HOUSE BILL No. 2557

By Committee on Appropriations

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AN ACT concerning retirement and pensions; relating to the Kansas public employees retirement system; providing a permanent cost-of-living adjustment; employee contributions; amending K.S.A. 74-4919 and repealing the existing section.

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

New Section 1. (a) Beginning July 1, 2010, and on July 1 of each year thereafter, the retirement benefit, pension or annuity payments to each retirant shall be increased by an annual cost-of-living adjustment in an amount equal to 2.0% multiplied by the annual retirement benefit, pension or annuity payment in effect on that date and shall be paid by the system to the retirant during each such period. The first increase for a retirant shall be on the second July 1 following the member's retirement date. Subsequent increases shall occur on each July 1 thereafter.

- (b) As used in this section, "retirant" means: (A) Any person who is a member or special member of the Kansas public employees retirement system, who retires after July 1, 2009, and who is at least 65 years of age; and (B) any person who is a joint annuitant or beneficiary of any member or special member described in clause (A).
- Sec. 2. K.S.A. 74-4919 is hereby amended to read as follows: 74-4919. (1) Each participating employer, beginning with the first payroll for services performed after the entry date, shall deduct from the compensation of each member 4% of such member's compensation as employee contributions, except that commencing with the first payroll period coinciding with or following July 1, 2009, 6% of such member's compensation as employee contributions. Such deductions shall be remitted quarterly, or as the board may otherwise provide, to the executive director for deposit in the Kansas public employees retirement fund. Such deductions shall be credited to the members' individual accounts and interest shall be added annually to such accounts.
- (2) (a) Subject to the provisions of K.S.A. 74-49,123 and amendments thereto, each participating employer, pursuant to the provisions of section 414(h)(2) of the federal internal revenue code, shall pick up and pay the contributions which would otherwise be payable by members as prescribed in subsection (1) commencing with the third quarter of 1984.

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 The contributions so picked up shall be treated as employer contributions for purposes of determining the amounts of federal income taxes to withhold from the member's compensation.

- (b) Member contributions picked up by the employer shall be paid from the same source of funds used for the payment of compensation to a member. A deduction shall be made from each member's compensation equal to the amount of the member's contributions picked up by the employer, provided that such deduction shall not reduce the member's compensation for purposes of computing benefits under the system.
- (c) Member contributions picked up by the employer shall be remitted quarterly, or as the board may otherwise provide, to the executive director for credit to the Kansas public employees retirement fund. Such contributions shall be credited to a separate account within the member's individual account so that amounts contributed by the member commencing with the third quarter of 1984 may be distinguished from the member contributions picked up by the employer. Interest shall be added annually to members' individual accounts.
- 18 Sec. 3. K.S.A. 74-4919 is hereby repealed.
- 19 Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force on and after July 1, 20 2009, and its publication in the statute book.