

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6306

Chapter 341, Laws of 1998

55th Legislature
1998 Regular Session

WASHINGTON SCHOOL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

EFFECTIVE DATE: 9/1/2000 - Except sections 303, 306 through 309, 404, 505, 507, 515, 701, 707, and 710 through 713 which become effective on 4/3/98.

Passed by the Senate March 7, 1998
YEAS 46 NAYS 1

BRAD OWEN

President of the Senate

Passed by the House March 4, 1998
YEAS 64 NAYS 33

CLYDE BALLARD

**Speaker of the
House of Representatives**

Approved April 3, 1998

CERTIFICATE

I, Mike O Connell, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6306** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

MIKE O'CONNELL

Secretary

FILED

April 3, 1998 - 5:25 p.m.

GARY LOCKE

Governor of the State of Washington

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6306

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 1998 Regular Session

State of Washington 55th Legislature 1998 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Long, Winsley, Rossi, Bauer, Roach and Anderson; by request of Joint Committee on Pension Policy)

Read first time 02/10/98.

1 AN ACT Relating to the Washington school employees' retirement
2 system; amending RCW 41.34.020, 41.34.030, 41.34.060, 41.34.080,
3 41.34.100, 41.45.010, 41.45.020, 41.45.050, 41.45.060, 41.45.061,
4 41.45.070, 41.50.030, 41.50.060, 41.50.075, 41.50.080, 41.50.086,
5 41.50.086, 41.50.088, 41.50.110, 41.50.150, 41.50.152, 41.50.255,
6 41.50.500, 41.50.670, 41.50.790, 41.40.062, 41.26.500, 41.32.800,
7 41.40.690, 41.32.8401, 41.54.010, 41.54.040, 41.05.011, 43.33A.190, and
8 43.84.092; reenacting and amending RCW 41.40.010, 41.40.088, and
9 41.54.030; adding a new section to chapter 41.40 RCW; adding new
10 sections to chapter 41.34 RCW; adding new sections to chapter 41.45
11 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.50 RCW; adding a new section to
12 chapter 41.54 RCW; adding new chapters to Title 41 RCW; creating new
13 sections; prescribing penalties; providing effective dates; and
14 declaring an emergency.

15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that teachers and
17 school district employees share the same educational work environment
18 and academic calendar.

1 It is the intent of the legislature to achieve similar retirement
2 benefits for all educational employees by transferring the membership
3 of classified school employees in the public employees' retirement
4 system plan II to the Washington school employees' retirement system
5 plan II. The transfer of membership to the Washington school
6 employees' retirement system plan II is not intended to cause a
7 diminution or expansion of benefits for affected members. It is
8 enacted solely to provide public employees working under the same
9 conditions with the same options for retirement planning.

10 As members of the Washington school employees' retirement system
11 plan II, classified employees will have the same opportunity to
12 transfer to the Washington school employees' retirement system plan III
13 as their certificated coworkers. The ability to transfer to the
14 Washington school employees' retirement system plan III offers members
15 a new public retirement system that balances flexibility with
16 stability; provides increased employee control of investments and
17 responsible protection of the public's investment in employee benefits;
18 and encourages the pursuit of public sector careers without creating
19 barriers to other public or private sector employment.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The definitions in this section apply
21 throughout this chapter, unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

22 (1) "Retirement system" means the Washington school employees'
23 retirement system provided for in this chapter.

24 (2) "Department" means the department of retirement systems created
25 in chapter 41.50 RCW.

26 (3) "State treasurer" means the treasurer of the state of
27 Washington.

28 (4) "Employer," for plan II and plan III members, means a school
29 district or an educational service district.

30 (5) "Member" means any employee included in the membership of the
31 retirement system, as provided for in section 4 of this act.

32 (6)(a) "Compensation earnable" for plan II and plan III members,
33 means salaries or wages earned by a member during a payroll period for
34 personal services, including overtime payments, and shall include wages
35 and salaries deferred under provisions established pursuant to sections
36 403(b), 414(h), and 457 of the United States internal revenue code, but
37 shall exclude nonmoney maintenance compensation and lump sum or other

1 payments for deferred annual sick leave, unused accumulated vacation,
2 unused accumulated annual leave, or any form of severance pay.

3 (b) "Compensation earnable" for plan II and plan III members also
4 includes the following actual or imputed payments, which are not paid
5 for personal services:

6 (i) Retroactive payments to an individual by an employer on
7 reinstatement of the employee in a position, or payments by an employer
8 to an individual in lieu of reinstatement, which are awarded or granted
9 as the equivalent of the salary or wage which the individual would have
10 earned during a payroll period shall be considered compensation
11 earnable to the extent provided in this subsection, and the individual
12 shall receive the equivalent service credit;

13 (ii) In any year in which a member serves in the legislature, the
14 member shall have the option of having such member's compensation
15 earnable be the greater of:

16 (A) The compensation earnable the member would have received had
17 such member not served in the legislature; or

18 (B) Such member's actual compensation earnable received for
19 nonlegislative public employment and legislative service combined. Any
20 additional contributions to the retirement system required because
21 compensation earnable under (b)(ii)(A) of this subsection is greater
22 than compensation earnable under this (b)(ii)(B) of this subsection
23 shall be paid by the member for both member and employer contributions;

24 (iii) Assault pay only as authorized by RCW 27.04.100, 72.01.045,
25 and 72.09.240;

26 (iv) Compensation that a member would have received but for a
27 disability occurring in the line of duty only as authorized by RCW
28 41.40.038;

29 (v) Compensation that a member receives due to participation in the
30 leave sharing program only as authorized by RCW 41.04.650 through
31 41.04.670; and

32 (vi) Compensation that a member receives for being in standby
33 status. For the purposes of this section, a member is in standby
34 status when not being paid for time actually worked and the employer
35 requires the member to be prepared to report immediately for work, if
36 the need arises, although the need may not arise.

37 (7) "Service" for plan II and plan III members, means periods of
38 employment by a member in an eligible position or positions for one or
39 more employers for which compensation earnable is paid. Compensation

1 earnable earned for ninety or more hours in any calendar month shall
2 constitute one service credit month except as provided in section 19 of
3 this act. Compensation earnable earned for at least seventy hours but
4 less than ninety hours in any calendar month shall constitute one-half
5 service credit month of service. Compensation earnable earned for less
6 than seventy hours in any calendar month shall constitute one-quarter
7 service credit month of service. Time spent in standby status, whether
8 compensated or not, is not service.

9 Any fraction of a year of service shall be taken into account in
10 the computation of such retirement allowance or benefits.

11 (a) Service in any state elective position shall be deemed to be
12 full-time service.

13 (b) A member shall receive a total of not more than twelve service
14 credit months of service for such calendar year. If an individual is
15 employed in an eligible position by one or more employers the
16 individual shall receive no more than one service credit month during
17 any calendar month in which multiple service for ninety or more hours
18 is rendered.

19 (c) For purposes of plan II and III "forty-five days" as used in
20 RCW 28A.400.300 is equal to two service credit months. Use of less
21 than forty-five days of sick leave is creditable as allowed under this
22 subsection as follows:

23 (i) Less than eleven days equals one-quarter service credit month;

24 (ii) Eleven or more days but less than twenty-two days equals one-
25 half service credit month;

26 (iii) Twenty-two days equals one service credit month;

27 (iv) More than twenty-two days but less than thirty-three days
28 equals one and one-quarter service credit month; and

29 (v) Thirty-three or more days but less than forty-five days equals
30 one and one-half service credit month.

31 (8) "Service credit year" means an accumulation of months of
32 service credit which is equal to one when divided by twelve.

33 (9) "Service credit month" means a month or an accumulation of
34 months of service credit which is equal to one.

35 (10) "Membership service" means all service rendered as a member.

36 (11) "Beneficiary" for plan II and plan III members means any
37 person in receipt of a retirement allowance or other benefit provided
38 by this chapter resulting from service rendered to an employer by
39 another person.

1 (12) "Regular interest" means such rate as the director may
2 determine.

3 (13) "Accumulated contributions" means the sum of all contributions
4 standing to the credit of a member in the member's individual account,
5 including any amount paid under RCW 41.50.165(2), together with the
6 regular interest thereon.

7 (14) "Average final compensation" for plan II and plan III members
8 means the member's average compensation earnable of the highest
9 consecutive sixty months of service credit months prior to such
10 member's retirement, termination, or death. Periods constituting
11 authorized leaves of absence may not be used in the calculation of
12 average final compensation except under RCW 41.40.710(2).

13 (15) "Final compensation" means the annual rate of compensation
14 earnable by a member at the time of termination of employment.

15 (16) "Annuity" means payments for life derived from accumulated
16 contributions of a member. All annuities shall be paid in monthly
17 installments.

18 (17) "Pension" means payments for life derived from contributions
19 made by the employer. All pensions shall be paid in monthly
20 installments.

21 (18) "Retirement allowance" for plan II and plan III members means
22 monthly payments to a retiree or beneficiary as provided in this
23 chapter.

24 (19) "Employee" or "employed" means a person who is providing
25 services for compensation to an employer, unless the person is free
26 from the employer's direction and control over the performance of work.
27 The department shall adopt rules and interpret this subsection
28 consistent with common law.

29 (20) "Actuarial equivalent" means a benefit of equal value when
30 computed upon the basis of such mortality and other tables as may be
31 adopted by the director.

32 (21) "Retirement" means withdrawal from active service with a
33 retirement allowance as provided by this chapter.

