative services for periods during which the legislature was in regular session, first by annualizing the compensation and expenses allowance under subsections (a) and (b) of K.S.A. 46-137a and amendments thereto paid to any such legislator during those periods; and second, by applying the annual interest earnings assumed by the board of trustees of the Kansas public employees retirement system for the purpose of anticipating actuarial gains on investments for the same time periods. The amount calculated by the director of legislative administrative services shall be submitted to the board of regents. The board of regents shall contribute such amount submitted toward the purchase of retirement annuities on behalf of such employee.

Sec. 2. K.S.A. 74-4925b is hereby amended to read as follows: 74-4925b. The state board of regents may establish a procedure whereby any person employed by employee of the state board of regents or any educational institution under its control who is not described in clause (a) of subsection (1) of K.S.A. 74-4925 and including unclassified employees who are members of the cooperative extension service and appointed pursuant to the federal Smith-Lever Act, as amended, may, subject to rules and regulations of said board of regents, request said board of regents in writing for a reduction in compensation and the contribution thereof for tax sheltered annuities as permitted under the provisions of the internal revenue code of 1954, as amended. For the purposes of the Kansas public employees' retirement system, "compensation" as used in this act shall have the meaning ascribed thereto in K.S.A. 74-4932 and

for cooperative extension service employees compensation shall mean the total of all salaries and wages paid by the federal, state and county for personal services performed as a member of the cooperative extension service the board's management, but not including student employees, subject to the rules and regulations of the state board of regents, may voluntarily request that the state board of regents reduce the employee's compensation and contribute such to an investment provider who has been approved by the state board of regents to offer contracts in accordance with section 403(b) of the federal internal revenue code. The state board of regents may exclude from eligibility under this section any persons employed in such temporary or part-time positions as the board designates.

Sec. 3. K.S.A. 74-4925e is hereby amended to read as follows: 74-4925e. On and after the effective date of this act, the percentage amount to be contributed or provided by the state board of regents under subsection (1)(c) or subsection (4) of K.S.A. 74-4925, and amendments thereto, shall be computed on the basis of 8.5% for payroll periods chargeable to the fiscal year ending June 30, 1994.

Sec. 4. K.S.A. 76-746 is hereby amended to read as follows: 76-746. (a) The state board of regents is hereby authorized to develop and implement a phased-retirement program for unclassified employees of state educational institutions under the control and supervision management of the board in accordance with the provisions of this act. Subject to rules and regulations adopted by the state board of regents, each state educational institution may enter into phased-retirement agreements under this section with unclassified employees of the institution. Such agreements shall provide that the unclassified employee shall accept an appointment in a position which is less than the employee's current appointment but which is at least \(\frac{1}{4} \) time, and the state educational institution shall pay on behalf of the employee: (1) The amount specified by the Kansas state employees health care commission under K.S.A. 75-6508, and amendments thereto, as if the employee is serving under a full-time appointment as an employee of the state educational institution and participating in the state health care benefits program to provide for such participation of the employee; (2) the amount of contributions required to assist in the purchase of retirement annuities under subsection (1)(c) of K.S.A. 74-4925, and amendments thereto, as if the employee is serving under a fulltime appointment as an employee of the state educational institution,; and (3) the amount required as contributions under subsection (2) of K.S.A. 74-4927a, and amendments thereto, as if the employee is serving under a full-time appointment as an employee of the state educational institution at the full-time equivalent salary. For each unclassified employee who has entered into aphased-retirement agreement with a state

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1 educational institution under this section, the full-time equivalent salary, calculated as if the employee is serving under a full-time appointment as 2 3 an employee of the state educational institution, compensation that the employee would have been entitled to receive based upon the employee's 4 percentage appointment immediately preceding entry into phased-retirement shall be utilized for the purposes of calculating all employer pro-6 vided benefits, including but not limited to, compensation for accumu-8 lated sick leave, the insured death benefit and the insured disability benefit under K.S.A. 74-4927, and amendments thereto, and calculating 9 final average salary as defined in subsection (17) of K.S.A. 74-4902, and 10 amendments thereto, and retirement plan contributions under subsection 11 12 (1)(c) of K.S.A. 74-4925, and amendments thereto.

- (b) For the purposes of this section, the term "unclassified employee" means an employee of a state educational institution, except health care employees, who is within the unclassified service under the Kansas civil service act, who is a participant in the retirement plan of the state board of regents, as provided in subsection (1)(a) of K.S.A. 74-4925, and amendments thereto, and who meets minimum age and service requirements as determined and prescribed by the board of regents.
- 20 Sec. 5. K.S.A. 74-4925b, 74-4925e and 76-746 and K.S.A. 2004 Supp. 21 74-4925 are hereby repealed.
- Sec. 6. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.