

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2046

That the House recede from its amendments as printed on pages 1643-1653 of the Senate Journal and pages 1887-1897 of the House Journal and that Engrossed Senate Bill No. 2046 be amended as follows:

Page 1, line 1, after "A BILL" replace the remainder of the bill with "for an Act to create and enact sections 54-52-02.15, 54-52-02.16, and 54-52.6-02.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the public employees retirement system main system and membership in the public employees retirement system defined contribution plan; to amend and reenact subsection 4 of section 54-52-01, sections 54-52-02.5 and 54-52-02.9, subsection 2 of section 54-52-05, subsection 1 of section 54-52-06, and sections 54-52.6-01, 54-52.6-02, and 54-52.6-03 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the public employees retirement system retirement plans; to provide a statement of legislative intent; to provide for a legislative management study; to provide an appropriation; to provide for a transfer; to provide for application; and to provide an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Subsection 4 of section 54-52-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

4. "Eligible employee" means all permanent employees who are participating members before July 1, 2023, and who meet all of the eligibility requirements set by this chapter and who are eighteen years or more of age, and includes appointive and elective officials under sections 54-52-02.5, 54-52-02.11, and 54-52-02.12 who are participating members before July 1, 2023, and nonteaching employees of the superintendent of public instruction, including the superintendent of public instruction, who ~~elect~~elect to transfer from the teachers' fund for retirement to the public employees retirement system under section 54-52-02.13, and employees of the state board for career and technical education who ~~elect~~elect to transfer from the teachers' fund for retirement to the public employees retirement system under section 54-52-02.14. Eligible employee does not include ~~nonclassified-state employees who elect to become members of the retirement plan established under chapter 54-52.6~~are first employed after June 30, 2023, and are not participating members, but does include employees of the judicial branch supreme court judges and district court judges, employees eligible to participate in a law enforcement retirement plan, employees of a participating political subdivision, and employees of the board of higher education and state institutions under the jurisdiction of the board who are not participating in the teachers' insurance and annuity association of America - college retirement equities fund retirement plan.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. Section 54-52-02.5 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-52-02.5. Newly elected and appointed state officials.

After December 31, 1999, ~~a person~~ and before July 1, 2023, ~~an individual~~ elected or appointed to a state office for the first time must, from and after the date that ~~person~~individual qualifies and takes office, be a participating member of the public employees retirement system unless that ~~person~~individual makes an election at any time during the first six months after the date the person takes office to participate in the retirement plan established under chapter 54-52.6. ~~After June 30, 2023, an individual elected or appointed to a state office, from and after the date the individual qualifies and takes office, must be a participating member of the retirement plan established under chapter 54-52.6 unless at the time of election or appointment the individual is an eligible employee and a participating member under this chapter. As used in this section, the phrase "for the first time" means a person~~an individual appointed, who, after December 31, 1999, ~~and before July 1, 2023,~~ does not hold office as an appointed official at the time of that ~~person's~~individual's appointment.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. Section 54-52-02.9 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-52-02.9. Participation by temporary employees.

1. ~~Within~~Before July 1, 2023, ~~within~~ one hundred eighty days of beginning employment, a ~~state~~ temporary employee may elect to participate in the public employees retirement system under this chapter and receive credit for service after enrollment. ~~Within one hundred eighty days of beginning employment, a participating political subdivision temporary employee may elect to participate in the public employees retirement system under this chapter and receive credit for service after enrollment.~~
 - a. Monthly, the ~~state~~ temporary employee shall pay to the fund an amount equal to ~~eight~~twelve and twelve hundredths percent times the temporary employee's present monthly salary. The amount required to be paid by a temporary employee increases by two percent times the temporary employee's present monthly salary beginning with the monthly reporting period of January 2012, ~~and with an additional two-percent increase, beginning with the reporting period of January 2013, and with an additional increase of two percent, beginning with the monthly reporting period of January 2014.~~
 - b. Monthly, the political subdivision temporary employee shall pay to the fund an amount equal to twelve and twelve hundredths percent times the temporary employee's present monthly salary. The amount required to be paid by a temporary employee increases by two percent times the temporary employee's present monthly salary beginning with the monthly reporting period of January 2014 and with an additional one percent increase beginning with the reporting period of January 2024.
2. If the temporary employee first enrolled:
 - a. Before January 1, 2020, in addition the temporary employee shall pay the required monthly contribution to the retiree health benefit fund established under section 54-52.1-03.2. This contribution must be recorded as a member contribution pursuant to section 54-52.1-03.2.