34 (22) "Eligible position" means any position that, as defined by the
35 employer, normally requires five or more months of service a year for
36 which regular compensation for at least seventy hours is earned by the
37 occupant thereof. For purposes of this chapter an employer shall not
38 define "position" in such a manner that an employee's monthly work for
39 that employer is divided into more than one position.

1 (23) "Ineligible position" means any position which does not
2 conform with the requirements set forth in subsection (22) of this
3 section.

4 (24) "Leave of absence" means the period of time a member is
5 authorized by the employer to be absent from service without being
6 separated from membership.

7 (25) "Totally incapacitated for duty" means total inability to
8 perform the duties of a member's employment or office or any other work
9 for which the member is qualified by training or experience.

10 (26) "Retiree" means any person who has begun accruing a retirement
11 allowance or other benefit provided by this chapter resulting from
12 service rendered to an employer while a member.

13 (27) "Director" means the director of the department.

14 (28) "State elective position" means any position held by any
15 person elected or appointed to state-wide office or elected or
16 appointed as a member of the legislature.

17 (29) "State actuary" or "actuary" means the person appointed
18 pursuant to RCW 44.44.010(2).

19 (30) "Plan II" means the Washington school employees' retirement
20 system plan II providing the benefits and funding provisions covering
21 persons who first became members of the public employees' retirement
22 system on and after October 1, 1977 and transferred to the Washington
23 school employees' retirement system under section 113 of this act.

24 (31) "Plan III" means the Washington school employees' retirement
25 system plan III providing the benefits and funding provisions covering
26 persons who first became members of the system on and after September
27 1, 2000, or who transfer from plan II under section 114 of this act.

28 (32) "Index" means, for any calendar year, that year's annual
29 average consumer price index, Seattle, Washington area, for urban wage
30 earners and clerical workers, all items, compiled by the bureau of
31 labor statistics, United States department of labor.

32 (33) "Index A" means the index for the year prior to the
33 determination of a postretirement adjustment.

34 (34) "Index B" means the index for the year prior to index A.

35 (35) "Adjustment ratio" means the value of index A divided by index
36 B.

37 (36) "Separation from service" occurs when a person has terminated
38 all employment with an employer.

(37) "Member account" or "member's account" for purposes of plan III means the sum of the contributions and earnings on behalf of the member in the defined contribution portion of plan III.

(38) "Classified employee" means an employee of a school district or an educational service district who is not eligible for membership in the teachers' retirement system established under chapter 41.32 RCW.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A retirement system is hereby created for the employees of school districts or educational service districts. The administration and management of the retirement system, the responsibility for making effective the provisions of this chapter, and the authority to make all rules necessary therefor are hereby vested in the department. All such rules shall be governed by the provisions of chapter 34.05 RCW. This retirement system shall be known as the Washington school employees' retirement system.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. Membership in the retirement system shall consist of all regularly compensated classified employees and appointive and elective officials of employers, as defined in this chapter, with the following exceptions:

(1) Persons in ineligible positions;

(2)(a) Persons holding elective offices or persons appointed directly by the governor: PROVIDED, That such persons shall have the option of applying for membership during such periods of employment: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That any persons holding or who have held elective offices or persons appointed by the governor who are members in the retirement system and who have, prior to becoming such members, previously held an elective office, and did not at the start of such initial or successive terms of office exercise their option to become members, may apply for membership to be effective during such term or terms of office, and shall be allowed to establish the service credit applicable to such term or terms of office upon payment of the employee contributions therefor by the employee with interest as determined by the director and employer contributions therefor by the employer or employee with interest as determined by the director: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That all contributions with interest submitted by the employee under this subsection shall be placed in the employee's individual account in the employee's savings fund and be treated as any other contribution made by the employee, with the exception that any

1 contributions submitted by the employee in payment of the employer's
2 obligation, together with the interest the director may apply to the
3 employer's contribution, shall not be considered part of the member's
4 annuity for any purpose except withdrawal of contributions;

5 (b) A member holding elective office who has elected to apply for
6 membership pursuant to (a) of this subsection and who later wishes to
7 be eligible for a retirement allowance shall have the option of ending
8 his or her membership in the retirement system. A member wishing to
9 end his or her membership under this subsection must file on a form
10 supplied by the department a statement indicating that the member
11 agrees to irrevocably abandon any claim for service for future periods
12 served as an elected official. A member who receives more than fifteen
13 thousand dollars per year in compensation for his or her elective
14 service, adjusted annually for inflation by the director, is not
15 eligible for the option provided by this subsection (2)(b);

16 (3) Retirement system retirees: PROVIDED, That following
17 reemployment in an eligible position, a retiree may elect to
18 prospectively become a member of the retirement system if otherwise
19 eligible;

20 (4) Persons enrolled in state-approved apprenticeship programs,
21 authorized under chapter 49.04 RCW, and who are employed by employers
22 to earn hours to complete such apprenticeship programs, if the employee
23 is a member of a union-sponsored retirement plan and is making
24 contributions to such a retirement plan or if the employee is a member
25 of a Taft-Hartley retirement plan;

26 (5) Persons rendering professional services to an employer on a
27 fee, retainer, or contract basis or when the income from these services
28 is less than fifty percent of the gross income received from the
29 person's practice of a profession;

30 (6) Employees who (a) are not citizens of the United States, (b) do
31 not reside in the United States, and (c) perform duties outside of the
32 United States;

33 (7) Employees who (a) are not citizens of the United States, (b)
34 are not covered by chapter 41.48 RCW, (c) are not excluded from
35 membership under this chapter or chapter 41.04 RCW, (d) are residents
36 of this state, and (e) make an irrevocable election to be excluded from
37 membership, in writing, which is submitted to the director within
38 thirty days after employment in an eligible position;

1 (8) Employees who are citizens of the United States and who reside
2 and perform duties for an employer outside of the United States:
3 PROVIDED, That unless otherwise excluded under this chapter or chapter
4 41.04 RCW, the employee may apply for membership (a) within thirty days
5 after employment in an eligible position and membership service credit
6 shall be granted from the first day of membership service, and (b)
7 after this thirty-day period, but membership service credit shall be
8 granted only if payment is made for the noncredited membership service
9 under RCW 41.50.165(2), otherwise service shall be from the date of
10 application.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Any person who has been employed in a
12 nonelective position for at least nine months and who has made member
13 contributions required under this chapter throughout such period, shall
14 be deemed to have been in an eligible position during such period of
15 employment.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Within thirty days after his or her
17 employment or his or her acceptance into membership each employee or
18 appointive or elective official shall submit to the department a
19 statement of his or her name and such other information as the
20 department shall require. Compliance with the provisions set forth in
21 this section shall be considered to be a condition of employment and
22 failure by an employee to comply may result in separation from service.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** (1)(a) If a retiree enters employment with
24 an employer sooner than one calendar month after his or her accrual
25 date, the retiree's monthly retirement allowance will be reduced by
26 five and one-half percent for every eight hours worked during that
27 month. This reduction will be applied each month until the retiree
28 remains absent from employment with an employer for one full calendar
29 month.

30 (b) The benefit reduction provided in (a) of this subsection will
31 accrue for a maximum of one hundred sixty hours per month. Any benefit
32 reduction over one hundred percent will be applied to the benefit the
33 retiree is eligible to receive in subsequent months.

34 (2) A retiree who has satisfied the break in employment requirement
35 of subsection (1) of this section, may work up to five months per

1 calendar year in an eligible position without suspension of his or her
2 benefit.

3 (3) If the retiree opts to reestablish membership under section 4
4 of this act, he or she terminates his or her retirement status and
5 becomes a member. Retirement benefits shall not accrue during the
6 period of membership and the individual shall make contributions and
7 receive membership credit. Such a member shall have the right to again
8 retire if eligible in accordance with section 103 or 209 of this act.
9 However, if the right to retire is exercised to become effective before
10 the member has rendered two uninterrupted years of service, the
11 retirement formula and survivor options the member had at the time of
12 the member's previous retirement shall be reinstated.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** Those members subject to this chapter who
14 became disabled in the line of duty and who received or are receiving
15 benefits under Title 51 RCW or a similar federal workers' compensation
16 program shall receive or continue to receive service credit subject to
17 the following:

18 (1) No member may receive more than one month's service credit in
19 a calendar month.

20 (2) No service credit under this section may be allowed after a
21 member separates or is separated without leave of absence.

22 (3) Employer contributions shall be paid by the employer at the
23 rate in effect for the period of the service credited.

24 (4) Employee contributions shall be collected by the employer and
25 paid to the department at the rate in effect for the period of service
26 credited.

27 (5) Contributions shall be based on the regular compensation which
28 the member would have received had the disability not occurred. If
29 contribution payments are made retroactively, interest shall be charged
30 at the rate set by the director on both employee and employer
31 contributions. No service credit shall be granted until the employee
32 contribution has been paid.

33 (6) The service and compensation credit shall not be granted for a
34 period to exceed twelve consecutive months.

35 (7) Should the legislature revoke the service credit authorized
36 under this section or repeal this section, no affected employee is
37 entitled to receive the credit as a matter of contractual right.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** The deductions from the compensation of
2 members, provided for in section 104 of this act, shall be made
3 notwithstanding that the minimum compensation provided for by law for
4 any member shall be reduced thereby. Every member shall be deemed to
5 consent and agree to the deductions made and provided for in this
6 chapter and receipt in full for his or her salary or compensation, and
7 payment, less the deductions, shall be a full and complete discharge
8 and acquittance of all claims and demands whatsoever for the services
9 rendered by the person during the period covered by the payment, except
10 as to benefits provided for under this chapter.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** (1) The director shall report to each
12 employer the contribution rates required for the ensuing biennium or
13 fiscal year, whichever is applicable.

14 (2) Beginning September 1, 1990, the amount to be collected as the
15 employer's contribution shall be computed by applying the applicable
16 rates established in chapter 41.45 RCW to the total compensation
17 earnable of employer's members as shown on the current payrolls of the
18 employer. Each employer shall compute at the end of each month the
19 amount due for that month and the same shall be paid as are its other
20 obligations.

21 (3) In the event of failure, for any reason, of an employer other
22 than a political subdivision of the state to have remitted amounts due
23 for membership service of any of the employer's members rendered during
24 a prior biennium, the director shall bill such employer for such
25 employer's contribution together with such charges as the director
26 deems appropriate in accordance with RCW 41.50.120. Such billing shall
27 be paid by the employer as, and the same shall be, a proper charge
28 against any moneys available or appropriated to such employer for
29 payment of current biennial payrolls.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** (1) Subject to subsections (2) and (3) of
31 this section, the right of a person to a pension, an annuity, or
32 retirement allowance, any optional benefit, any other right accrued or
33 accruing to any person under the provisions of this chapter, the
34 various funds created by this chapter, and all moneys and investments
35 and income thereof, are hereby exempt from any state, county,
36 municipal, or other local tax, and shall not be subject to execution,

1 garnishment, attachment, the operation of bankruptcy or insolvency
2 laws, or other process of law whatsoever, and shall be unassignable.

3 (2) This section does not prohibit a beneficiary of a retirement
4 allowance from authorizing deductions therefrom for payment of premiums
5 due on any group insurance policy or plan issued for the benefit of a
6 group comprised of public employees of the state of Washington or its
7 political subdivisions and which has been approved for deduction in
8 accordance with rules that may be adopted by the state health care
9 authority and/or the department. This section also does not prohibit
10 a beneficiary of a retirement allowance from authorizing deductions
11 therefrom for payment of dues and other membership fees to any
12 retirement association or organization the membership of which is
13 composed of retired public employees, if a total of three hundred or
14 more of such retired employees have authorized such deduction for
15 payment to the same retirement association or organization.

16 (3) Subsection (1) of this section does not prohibit the department
17 from complying with (a) a wage assignment order for child support
18 issued pursuant to chapter 26.18 RCW, (b) an order to withhold and
19 deliver issued pursuant to chapter 74.20A RCW, (c) a notice of payroll
20 deduction issued pursuant to RCW 26.23.060, (d) a mandatory benefits
21 assignment order issued by the department, (e) a court order directing
22 the department of retirement systems to pay benefits directly to an
23 obligee under a dissolution order as defined in RCW 41.50.500(3) which
24 fully complies with RCW 41.50.670 and 41.50.700, or (f) any
25 administrative or court order expressly authorized by federal law.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 12.** A member shall not receive a disability
27 retirement benefit under section 105 or 210 of this act if the
28 disability is the result of criminal conduct by the member committed
29 after April 21, 1997.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 13.** Any person who knowingly makes any false
31 statements, or falsifies or permits to be falsified any record or
32 records of this retirement system in any attempt to defraud the
33 retirement system as a result of such act, is guilty of a gross
34 misdemeanor.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 14.** (1) Any person who was a member of the
36 state-wide city employees' retirement system governed by chapter 41.44

1 RCW and who was never reemployed by an employer as defined in RCW
2 41.40.010 and who is employed by an employer as defined in section 2 of
3 this act, may, in a writing filed with the director, elect to:

4 (a) Transfer to this retirement system all service currently
5 credited under chapter 41.44 RCW;

6 (b) Reestablish and transfer to this retirement system all service
7 which was previously credited under chapter 41.44 RCW but which was
8 canceled by discontinuance of service and withdrawal of accumulated
9 contributions as provided in RCW 41.44.190. The service may be
10 reestablished and transferred only upon payment by the member to the
11 employees' savings fund of this retirement system of the amount
12 withdrawn plus interest thereon from the date of withdrawal until the
13 date of payment at a rate determined by the director. No additional
14 payments are required for service credit described in this subsection
15 if already established under this chapter; and

16 (c) Establish service credit for the initial period of employment
17 not to exceed six months, prior to establishing membership under
18 chapter 41.44 RCW, upon payment in full by the member of the total
19 employer's contribution to the benefit account fund of this retirement
20 system that would have been made under this chapter when the initial
21 service was rendered. The payment shall be based on the first month's
22 compensation earnable as a member of the state-wide city employees'
23 retirement system and as defined in RCW 41.44.030(13). However, a
24 person who has established service credit under RCW 41.40.010(13) (c)
25 or (d) shall not establish additional credit under this subsection nor
26 may anyone who establishes credit under this subsection establish any
27 additional credit under RCW 41.40.010(13) (c) or (d). No additional
28 payments are required for service credit described in this subsection
29 if already established under this chapter.

30 (2) The written election must be filed and the payments must be
31 completed in full within one year after employment by an employer.

32 (3) Upon receipt of the written election and payments required by
33 subsection (1) of this section from any retiree described in subsection
34 (1) of this section, the department shall recompute the retiree's
35 allowance in accordance with this section and shall pay any additional
36 benefit resulting from such recomputation retroactively to the date of
37 retirement from the system governed by this chapter.

38 (4) Any person who was a member of the state-wide city employees'
39 retirement system under chapter 41.44 RCW and also became a member of

1 the public employees' retirement system established under chapter 41.40
2 RCW or the Washington school employees' retirement system established
3 under this chapter, and did not make the election under RCW 41.40.058
4 or subsection (1) of this section because he or she was not a member of
5 the public employees' retirement system prior to July 27, 1987, or did
6 not meet the time limitations of RCW 41.40.058 or subsection (2) of
7 this section, may elect to do any of the following:

8 (a) Transfer to this retirement system all service currently
9 credited under chapter 41.44 RCW;

10 (b) Reestablish and transfer to this retirement system all service
11 that was previously credited under chapter 41.44 RCW but was canceled
12 by discontinuance of service and withdrawal of accumulated
13 contributions as provided in RCW 41.44.190; and

14 (c) Establish service credit for the initial period of employment
15 not to exceed six months, prior to establishing membership under
16 chapter 41.44 RCW.

17 To make the election or elections, the person must pay the amount
18 required under RCW 41.50.165(2) prior to retirement from this
19 retirement system.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 15.** Any person aggrieved by any decision of the
21 department affecting his or her legal rights, duties, or privileges
22 must, before he or she appeals to the courts, file with the director by
23 mail or personally within sixty days from the day the decision was
24 communicated to the person, a notice for a hearing before the
25 director's designee. The notice of hearing shall set forth in full
26 detail the grounds upon which the person considers the decision unjust
27 or unlawful and shall include every issue to be considered by the
28 department, and it must contain a detailed statement of facts upon
29 which the person relies in support of the appeal. These persons shall
30 be deemed to have waived all objections or irregularities concerning
31 the matter on which the appeal is taken, other than those specifically
32 set forth in the notice of hearing or appearing in the records of the
33 retirement system.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 16.** Following its receipt of a notice for
35 hearing in accordance with section 15 of this act, a hearing shall be
36 held by the director or a duly authorized representative, in the county
37 of the residence of the claimant at a time and place designated by the

1 director. Such hearing shall be conducted and governed in all respects
2 by the provisions of chapter 34.05 RCW.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 17.** Judicial review of any final decision and
4 order by the director is governed by the provisions of chapter 34.05
5 RCW.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 18.** No bond of any kind shall be required of a
7 claimant appealing to the superior court, the court of appeals, or the
8 supreme court from a finding of the department affecting the claimant's
9 right to retirement or disability benefits.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 19.** (1) Except for any period prior to the
11 member's employment in an eligible position, a plan II or plan III
12 member who is employed by a school district or districts or an
13 educational service district:

14 (a) Shall receive a service credit month for each month of the
15 period from September through August of the following year if he or she
16 is employed in an eligible position, earns compensation earnable for
17 eight hundred ten hours or more during that period, and is employed
18 during nine months of that period;

19 (b) If a member in an eligible position for each month of the
20 period from September through August of the following year does not
21 meet the hours requirements of (a) of this subsection, the member is
22 entitled to one-half service credit month for each month of the period
23 if he or she earns earnable compensation for at least six hundred
24 thirty hours but less than eight hundred ten hours during that period,
25 and is employed nine months of that period;

26 (c) In all other instances, a member in an eligible position is
27 entitled to service credit months as follows:

28 (i) One service credit month for each month in which compensation
29 is earned for ninety or more hours;

30 (ii) One-half service credit month for each month in which
31 compensation is earned for at least seventy hours but less than ninety
32 hours; and

33 (iii) One-quarter service credit month for each month in which
34 compensation is earned for less than seventy hours.

35 (2) The department shall adopt rules implementing this section.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 20.** RCW 43.01.044 shall not result in any
2 increase in retirement benefits. The rights extended to state officers
3 and employees under RCW 43.01.044 are not intended to and shall not
4 have any effect on retirement benefits under this chapter.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 21.** (1) The annual compensation taken into
6 account in calculating retiree benefits under this system shall not
7 exceed the limits imposed by section 401(a)(17) of the federal internal
8 revenue code for qualified trusts.