- b. After December 31, 2019, the temporary employee shall pay to the fund an additional amount equal to one and fourteen hundredths percent times the temporary employee's present monthly salary.
3. An employer may not pay the temporary employee's contributions. A temporary employee may continue to participate as a temporary employee in the public employees retirement system until termination of employment or reclassification of the temporary employee as a permanent employee. A temporary employee may not purchase any additional credit, including additional credit under section 54-52-17.4 or past service under section 54-52-02.6.

SECTION 4. Section 54-52-02.15 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

54-52-02.15. Public employees retirement system main system - Political subdivisions.

Effective June 30, 2023, the board shall maintain a plan for political subdivisions that participate in the public employees retirement system main system which is separate from the main plan maintained for the state.

SECTION 5. Section 54-52-02.16 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

54-52-02.16. Public employees retirement system main system - State employees.

Effective July 1, 2023, the public employees retirement system main plan maintained for the state is closed to new participating members. Additionally, a deferred member under this chapter who is re-employed under the main plan may not re-enter the plan under this section but is a participating member under chapter 54-52.6. This section does not impact the main plan maintained for participating political subdivisions, law enforcement plan, judges' plan, highway patrol plan, teachers' fund for retirement plan, or teachers' insurance and annuity association of America - college retirement equities fund retirement plan.

SECTION 6. AMENDMENT. Subsection 2 of section 54-52-05 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

2. Each participating member must be assessed and required to pay monthly ~~four~~six percent of the monthly salary or wage paid to the member, and such assessment must be deducted and retained out of such salary in equal monthly installments commencing with the first month of employment. ~~Member~~
 - a. State participating member contributions increase by one percent of the monthly salary or wage paid to the member beginning with the monthly reporting period of January 2012, ~~and with an additional increase of one percent, beginning with the monthly reporting period of January 2013, and with an additional increase of one percent, beginning with the monthly reporting period of January 2014.~~
 - b. Political subdivision participating member contributions increase by one percent of the monthly salary or wage paid to the member

beginning with the monthly reporting period of January 2014 and with an additional increase of one-half of one percent beginning with the monthly reporting period of January 2024.

SECTION 7. AMENDMENT. Subsection 1 of section 54-52-06 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

1. Each governmental unit shall contribute an amount equal to ~~four~~^{six} and twelve-hundredths percent of the monthly salary or wage of a participating member. ~~Governmental~~
 - a. State governmental unit contributions increase by one percent of the monthly salary or wage of a participating member beginning with the monthly reporting period of January 2012; ~~with an additional increase of one percent, beginning with the reporting period of January 2013; and with an additional increase of one percent, beginning with the monthly reporting period of January 2014.~~
 - b. Political subdivision governmental unit contributions increase by one percent of the monthly salary or wage of a participating member beginning with the monthly reporting period of January 2014 and with an additional increase of one-half of one percent beginning with the monthly reporting period of January 2024.
 - c. For a participating member who first enrolls after December 31, 2019, the governmental unit shall contribute an additional amount equal to one and fourteen-hundredths percent of the monthly salary or wage of the participating member.

SECTION 8. AMENDMENT. Section 54-52.6-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-52.6-01. Definition of terms.

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

1. "Board" means the public employees retirement system board.
2. "Deferred member" means a person who elected to receive deferred vested retirement benefits under chapter 54-52.
3. "Eligible employee" means a permanent state employee, ~~except an employee of the judicial branch or an employee of the board of higher education and state institutions under the jurisdiction of the board, who is eighteen years or more of age and who is in a position not classified by North Dakota human resource management services.~~ If a participating member loses permanent employee status and becomes a temporary employee, the member may still participate in the defined contribution retirement plan. The term does not include a supreme court judge or a district court judge, an employee eligible to participate in a law enforcement retirement plan, an employee of a political subdivision, or an employee of the state board of higher education and state institutions under the jurisdiction of the state board of higher education who is participating in the teachers' insurance and annuity association of America - college retirement equities fund retirement plan.