9 (2) The department shall adopt rules as necessary to implement this
10 section.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 22.** Beginning July 1, 1979, and every year
12 thereafter, the department shall determine the following information
13 for each retired member or beneficiary whose retirement allowance has
14 been in effect for at least one year:

15 (1) The original dollar amount of the retirement allowance;

16 (2) The index for the calendar year prior to the effective date of
17 the retirement allowance, to be known as "index A";

18 (3) The index for the calendar year prior to the date of
19 determination, to be known as "index B"; and

20 (4) The ratio obtained when index B is divided by index A.

21 The value of the ratio obtained shall be the annual adjustment to
22 the original retirement allowance and shall be applied beginning with
23 the July payment. In no event, however, shall the annual adjustment:

24 (a) Produce a retirement allowance which is lower than the original
25 retirement allowance;

26 (b) Exceed three percent in the initial annual adjustment; or

27 (c) Differ from the previous year's annual adjustment by more than
28 three percent.

29 For the purposes of this section, "index" means, for any calendar
30 year, that year's average consumer price index--Seattle, Washington
31 area for urban wage earners and clerical workers, all items, compiled
32 by the bureau of labor statistics, United States department of labor.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 23.** (1) Upon retirement for service as
34 prescribed in section 103 or 209 of this act or retirement for
35 disability under section 105 or 210 of this act, a member shall elect

1 to have the retirement allowance paid pursuant to one of the following
2 options, calculated so as to be actuarially equivalent to each other.

3 (a) Standard allowance. A member electing this option shall
4 receive a retirement allowance payable throughout such member's life.
5 However, if the retiree dies before the total of the retirement
6 allowance paid to such retiree equals the amount of such retiree's
7 accumulated contributions at the time of retirement, then the balance
8 shall be paid to the member's estate, or such person or persons, trust,
9 or organization as the retiree shall have nominated by written
10 designation duly executed and filed with the department; or if there be
11 no such designated person or persons still living at the time of the
12 retiree's death, then to the surviving spouse; or if there be neither
13 such designated person or persons still living at the time of death nor
14 a surviving spouse, then to the retiree's legal representative.

15 (b) The department shall adopt rules that allow a member to select
16 a retirement option that pays the member a reduced retirement allowance
17 and upon death, such portion of the member's reduced retirement
18 allowance as the department by rule designates shall be continued
19 throughout the life of and paid to a person nominated by the member by
20 written designation duly executed and filed with the department at the
21 time of retirement. The options adopted by the department shall
22 include, but are not limited to, a joint and one hundred percent
23 survivor option and a joint and fifty percent survivor option.

24 (2)(a) A member, if married, must provide the written consent of
25 his or her spouse to the option selected under this section, except as
26 provided in (b) of this subsection. If a member is married and both
27 the member and the member's spouse do not give written consent to an
28 option under this section, the department shall pay a joint and fifty
29 percent survivor benefit calculated to be actuarially equivalent to the
30 benefit options available under subsection (1) of this section unless
31 spousal consent is not required as provided in (b) of this subsection.

32 (b) If a copy of a dissolution order designating a survivor
33 beneficiary under RCW 41.50.790 has been filed with the department at
34 least thirty days prior to a member's retirement:

35 (i) The department shall honor the designation as if made by the
36 member under subsection (1) of this section; and

37 (ii) The spousal consent provisions of (a) of this subsection do
38 not apply.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 24.** (1) Except as provided in section 7 of this
2 act, no retiree under the provisions of plan II shall be eligible to
3 receive such retiree's monthly retirement allowance if he or she is
4 employed in an eligible position as defined in section 2 of this act,
5 RCW 41.40.010 or 41.32.010, or as a law enforcement officer or fire
6 fighter as defined in RCW 41.26.030, except that a retiree who ends his
7 or her membership in the retirement system pursuant to RCW
8 41.40.023(3)(b) is not subject to this section if the retiree's only
9 employment is as an elective official.

10 (2) If a retiree's benefits have been suspended under this section,
11 his or her benefits shall be reinstated when the retiree terminates the
12 employment that caused his or her benefits to be suspended. Upon
13 reinstatement, the retiree's benefits shall be actuarially recomputed
14 pursuant to the rules adopted by the department.

15 (3) The department shall adopt rules implementing this section.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 25.** Sections 1 through 24 of this act apply to
17 members of plan II and plan III.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 101.** A member of the retirement system shall
19 receive a retirement allowance equal to two percent of such member's
20 average final compensation for each service credit year of service.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 102.** (1) The director may pay a member eligible
22 to receive a retirement allowance or the member's beneficiary, subject
23 to the provisions of subsection (5) of this section, a lump sum payment
24 in lieu of a monthly benefit if the initial monthly benefit computed in
25 accordance with section 101 of this act would be less than fifty
26 dollars. The lump sum payment shall be the greater of the actuarial
27 equivalent of the monthly benefits or an amount equal to the
28 individual's accumulated contributions plus accrued interest.

29 (2) A retiree or a beneficiary, subject to the provisions of
30 subsection (5) of this section, who is receiving a regular monthly
31 benefit of less than fifty dollars may request, in writing, to convert
32 from a monthly benefit to a lump sum payment. If the director approves
33 the conversion, the calculation of the actuarial equivalent of the
34 total estimated regular benefit will be computed based on the
35 beneficiary's age at the time the benefit initially accrued. The lump

1 sum payment will be reduced to reflect any payments received on or
2 after the initial benefit accrual date.

3 (3) Persons covered under the provisions of RCW 41.40.625 or
4 subsection (1) of this section may upon returning to member status
5 reinstate all previous service by depositing the lump sum payment
6 received, with interest as computed by the director, within two years
7 of returning to service or prior to rereading, whichever comes first.
8 In computing the amount due, the director shall exclude the accumulated
9 value of the normal payments the member would have received while in
10 beneficiary status if the lump sum payment had not occurred.

11 (4) If a member fails to meet the time limitations under subsection
12 (3) of this section, reinstatement of all previous service will occur
13 if the member pays the amount required under RCW 41.50.165(2). The
14 amount, however, shall exclude the accumulated value of the normal
15 payments the member would have received while in beneficiary status if
16 the lump sum payment had not occurred.

17 (5) Only persons entitled to or receiving a service retirement
18 allowance under section 101 of this act or an earned disability
19 allowance under section 105 of this act qualify for participation under
20 this section.

21 (6) It is the intent of the legislature that any member who
22 receives a settlement under this section shall be deemed to be retired
23 from this system.

24 NEW SECTION. Sec. 103. (1) NORMAL RETIREMENT. Any member with at
25 least five service credit years who has attained at least age sixty-
26 five shall be eligible to retire and to receive a retirement allowance
27 computed according to the provisions of section 101 of this act.

28 (2) EARLY RETIREMENT. Any member who has completed at least twenty
29 service credit years and has attained age fifty-five shall be eligible
30 to retire and to receive a retirement allowance computed according to
31 the provisions of section 101 of this act, except that a member
32 retiring pursuant to this subsection shall have the retirement
33 allowance actuarially reduced to reflect the difference in the number
34 of years between age at retirement and the attainment of age sixty-
35 five.

36 NEW SECTION. Sec. 104. The required contribution rates to the
37 retirement system for both members and employers shall be established

1 by the director from time to time as may be necessary upon the advice
2 of the state actuary. The state actuary shall use the aggregate
3 actuarial cost method to calculate contribution rates. The employer
4 contribution rate calculated under this section shall be used only for
5 the purpose of determining the amount of employer contributions to be
6 deposited in the plan II fund from the total employer contributions
7 collected under section 10 of this act.

8 Contribution rates required to fund the costs of the retirement
9 system shall always be equal for members and employers, except as
10 herein provided. Any adjustments in contribution rates required from
11 time to time for future costs shall likewise be shared equally by the
12 members and employers.

13 Any increase in the contribution rate required as the result of a
14 failure of an employer to make any contribution required by this
15 section shall be borne in full by the employer not making the
16 contribution.

17 The director shall notify all employers of any pending adjustment
18 in the required contribution rate and such increase shall be announced
19 at least thirty days prior to the effective date of the change.

20 Members contributions required by this section shall be deducted
21 from the members compensation earnable each payroll period. The
22 members contribution and the employers contribution shall be remitted
23 directly to the department within fifteen days following the end of the
24 calendar month during which the payroll period ends.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 105.** (1) A member of the retirement system who
26 becomes totally incapacitated for continued employment by an employer
27 as determined by the department upon recommendation of the department
28 shall be eligible to receive an allowance under the provisions of
29 sections 101 through 112 of this act. The member shall receive a
30 monthly disability allowance computed as provided for in section 101 of
31 this act and shall have this allowance actuarially reduced to reflect
32 the difference in the number of years between age at disability and the
33 attainment of age sixty-five.

34 Any member who receives an allowance under the provisions of this
35 section shall be subject to comprehensive medical examinations as
36 required by the department. If these medical examinations reveal that
37 a member has recovered from the incapacitating disability and the

1 member is offered reemployment by an employer at a comparable
2 compensation, the member shall cease to be eligible for the allowance.

3 (2) If the recipient of a monthly retirement allowance under this
4 section dies before the total of the retirement allowance paid to the
5 recipient equals the amount of the accumulated contributions at the
6 date of retirement, then the balance shall be paid to the member's
7 estate, or the person or persons, trust, or organization as the
8 recipient has nominated by written designation duly executed and filed
9 with the director, or, if there is no designated person or persons
10 still living at the time of the recipient's death, then to the
11 surviving spouse, or, if there is no designated person or persons still
12 living at the time of his or her death nor a surviving spouse, then to
13 his or her legal representative.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 106.** Any member or beneficiary eligible to
15 receive a retirement allowance under the provisions of section 103,
16 105, or 107 of this act shall be eligible to commence receiving a
17 retirement allowance after having filed written application with the
18 department.

19 (1) Retirement allowances paid to members under the provisions of
20 section 103 of this act shall accrue from the first day of the calendar
21 month immediately following such member's separation from employment.

22 (2) Retirement allowances paid to vested members no longer in
23 service, but qualifying for such an allowance pursuant to section 103
24 of this act, shall accrue from the first day of the calendar month
25 immediately following such qualification.

26 (3) Disability allowances paid to disabled members under the
27 provisions of section 105 of this act shall accrue from the first day
28 of the calendar month immediately following such member's separation
29 from employment for disability.

30 (4) Retirement allowances paid as death benefits under the
31 provisions of section 107 of this act shall accrue from the first day
32 of the calendar month immediately following the member's death.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 107.** (1) Except as provided in RCW 11.07.010,
34 if a member or a vested member who has not completed at least ten years
35 of service dies, the amount of the accumulated contributions standing
36 to such member's credit in the retirement system at the time of such
37 member's death, less any amount identified as owing to an obligee upon

1 withdrawal of accumulated contributions pursuant to a court order filed
2 under RCW 41.50.670, shall be paid to the member's estate, or such
3 person or persons, trust, or organization as the member shall have
4 nominated by written designation duly executed and filed with the
5 department. If there be no such designated person or persons still
6 living at the time of the member's death, such member's accumulated
7 contributions standing to such member's credit in the retirement
8 system, less any amount identified as owing to an obligee upon
9 withdrawal of accumulated contributions pursuant to a court order filed
10 under RCW 41.50.670, shall be paid to the member's surviving spouse as
11 if in fact such spouse had been nominated by written designation, or if
12 there be no such surviving spouse, then to such member's legal
13 representatives.

14 (2) If a member who is eligible for retirement or a member who has
15 completed at least ten years of service dies, the surviving spouse or
16 eligible child or children shall elect to receive either:

17 (a) A retirement allowance computed as provided for in section 103
18 of this act, actuarially reduced by the amount of any lump sum benefit
19 identified as owing to an obligee upon withdrawal of accumulated
20 contributions pursuant to a court order filed under RCW 41.50.670 and
21 actuarially adjusted to reflect a joint and one hundred percent
22 survivor option under section 23 of this act and if the member was not
23 eligible for normal retirement at the date of death a further reduction
24 as described in section 103 of this act; if a surviving spouse who is
25 receiving a retirement allowance dies leaving a child or children of
26 the member under the age of majority, then such child or children shall
27 continue to receive an allowance in an amount equal to that which was
28 being received by the surviving spouse, share and share alike, until
29 such child or children reach the age of majority; if there is no
30 surviving spouse eligible to receive an allowance at the time of the
31 member's death, such member's child or children under the age of
32 majority shall receive an allowance, share and share alike, calculated
33 as herein provided making the assumption that the ages of the spouse
34 and member were equal at the time of the member's death; or

35 (b) The member's accumulated contributions, less any amount
36 identified as owing to an obligee upon withdrawal of accumulated
37 contributions pursuant to a court order filed under RCW 41.50.670.

38 (3) If a member who is eligible for retirement or a member who has
39 completed at least ten years of service dies and is not survived by a

1 spouse or an eligible child, then the accumulated contributions
2 standing to the member's credit, less any amount identified as owing to
3 an obligee upon withdrawal of accumulated contributions pursuant to a
4 court order filed under RCW 41.50.670, shall be paid:

5 (a) To a person or persons, estate, trust, or organization as the
6 member shall have nominated by written designation duly executed and
7 filed with the department; or

8 (b) If there is no such designated person or persons still living
9 at the time of the member's death, then to the member's legal
10 representatives.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 108.** (1) A member who is on a paid leave of
12 absence authorized by a member's employer shall continue to receive
13 service credit as provided for under the provisions of sections 101
14 through 112 of this act.

15 (2) A member who receives compensation from an employer while on an
16 authorized leave of absence to serve as an elected official of a labor
17 organization, and whose employer is reimbursed by the labor
18 organization for the compensation paid to the member during the period
19 of absence, may also be considered to be on a paid leave of absence.
20 This subsection shall only apply if the member's leave of absence is
21 authorized by a collective bargaining agreement that provides that the
22 member retains seniority rights with the employer during the period of
23 leave. The compensation earnable reported for a member who establishes
24 service credit under this subsection may not be greater than the salary
25 paid to the highest paid job class covered by the collective bargaining
26 agreement.

27 (3) Except as specified in subsection (4) of this section, a member
28 shall be eligible to receive a maximum of two years service credit
29 during a member's entire working career for those periods when a member
30 is on an unpaid leave of absence authorized by an employer. Such
31 credit may be obtained only if:

32 (a) The member makes both the plan II employer and member
33 contributions plus interest as determined by the department for the
34 period of the authorized leave of absence within five years of
35 resumption of service or prior to retirement whichever comes sooner; or

36 (b) If not within five years of resumption of service but prior to
37 retirement, pay the amount required under RCW 41.50.165(2).

1 The contributions required under (a) of this subsection shall be
2 based on the average of the member's compensation earnable at both the
3 time the authorized leave of absence was granted and the time the
4 member resumed employment.

5 (4) A member who leaves the employ of an employer to enter the
6 armed forces of the United States shall be entitled to retirement
7 system service credit for up to five years of military service. This
8 subsection shall be administered in a manner consistent with the
9 requirements of the federal uniformed services employment and
10 reemployment rights act.

11 (a) The member qualifies for service credit under this subsection
12 if:

13 (i) Within ninety days of the member's honorable discharge from the
14 United States armed forces, the member applies for reemployment with
15 the employer who employed the member immediately prior to the member
16 entering the United States armed forces; and

17 (ii) The member makes the employee contributions required under
18 section 104 of this act within five years of resumption of service or
19 prior to retirement, whichever comes sooner; or

20 (iii) Prior to retirement and not within ninety days of the
21 member's honorable discharge or five years of resumption of service the
22 member pays the amount required under RCW 41.50.165(2).

23 (b) Upon receipt of member contributions under (a)(ii) of this
24 subsection, the department shall establish the member's service credit
25 and shall bill the employer for its contribution required under section
26 104 of this act for the period of military service, plus interest as
27 determined by the department.

28 (c) The contributions required under (a)(ii) of this subsection
29 shall be based on the compensation the member would have earned if not
30 on leave, or if that cannot be estimated with reasonable certainty, the
31 compensation reported for the member in the year prior to when the
32 member went on military leave.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 109.** A member who separates or has separated
34 after having completed at least five years of service may remain a
35 member during the period of such member's absence from service for the
36 exclusive purpose only of receiving a retirement allowance under the
37 provisions of section 103 of this act if such member maintains the
38 member's accumulated contributions intact.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 110.** A member who ceases to be an employee of
2 an employer except by service or disability retirement may request a
3 refund of the member's accumulated contributions. The refund shall be
4 made within ninety days following the receipt of the request and
5 notification of termination through the contribution reporting system
6 by the employer; except that in the case of death, an initial payment
7 shall be made within thirty days of receipt of request for such payment
8 and notification of termination through the contribution reporting
9 system by the employer. A member who files a request for refund and
10 subsequently enters into employment with another employer prior to the
11 refund being made shall not be eligible for a refund. The refund of
12 accumulated contributions shall terminate all rights to benefits under
13 sections 101 through 112 of this act.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 111.** (1) A member, who had left service and
15 withdrawn the member's accumulated contributions, shall receive service
16 credit for such prior service if the member restores all withdrawn
17 accumulated contributions together with interest since the time of
18 withdrawal as determined by the department.

19 The restoration of such funds must be completed within five years
20 of the resumption of service or prior to retirement, whichever occurs
21 first.

22 (2) If a member fails to meet the time limitations of subsection
23 (1) of this section, the member may receive service credit destroyed by
24 the withdrawn contributions if the amount required under RCW
25 41.50.165(2) is paid.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 112.** Sections 101 through 111 and 114 of this
27 act apply only to plan II members.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 113.** A new section is added to chapter 41.40
29 RCW to read as follows:

30 (1) Effective September 1, 2000, the membership of all plan II
31 members currently employed in eligible positions in a school district
32 or educational service district and all plan II service credit for such
33 members, is transferred to the Washington school employees' retirement
34 system plan II. Plan II members who have withdrawn their member
35 contributions for prior plan II service may restore contributions and

1 service credit to the Washington school employees' retirement system
2 plan II as provided under RCW 41.40.740.

3 (2) The membership and previous service credit of a plan II member
4 not employed in an eligible position on September 1, 2000, will be
5 transferred to the Washington school employees' retirement system plan
6 II when he or she becomes employed in an eligible position. Plan II
7 members not employed in an eligible position on September 1, 2000, who
8 have withdrawn their member contributions for prior plan II service may
9 restore contributions and service credit to the Washington school
10 employees' retirement system plan II as provided under RCW 41.40.740.

11 (3) Members who restore contributions and service credit under
12 subsection (1) or (2) of this section shall have their contributions
13 and service credit transferred to the Washington school employees'
14 retirement system.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 114.** (1) Every plan II member employed by an
16 employer in an eligible position has the option to make an irrevocable
17 transfer to plan III.

18 (2) All service credit in plan II shall be transferred to the
19 defined benefit portion of plan III.