4. "Employee" means any person employed by the state, whose compensation is paid out of state funds, or funds controlled or administered by the state or paid by the federal government through any of its executive or administrative officials.
5. "Employer" means the state of North Dakota.
6. "Participating member" means an eligible employee who ~~elects to participate~~participates in the defined contribution retirement plan established under this chapter.
7. "Permanent employee" means a state employee whose services are not limited in duration and who is filling an approved and regularly funded position and is employed twenty hours or more per week and at least five months each year.
8. "Temporary employee" means a state employee who is not eligible to participate as a permanent employee, who is at least eighteen years old, and not actively contributing to another employer-sponsored pension fund.
9. "Wages" and "salaries" means earnings in eligible employment under this chapter reported as salary on a federal income tax withholding statement plus any salary reduction or salary deferral amounts under 26 U.S.C. 125, 401(k), 403(b), 414(h), or 457. "Salary" does not include fringe benefits such as payments for unused sick leave, personal leave, vacation leave paid in a lump sum, overtime, housing allowances, transportation expenses, early retirement, incentive pay, severance pay, medical insurance, workforce safety and insurance benefits, disability insurance premiums or benefits, or salary received by a member in lieu of previously employer-provided fringe benefits under an agreement between an employee and a participating employer. Bonuses may be considered as salary under this section if reported and annualized pursuant to rules adopted by the board.

SECTION 9. AMENDMENT. Section 54-52.6-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-52.6-02. Election.

1. The board shall provide an opportunity for each eligible employee who is first employed before July 1, 2023, and who is a member of the state public employees retirement system on September 30, 2001, and who has not made a written election under this section July 3, 2023, to transfer to the defined contribution retirement plan before October 1, 2001, to elect by electing in writing to terminate membership in the public employees retirement system and elect to become a participating member under this chapter. Except as provided in section 54-52.6-03, an election made by an eligible employee under this section is irrevocable. ~~The board shall accept written elections under this section from eligible employees during the period beginning on July 1, 1999, and ending 12:01 a.m. December 14, 2001. An eligible employee who does not make a written election or who does not file the election during the period specified in this section continues to be a member of the public employees retirement system. An eligible employee who makes and files a written election transfers to the~~

~~defined contribution plan~~ under this section ceases to be a member of the public employees retirement system effective ~~twelve midnight December 31, 2001;~~under chapter 54-52 and becomes a participating member in the defined contribution retirement plan under this chapter effective ~~12:01 a.m. January 1, 2002;~~ and waives all of that ~~person's~~individual's rights to a pension, annuity, retirement allowance, insurance benefit, or any other benefit under the public employees retirement system ~~effective December 31, 2001~~. This section does not affect a person's right to health benefits or retiree health benefits under chapter 54-52.1. An eligible employee who is first employed and entered upon the payroll of that person's employer ~~after September 30, 2001,~~ may make an election to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan established under this chapter at any time during the ~~first six months after the date of employment~~. If the board, in its sole discretion, determines that the employee was not adequately notified of the employee's option to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan, the board may provide the employee a reasonable time within which to make that election, ~~which may extend beyond the original six month decision window period beginning July 3, 2023, and ending 5:00 p.m. December 29, 2023.~~

2. If an individual who is a deferred member of the public employees retirement system on ~~September 30, 2001~~June 30, 2023, is re-employed and ~~by virtue of,~~ that employment is ~~again~~does not make that deferred member eligible for membership in the public employees retirement system under chapter 54-52, the individual may elect in writing to remain a member of the public employees retirement system or if eligible to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan established under this chapter to terminate membership in the public employees retirement system and become a participating member in the defined contribution retirement plan established under this chapter. An election made by a deferred member under this section is irrevocable. The board shall accept written elections under this section from a deferred member during the period beginning on the date of the individual's re-employment and ending upon the expiration of six months after the date of that re-employment. If the board, in its sole discretion, determines that the employee was not adequately notified of the employee's option to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan, the board may provide the employee a reasonable time within which to make that election, which may extend beyond the original six month decision window. A deferred member who makes and files a written election to remain a member of the public employees retirement system retains all rights and is subject to all conditions as a member of that retirement system. A deferred member who does not make a written election or who does not file the election during the period specified in this section continues to be a member of the public employees retirement system. A deferred member who makes and files a written election to terminate membership in the public employees retirement system ceases to be a member of the public employees retirement system effective on the last day of the payroll period that includes the date of the election; becomes a participating member in the defined contribution retirement plan under this chapter effective the first day of the payroll immediately following the date of the election; and waives all of that person's rights to a pension, an annuity, a retirement allowance, insurance benefit, or any other benefit under the public

~~employees retirement system effective the last day of the payroll that includes the date of the election. A deferred member that is re-employed becomes a participating member under this chapter.~~ This section does not affect any right to health benefits or retiree health benefits to which the deferred member may otherwise be entitled.