20 (3) Any plan II member who wishes to transfer to plan III after
21 February 28, 2001, may transfer during the month of January in any
22 following year, provided that the member earns service credit for that
23 month.

24 (4) The accumulated contributions in plan II, less fifty percent of
25 any contributions made pursuant to RCW 41.50.165(2) shall be
26 transferred to the member's account in the defined contribution portion
27 established in chapter 41.34 RCW, pursuant to procedures developed by
28 the department and subject to RCW 41.34.090. Contributions made
29 pursuant to RCW 41.50.165(2) that are not transferred to the member's
30 account shall be transferred to the fund created in RCW 41.50.075(2),
31 except that interest earned on all such contributions shall be
32 transferred to the member's account.

33 (5) The legislature reserves the right to discontinue the right to
34 transfer under this section.

35 (6) Anyone previously retired from plan II is prohibited from
36 transferring to plan III.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 201.** (1) Sections 201 through 213 of this act
2 apply only to plan III members.

3 (2) Plan III consists of two separate elements: (a) A defined
4 benefit portion covered under this subchapter; and (b) a defined
5 contribution portion covered under chapter 41.34 RCW.

6 (3) Unless otherwise specified, all references to "plan III" in
7 this subchapter refer to the defined benefit portion of plan III.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 202.** All classified employees who first become
9 employed by an employer in an eligible position on or after September
10 1, 2000, shall be members of plan III.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 203.** (1) A member of the retirement system
12 shall receive a retirement allowance equal to one percent of such
13 member's average final compensation for each service credit year.

14 (2) The retirement allowance payable under section 209 of this act
15 to a member who separates after having completed at least twenty
16 service credit years shall be increased by twenty-five one-hundredths
17 of one percent, compounded for each month from the date of separation
18 to the date that the retirement allowance commences.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 204.** (1) Anyone who requests to transfer under
20 section 114 of this act before March 1, 2001, and establishes service
21 credit for January 2001, shall have their member account increased by
22 sixty-five percent of:

23 (a) The member's public employees' retirement system plan II
24 accumulated contributions as of January 1, 2000, less fifty percent of
25 any payments made pursuant to RCW 41.50.165(2); or

26 (b) All amounts withdrawn after January 1, 2000, which are
27 completely restored before March 1, 2001.

28 (2) If a member who requests to transfer dies before January 1,
29 2001, the additional payment provided by this section shall be paid to
30 the member's estate, or the person or persons, trust, or organization
31 the member nominated by written designation duly executed and filed
32 with the department.

33 (3) The legislature reserves the right to modify or discontinue the
34 right to an additional payment under this section for any plan II
35 members who have not previously transferred to plan III.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 205.** Any member or beneficiary eligible to
2 receive a retirement allowance under the provisions of section 209,
3 210, or 212 of this act is eligible to commence receiving a retirement
4 allowance after having filed written application with the department.

5 (1) Retirement allowances paid to members shall accrue from the
6 first day of the calendar month immediately following such member's
7 separation from employment.

8 (2) Retirement allowances payable to eligible members no longer in
9 service, but qualifying for such an allowance pursuant to section 15 of
10 this act shall accrue from the first day of the calendar month
11 immediately following such qualification.

12 (3) Disability allowances paid to disabled members shall accrue
13 from the first day of the calendar month immediately following such
14 member's separation from employment for disability.

15 (4) Retirement allowances paid as death benefits shall accrue from
16 the first day of the calendar month immediately following the member's
17 death.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 206.** (1) A member who is on a paid leave of
19 absence authorized by a member's employer shall continue to receive
20 service credit.

21 (2) A member who receives compensation from an employer while on an
22 authorized leave of absence to serve as an elected official of a labor
23 organization, and whose employer is reimbursed by the labor
24 organization for the compensation paid to the member during the period
25 of absence, may also be considered to be on a paid leave of absence.
26 This subsection shall only apply if the member's leave of absence is
27 authorized by a collective bargaining agreement that provides that the
28 member retains seniority rights with the employer during the period of
29 leave. The earnable compensation reported for a member who establishes
30 service credit under this subsection may not be greater than the salary
31 paid to the highest paid job class covered by the collective bargaining
32 agreement.

33 (3) Except as specified in subsection (4) of this section, a member
34 shall be eligible to receive a maximum of two years service credit
35 during a member's entire working career for those periods when a member
36 is on an unpaid leave of absence authorized by an employer. Such
37 credit may be obtained only if:

1 (a) The member makes the contribution on behalf of the employer,
2 plus interest, as determined by the department; and

3 (b) The member makes the employee contribution, plus interest, as
4 determined by the department, to the defined contribution portion.

5 The contributions required shall be based on the average of the
6 member's earnable compensation at both the time the authorized leave of
7 absence was granted and the time the member resumed employment.

8 (4) A member who leaves the employ of an employer to enter the
9 armed forces of the United States shall be entitled to retirement
10 system service credit for up to five years of military service if
11 within ninety days of the member's honorable discharge from the United
12 States armed forces, the member applies for reemployment with the
13 employer who employed the member immediately prior to the member
14 entering the United States armed forces. This subsection shall be
15 administered in a manner consistent with the requirements of the
16 federal uniformed services employment and reemployment rights act.

17 The department shall establish the member's service credit and
18 shall bill the employer for its contribution required under section 213
19 of this act for the period of military service, plus interest as
20 determined by the department. Service credit under this subsection may
21 be obtained only if the member makes the employee contribution to the
22 defined contribution portion as determined by the department.

23 The contributions required shall be based on the compensation the
24 member would have earned if not on leave, or if that cannot be
25 estimated with reasonable certainty, the compensation reported for the
26 member in the year prior to when the member went on military leave.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 207.** (1) Contributions on behalf of the
28 employer paid by the employee to purchase plan III service credit shall
29 be allocated to the defined benefit portion of plan III and shall not
30 be refundable when paid to the fund described in RCW 41.50.075(4).
31 Contributions on behalf of the employee shall be allocated to the
32 member account. If the member fails to meet the statutory time
33 limitations to purchase plan III service credit, it may be purchased
34 under the provisions of RCW 41.50.165(2). One-half of the purchase
35 payments under RCW 41.50.165(2), plus interest, shall be allocated to
36 the member's account.

37 (2) No purchased plan III membership service will be credited until
38 all payments required of the member are made, with interest. Upon

1 receipt of all payments owed by the member, the department shall bill
2 the employer for any contributions, plus interest, required to purchase
3 membership service.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 208.** (1) The director may pay a member eligible
5 to receive a retirement allowance or the member's beneficiary a lump
6 sum payment in lieu of a monthly benefit if the initial monthly benefit
7 would be less than one hundred dollars. The one hundred dollar limit
8 shall be increased annually as determined by the director. The lump
9 sum payment shall be the actuarial equivalent of the monthly benefit.

10 (2) Persons covered under the provisions of subsection (1) of this
11 section may upon returning to member status reinstate all previous
12 service by depositing the lump sum payment received, with interest as
13 computed by the director, within two years of returning to service or
14 prior to retiring again, whichever comes first. In computing the
15 amount due, the director shall exclude the accumulated value of the
16 normal payments the member would have received while in beneficiary
17 status if the lump sum payment had not occurred.

18 (3) Any member who receives a settlement under this section is
19 deemed to be retired from this system.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 209.** (1) NORMAL RETIREMENT. Any member who is
21 at least age sixty-five and who has:

22 (a) Completed ten service credit years; or

23 (b) Completed five service credit years, including twelve service
24 credit months after attaining age fifty-four; or

25 (c) Completed five service credit years by September 1, 2000, under
26 the public employees' retirement system plan II and who transferred to
27 plan III under section 114 of this act;

28 shall be eligible to retire and to receive a retirement allowance
29 computed according to the provisions of section 203 of this act.

30 (2) EARLY RETIREMENT. Any member who has attained at least age
31 fifty-five and has completed at least ten years of service shall be
32 eligible to retire and to receive a retirement allowance computed
33 according to the provisions of section 203 of this act, except that a
34 member retiring pursuant to this subsection shall have the retirement
35 allowance actuarially reduced to reflect the difference in the number
36 of years between age at retirement and the attainment of age sixty-
37 five.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 210.** (1) A member of the retirement system who
2 becomes totally incapacitated for continued employment by an employer
3 as determined by the department shall be eligible to receive an
4 allowance under the provisions of plan III. The member shall receive
5 a monthly disability allowance computed as provided for in section 203
6 of this act and shall have this allowance actuarially reduced to
7 reflect the difference in the number of years between age at disability
8 and the attainment of age sixty-five.

9 Any member who receives an allowance under the provisions of this
10 section shall be subject to comprehensive medical examinations as
11 required by the department. If these medical examinations reveal that
12 a member has recovered from the incapacitating disability and the
13 member is offered reemployment by an employer at a comparable
14 compensation, the member shall cease to be eligible for the allowance.

15 (2) If the recipient of a monthly retirement allowance under this
16 section dies, any further benefit payments shall be conditioned by the
17 payment option selected by the retiree as provided in section 23 of
18 this act.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 211.** (1) Any member who elects to transfer to
20 plan III and has eligible unrestored withdrawn contributions in plan
21 II, may restore such contributions under the provisions of section 113
22 of this act with interest as determined by the department. The
23 restored plan II service credit will be automatically transferred to
24 plan III. Restoration payments will be transferred to the member
25 account in plan III. If the member fails to meet the time limitations
26 of section 113 of this act, they may restore such contributions under
27 the provisions of RCW 41.50.165(2). The restored plan II service
28 credit will be automatically transferred to plan III. One-half of the
29 restoration payments under RCW 41.50.165(2) plus interest shall be
30 allocated to the member's account.