3. An eligible employee who elects to participate in the retirement plan established under this chapter must remain a participant even if that employee returns to the classified service or becomes employed by a political subdivision that participates in the public employees retirement system. The contribution amount must be as provided in this chapter, regardless of the position in which the employee is employed. Notwithstanding the irrevocability provisions of this chapter, if a member who elects to participate in the retirement plan established under this chapter becomes a supreme or district court judge, becomes a member of the highway patrol, becomes employed in a position subject to teachers' fund for retirement membership, or becomes an employee of the board of higher education or state institution under the jurisdiction of the board who is eligible to participate in an alternative retirement program established under subsection 6 of section 15-10-17, the member's status as a member of the defined contribution retirement plan is suspended, and the member becomes a new member of the retirement plan for which that member's new position is eligible. The member's account balance remains in the defined contribution retirement plan, but no new contributions may be made to that account. The member's service credit and salary history that were forfeited as a result of the member's transfer to the defined contribution retirement plan remain forfeited, and service credit accumulation in the new retirement plan begins from the first day of employment in the new position. If the member later returns to employment that is eligible for the defined contribution plan, the member's suspension must be terminated, the member again becomes a member of the defined contribution retirement plan, and the member's account resumes accepting contributions. At the member's option, and pursuant to rules adopted by the board, the member may transfer any available balance as determined by the provisions of the alternate retirement plan into the member's account under this chapter.
4. After consultation with its actuary, the board shall determine the method by which a participating member ~~or deferred member~~ may make a written election under this section. If the participating member ~~or deferred member~~ is married at the time of the election, the election is not effective unless the election is signed by the individual's spouse. However, the board may waive this requirement if the spouse's signature cannot be obtained because of extenuating circumstances.
5. If the board receives notification from the internal revenue service that this section or any portion of this section will cause the public employees retirement system or the retirement plan established under this chapter to be disqualified for tax purposes under the Internal Revenue Code, then the portion that will cause the disqualification does not apply.
6. A participating member who becomes a temporary employee may still participate in the defined contribution retirement plan upon filing an election with the board within one hundred eighty days of transferring to

temporary employee status. The participating member may not become a member of the defined benefit plan as a temporary employee. The temporary employee electing to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan shall pay monthly to the fund an amount equal to ~~eight~~^{twelve} and twelve hundredths percent times the temporary employee's present monthly salary. The amount required to be paid by a temporary employee increases by two percent times the temporary employee's present monthly salary beginning with the monthly reporting period of January 2012, ~~and with an additional increase of two percent, beginning with the monthly reporting period of January 2013, and with an additional increase of two percent, beginning with the monthly reporting period of January 2014.~~ The temporary employee shall also pay the required monthly contribution to the retiree health benefit fund established under section 54-52.1-03.2. This contribution must be recorded as a member contribution pursuant to section 54-52.1-03.2. An employer may not pay the temporary employee's contributions. A temporary employee may continue to participate as a temporary employee until termination of employment or reclassification of the temporary employee as a permanent employee.

7. A former participating member who has accepted a retirement distribution pursuant to section 54-52.6-13 and who subsequently becomes employed by an entity different from the employer with which the member was employed at the time the member retired but which does participate in any state-sponsored retirement plan may, before re-enrolling in the defined contribution retirement plan, elect to permanently waive future participation in the defined contribution retirement plan, whatever plan in which the new employing entity participates, and the retiree health program and maintain that member's retirement status. Neither the member nor the employer are required to make any future retirement contributions on behalf of that employee.

SECTION 10. Section 54-52.6-02.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

54-52.6-02.1. Membership.

1. Except as otherwise provided, all eligible employees who are not participating in the public employees retirement system under chapter 54-52 are participating members. This subsection does not impact the public employees retirement system main plan maintained for participating political subdivisions, law enforcement plan, judges' plan, highway patrol plan, teachers' fund for retirement plan, or teachers' insurance and annuity association of America - college retirement equities fund retirement plan.
2. Effective July 1, 2023, a temporary employee may elect, within one hundred eighty days of beginning employment, to participate in the defined contribution plan under this chapter. The temporary employee electing to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan shall pay monthly to the fund an amount equal to fourteen and twelve-hundredths percent. This contribution must be recorded as a member contribution pursuant to section 54-52.1-03.2. An employer may not pay the temporary employee's contributions.

SECTION 11. AMENDMENT. Section 54-52.6-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-52.6-03. Transfer of accumulated fund balances.

For an individual who elects to terminate membership in the public employees retirement system under chapter 54-52, the board shall transfer a lump sum amount from the retirement fund to the participating member's account in the defined contribution retirement plan under this chapter. However, if the individual terminates employment prior to receiving the lump sum transfer under this section, the election made under section 54-52.6-02 is ineffective and the individual remains a member of the public employees retirement system under chapter 54-52 and retains all the rights and benefits provided under that chapter. The board shall calculate the amount to be transferred ~~for persons employed before October 1, 2001,~~ using the two following formulas, and shall transfer the greater of the two amounts obtained:

1. ~~The~~For a vested or a nonvested individual, an estimate of the actuarial present value of the individual's accumulated benefit obligation under the public employees retirement system based on the assumption that the individual will retire under the earliest applicable normal retirement age, plus interest from ~~January 1, 2001,~~the date the board receives the election to the date of transfer, at the rate of one-half of one percent less than the actuarial interest assumption at the time of the election; or
2. ~~The~~For a nonvested individual, an estimate of the actual employer contribution made, less vested employer contributions made pursuant to section 54-52-11.1, plus compound interest at the rate of one-half of one percent less than the actuarial interest assumption at the time of the election plus the employee account balance.

~~The board shall calculate the amount to be transferred for persons employed after September 30, 2001, using only the formula contained in subsection 2.~~

SECTION 12. APPROPRIATION. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$200,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the legislative council for the purpose of contracting with a consultant to conduct actuarial analyses as provided for under section 18 of this Act, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2023.

SECTION 13. APPROPRIATION. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$150,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the public employees retirement system for the purpose of hiring temporary employees for the purpose of implementing this Act, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2023.

SECTION 14. PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM - ESTIMATE OF ACCUMULATED BALANCE TRANSFER. For the period beginning July 3, 2023, and ending December 29, 2023, upon the request of an individual who is eligible for termination of membership in the public employees retirement system under chapter 54-52 as provided for in subsection 1 of section 54-52.6-02, the public employees retirement system shall estimate the individual's accumulated balance transfer amount.

SECTION 15. TRANSFER - BUDGET STABILIZATION FUND TO PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM FUND. The office of management and budget shall transfer the sum of \$100,000,000 from the budget stabilization fund to the public employees retirement system main system plan for state employees on June 30, 2023, for the purpose of reducing the unfunded actuarial liability of the state share of the public employees retirement system main system plan for state employees.

SECTION 16. LEGISLATIVE INTENT - PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM FUNDING. It is the intent of the the sixty-seventh legislative assembly that each biennium the legislative assembly provide \$55,000,000 in funding to the public employees retirement system main system main plan for state employees to reduce the unfunded liability of the plan until the plan reaches full funding.

SECTION 17. LEGISLATIVE INTENT - EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAMS COMMITTEE. It is the intent of the sixty-seventh legislative assembly that this Act be exempt from the requirement under section 54-35-02.4 that the measure be accompanied by a report from the employee benefits programs committee and exempt from the provision that any legislation enacted in contravention of section 54-35-02.4 be reduced to the level current prior to enactment.

SECTION 18. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM RETIREMENT PLANS.

1. During the 2021-22 interim, the legislative management shall study the public employees retirement system retirement plans, including:
 - a. Reviewing the financial status of the main system main plan under chapter 54-52 and the defined contribution plan under chapter 54-52.6;
 - b. The legislative management contracting for actuarial analyses of the main system main plan under chapter 54-52 and the defined benefit plan under chapter 54-52.6;
 - c. Codifying the separation of the plan for political subdivisions that participate so the plan funds are not held in trust with the other plans in the public employees retirement system main system; and
 - d. Codifying how to calculate service of members who have dual service in both the state and political subdivision plans.
2. The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the sixty-eighth legislative assembly.

SECTION 19. APPLICATION. In implementing section 4 of this Act, effective June 30, 2023, for all current active and retired members, deferred members, and surviving spouses and beneficiaries of the public employees retirement system main plan, the public employees retirement system board shall calculate separate data on the actuarial accrued liability, actuarial value of assets, and unfunded actuarial liability for the main system plan for state employees and the plan for political subdivisions.

SECTION 20. EFFECTIVE DATE. Sections 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 of this Act become effective on July 1, 2023."

Renumber accordingly