31 (2) Any member who elects to transfer to plan III may purchase plan
32 II service credit under section 113 of this act. Purchased plan II
33 service credit will be automatically transferred to plan III.
34 Contributions on behalf of the employer paid by the employee shall be
35 allocated to the defined benefit portion of plan III and shall not be
36 refundable when paid to the fund described in RCW 41.50.075(4).
37 Contributions on behalf of the employee shall be allocated to the
38 member account. If the member fails to meet the time limitations of

1 section 113 of this act, they may subsequently restore such
2 contributions under the provisions of RCW 41.50.165(2). Purchased plan
3 II service credit will be automatically transferred to plan III. One-
4 half of the payments under RCW 41.50.165(2), plus interest, shall be
5 allocated to the member's account.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 212.** If a member dies prior to retirement, the
7 surviving spouse or eligible child or children shall receive a
8 retirement allowance computed as provided in section 203 of this act
9 actuarially reduced to reflect a joint and one hundred percent survivor
10 option and if the member was not eligible for normal retirement at the
11 date of death a further reduction as described in section 209 of this
12 act.

13 If the surviving spouse who is receiving the retirement allowance
14 dies leaving a child or children under the age of majority, then such
15 child or children shall continue to receive an allowance in an amount
16 equal to that which was being received by the surviving spouse, share
17 and share alike, until such child or children reach the age of
18 majority.

19 If there is no surviving spouse eligible to receive an allowance at
20 the time of the member's death, such member's child or children under
21 the age of majority shall receive an allowance, share and share alike.
22 The allowance shall be calculated with the assumption that the age of
23 the spouse and member were equal at the time of the member's death.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 213.** The required contribution rates to the
25 retirement system for employers shall be established by the director
26 from time to time as may be necessary upon the advice of the state
27 actuary. The state actuary shall use the aggregate actuarial cost
28 method to calculate contribution rates. The employer contribution rate
29 calculated under this section shall be used only for the purpose of
30 determining the amount of employer contributions to be deposited in the
31 plan II fund from the total employer contributions collected under
32 section 10 of this act.

33 Any increase in the contribution rate required as the result of a
34 failure of an employer to make any contribution required by this
35 section shall be borne in full by the employer not making the
36 contribution.

1 The director shall notify all employers of any pending adjustment
2 in the required contribution rate and such increase shall be announced
3 at least thirty days prior to the effective date of the change.

4 The employer's contribution shall be remitted directly to the
5 department within fifteen days following the end of the calendar month
6 during which the payroll period ends.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 214.** Sections 1 through 25, 101 through 112,
8 114, and 201 through 213 of this act constitute a new chapter in Title
9 41 RCW.

10 **Sec. 301.** RCW 41.34.020 and 1996 c 39 s 13 are each amended to
11 read as follows:

12 As used in this chapter, the following terms have the meanings
13 indicated:

14 (1) "Actuary" means the state actuary or the office of the state
15 actuary.

16 (2) "Board" means the employee retirement benefits board authorized
17 in chapter 41.50 RCW.

18 (3) "Department" means the department of retirement systems.

19 (4)(a) "Compensation" for teachers for purposes of this chapter is
20 the same as "earnable compensation" for plan III in chapter 41.32 RCW
21 except that the compensation may be reported when paid, rather than
22 when earned.

23 (b) "Compensation" for classified employees for purposes of this
24 chapter is the same as "compensation earnable" for plan III in section
25 2 of this act, except that the compensation may be reported when paid,
26 rather than when earned.

27 (5)(a) "Employer" for teachers for purposes of this chapter means
28 the same as "employer" for plan III in chapter 41.32 RCW.

29 (b) "Employer" for classified employees for purposes of this
30 chapter means the same as "employer" for plan III in section 2 of this
31 act.

32 (6) "Member" means any employee included in the membership of a
33 retirement system as provided for in chapter 41.32 RCW of plan III or
34 chapter 41.-- RCW (sections 1 through 25, 101 through 112, 114, and 201
35 through 213 of this act) of plan III.

36 (7) "Member account" or "member's account" means the sum of the
37 contributions and earnings on behalf of the member.

1 (8) "Retiree" means any member in receipt of an allowance or other
2 benefit provided by this chapter resulting from service rendered to an
3 employer by such member.

4 (9) "Teacher" means a member of the teachers' retirement system
5 plan III as defined in RCW 41.32.010(29).

6 (10) "Classified employee" means a member of the school employees'
7 retirement system plan III as defined in section 2 of this act.

8 **Sec. 302.** RCW 41.34.030 and 1995 c 239 s 203 are each amended to
9 read as follows:

10 (1) This chapter applies only to members of plan III retirement
11 systems created under chapters 41.32 and 41.-- (sections 1 through 25,
12 101 through 112, 114, and 201 through 213 of this act) RCW.

13 (2) Plan III consists of two separate elements:

14 (a) A defined benefit portion covered under:

15 (i) Sections 101 through 117, chapter 239, Laws of 1995; or

16 (ii) Sections 1 through 25 and 201 through 213 of this act; and

17 (b) A defined contribution portion covered under this chapter.
18 Unless specified otherwise, all references to "plan III" in this
19 chapter refer to the defined contribution portion of plan III.

20 **Sec. 303.** RCW 41.34.060 and 1996 c 39 s 15 are each amended to
21 read as follows:

22 (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the
23 member's account shall be invested by the state investment board.
24 ~~((All contributions under this subsection shall be invested))~~ In order
25 to reduce transaction costs and address liquidity issues, based upon
26 recommendations of the state investment board, the department may
27 require members to provide up to ninety days' notice prior to moving
28 funds from the state investment board portfolio to self-directed
29 investment options provided under subsection (2) of this section.

30 (a) For members of the retirement system as provided for in chapter
31 41.32 RCW of plan III, investment shall be in the same portfolio as
32 that of the teachers' retirement system combined plan II and III fund
33 under RCW 41.50.075(2).

34 (b) For members of the retirement system as provided for in chapter
35 41.-- RCW (sections 1 through 25, 101 through 112, 114, and 201 through
36 213 of this act) of plan III, investment shall be in the same portfolio

1 as that of the school employees' retirement system combined plan II and
2 III fund under RCW 41.50.075(4).

3 (2) Members may elect to self-direct their investments as
4 ~~((authorized by the board, other than as provided in subsection (1) of~~
5 ~~this section. Expenses caused by self-directed investment shall be~~
6 ~~paid by the member in accordance with rules established by the board~~
7 ~~under RCW 41.50.088))~~ set forth in sections 307 and 707 of this act.

8 **Sec. 304.** RCW 41.34.080 and 1995 c 239 s 208 are each amended to
9 read as follows:

10 (1) Subject to subsections (2) and (3) of this section, the right
11 of a person to a pension, an annuity, a retirement allowance, any
12 optional benefit, any other right accrued or accruing to any person
13 under the provisions of this chapter, and the various funds created by
14 chapter 239, Laws of 1995, and chapter . . . , Laws of 1998 (this act)
15 and all moneys and investments and income thereof, is hereby exempt
16 from any state, county, municipal, or other local tax, and shall not be
17 subject to execution, garnishment, attachment, the operation of
18 bankruptcy or insolvency laws, or other process of law whatsoever, and
19 shall be unassignable.

20 (2) This section shall not be deemed to prohibit a beneficiary of
21 a retirement allowance from authorizing deductions therefrom for
22 payment of premiums due on any group insurance policy or plan issued
23 for the benefit of a group comprised of public employees of the state
24 of Washington or its political subdivisions and that has been approved
25 for deduction in accordance with rules that may be adopted by the state
26 health care authority and/or the department. This section shall not be
27 deemed to prohibit a beneficiary of a retirement allowance from
28 authorizing deductions therefrom for payment of dues and other
29 membership fees to any retirement association or organization the
30 membership of which is composed of retired public employees, if a total
31 of three hundred or more of such retired employees have authorized such
32 deduction for payment to the same retirement association or
33 organization.

34 (3) Subsection (1) of this section shall not prohibit the
35 department from complying with (a) a wage assignment order for child
36 support issued pursuant to chapter 26.18 RCW, (b) an order to withhold
37 and deliver issued pursuant to chapter 74.20A RCW, (c) a notice of
38 payroll deduction issued pursuant to RCW 26.23.060, (d) a mandatory

1 benefits assignment order issued by the department, (e) a court order
2 directing the department to pay benefits directly to an obligee under
3 a dissolution order as defined in RCW 41.50.500(3) which fully complies
4 with RCW 41.50.670 and 41.50.700, or (f) any administrative or court
5 order expressly authorized by federal law.

6 **Sec. 305.** RCW 41.34.100 and 1995 c 239 s 325 are each amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (1) The benefits provided pursuant to chapter 239, Laws of 1995 are
9 not provided to employees as a matter of contractual right prior to
10 July 1, 1996. The legislature retains the right to alter or abolish
11 these benefits at any time prior to July 1, 1996.

12 (2) The benefits provided pursuant to chapter . . . , Laws of 1998
13 (this act) are not provided to employees as a matter of contractual
14 right prior to September 1, 2000. The legislature retains the right to
15 alter or abolish these benefits at any time prior to September 1, 2000.

16 **NEW SECTION. Sec. 306.** A new section is added to chapter 41.34
17 RCW to read as follows:

18 All moneys in members' accounts, all property and rights purchased
19 therewith, and all income attributable thereto, shall be held in trust
20 by the state investment board, as set forth under RCW 43.33A.030, for
21 the exclusive benefit of the members and their beneficiaries.

22 **NEW SECTION. Sec. 307.** A new section is added to chapter 41.34
23 RCW to read as follows:

24 (1) The state investment board has the full authority to invest all
25 self-directed investment moneys in accordance with RCW 43.84.150 and
26 43.33A.140, and cumulative investment directions received pursuant to
27 RCW 41.34.060 and this section. In carrying out this authority the
28 state investment board, after consultation with the employee retirement
29 benefits board regarding any recommendations made pursuant to RCW
30 41.50.088(2), shall provide a set of options for members to choose from
31 for self-directed investment.

32 (2) All investment and operating costs of the state investment
33 board associated with making self-directed investments shall be paid by
34 members and recovered under procedures agreed to by the board and the
35 state investment board pursuant to the principles set forth in RCW
36 43.33A.160 and 43.84.160. All other expenses caused by self-directed

1 investment shall be paid by the member in accordance with rules
2 established by the board under RCW 41.50.088. With the exception of
3 these expenses, all earnings from self-directed investments shall
4 accrue to the member's account.

5 (3) The department shall keep or cause to be kept full and adequate
6 accounts and records of each individual member's account. The
7 department shall account for and report on the investment of defined
8 contribution assets or may enter into an agreement with the state
9 investment board for such accounting and reporting under this chapter.

10 NEW SECTION. Sec. 308. A new section is added to chapter 41.34
11 RCW to read as follows:

12 (1) A state board or commission, agency, or any officer, employee,
13 or member thereof is not liable for any loss or deficiency resulting
14 from member defined contribution investments selected or required
15 pursuant to RCW 41.34.060 (1) or (2).

16 (2) Neither the board nor the state investment board, nor any
17 officer, employee, or member thereof is liable for any loss or
18 deficiency resulting from reasonable efforts to implement investment
19 directions pursuant to RCW 41.34.060 (1) or (2).

20 NEW SECTION. Sec. 309. (1) On July 1, 1998, and January 1, 2000,
21 the member account of a person meeting the requirements of this section
22 shall be credited by the extraordinary investment gain amount.

23 (2) The following persons are eligible for the benefit provided in
24 subsection (1) of this section:

25 (a) Any member of the teachers' retirement system plan III who
26 earned service credit during the twelve-month period from September 1st
27 to August 31st immediately preceding the distribution and had a balance
28 of at least one thousand dollars in their member account on August 31st
29 of the year immediately preceding the distribution; or

30 (b) Any person in receipt of a benefit pursuant to RCW 41.32.875;
31 or

32 (c) Any person who is a retiree pursuant to RCW 41.34.020(8) and
33 who:

34 (i) Completed ten service credit years; or

35 (ii) Completed five service credit years, including twelve service
36 months after attaining age fifty-four; or

1 (iii) Completed five service credit years by July 1, 1996, under
2 plan II and who transferred to plan III under RCW 41.32.817; or

3 (d) Any person who had a balance of at least one thousand dollars
4 in their member account on August 31st of the year immediately
5 preceding the distribution and who:

6 (i) Completed ten service credit years; or

7 (ii) Completed five service credit years, including twelve service
8 months after attaining age fifty-four; or

9 (iii) Completed five service credit years by July 1, 1996, under
10 plan II and who transferred to plan III under RCW 41.32.817.

11 (3) The extraordinary investment gain amount shall be calculated as
12 follows:

13 (a) One-half of the sum of the value of the net assets held in
14 trust for pension benefits in the public employees' retirement system
15 plan II fund and the teachers' retirement system combined plan II and
16 III fund at the close of the previous state fiscal year not including
17 the amount attributable to member accounts;

18 (b) Multiplied by the amount which the compound average of
19 investment returns on those assets over the previous four state fiscal
20 years exceeds ten percent;

21 (c) Multiplied by the proportion of:

22 (i) The sum of the service credit on August 31st of the previous
23 year of all persons eligible for the benefit provided in subsection (1)
24 of this section; to

25 (ii) The sum of the service credit on August 31st of the previous
26 year of:

27 (A) All persons eligible for the benefit provided in subsection (1)
28 of this section;

29 (B) Any person who earned service credit in the teachers'
30 retirement system plan II or the public employees' retirement system
31 plan II during the twelve-month period from September 1st to August
32 31st immediately preceding the distribution;

33 (C) Any person in receipt of a benefit pursuant to RCW 41.32.765 or
34 41.40.630; and

35 (D) Any person with five or more years of service in the teachers'
36 retirement system plan II or the public employees' retirement system
37 plan II;

(d) Divided proportionally among persons eligible for the benefit provided in subsection (1) of this section on the basis of their service credit total on August 31st of the previous year.

(4) The distribution provided for in this section shall be made solely from assets included in the teachers' retirement system combined plan II and III fund.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 310.** Section 309 of this act is added to chapter 41.34 RCW, but because of its temporary nature, shall not be codified.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 311.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context requires otherwise.

(1) "Actuary" means the state actuary or the office of the state actuary.

(2) "Department" means the department of retirement systems.

(3) "Teacher" means any employee included in the membership of the teachers' retirement system as provided for in chapter 41.32 RCW.

(4) "Member account" or "member's account" means the sum of any contributions as provided for in chapter 41.34 RCW and the earnings on behalf of the member.

(5) "Classified employee" means the same as in section 2 of this act.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 312.** (1) On January 1, 2002, and on January 1st of even-numbered years thereafter, the member account of a person meeting the requirements of this section shall be credited by the extraordinary investment gain amount.

(2) The following persons shall be eligible for the benefit provided in subsection (1) of this section:

(a) Any member of the teachers' retirement system plan III or the Washington school employees' retirement system plan III who earned service credit during the twelve-month period from September 1st to August 31st immediately preceding the distribution and had a balance of at least one thousand dollars in their member account on August 31st of the year immediately preceding the distribution; or

(b) Any person in receipt of a benefit pursuant to RCW 41.32.875 or section 209 of this act; or

(c) Any person who is a retiree pursuant to RCW 41.34.020(8) and who:

(i) Completed ten service credit years; or

(ii) Completed five service credit years, including twelve service months after attaining age fifty-four; or

(d) Any teacher who is a retiree pursuant to RCW 41.34.020(8) and who has completed five service credit years by July 1, 1996, under plan II and who transferred to plan III under RCW 41.32.817; or

(e) Any classified employee who is a retiree pursuant to RCW 41.34.020(8) and who has completed five service credit years by September 1, 2000, and who transferred to plan III under section 114 of this act; or

(f) Any person who had a balance of at least one thousand dollars in their member account on August 31st of the year immediately preceding the distribution and who:

(i) Completed ten service credit years; or

(ii) Completed five service credit years, including twelve service months after attaining age fifty-four; or

(g) Any teacher who had a balance of at least one thousand dollars in their member account on August 31st of the year immediately preceding the distribution and who has completed five service credit years by July 1, 1996, under plan II and who transferred to plan III under RCW 41.32.817; or

(h) Any classified employee who had a balance of at least one thousand dollars in their member account on August 31st of the year immediately preceding the distribution and who has completed five service credit years by September 1, 2000, and who transferred to plan III under section 114 of this act.

(3) The extraordinary investment gain amount shall be calculated as follows:

(a) One-half of the sum of the value of the net assets held in trust for pension benefits in the teachers' retirement system combined plan II and III fund and the Washington school employees' retirement system combined plan II and III fund at the close of the previous state fiscal year not including the amount attributable to member accounts;

(b) Multiplied by the amount which the compound average of investment returns on those assets over the previous four state fiscal years exceeds ten percent;

(c) Multiplied by the proportion of:

1 (i) The sum of the service credit on August 31st of the previous
2 year of all persons eligible for the benefit provided in subsection (1)
3 of this section; to

4 (ii) The sum of the service credit on August 31st of the previous
5 year of:

6 (A) All persons eligible for the benefit provided in subsection (1)
7 of this section;

8 (B) Any person who earned service credit in the teachers'
9 retirement system plan II or the Washington school employees'
10 retirement system plan II during the twelve-month period from September
11 1st to August 31st immediately preceding the distribution;

12 (C) Any person in receipt of a benefit pursuant to RCW 41.32.765 or
13 section 103 of this act; and

14 (D) Any person with five or more years of service in the teachers'
15 retirement system plan II or the Washington school employees'
16 retirement system plan II;

17 (d) Divided proportionally among persons eligible for the benefit
18 provided in subsection (1) of this section on the basis of their
19 service credit total on August 31st of the previous year.

20 (4) The legislature reserves the right to amend or repeal this
21 section in the future and no member or beneficiary has a contractual
22 right to receive this distribution not granted prior to that time.

23 **NEW SECTION. Sec. 313.** (1) On March 1, 2001, the member account
24 of a person meeting the requirements of this section shall be credited
25 by the 1998 retroactive extraordinary investment gain amount and the
26 2000 retroactive extraordinary investment gain amount.

27 (2) The following persons shall be eligible for the benefits
28 provided in subsection (1) of this section:

29 (a) Any classified employee who earned service credit during the
30 twelve-month period from September 1st to August 31st immediately
31 preceding the distribution and who transferred to plan III under
32 section 114 of this act; or

33 (b) Any classified employee in receipt of a benefit pursuant to
34 section 209 of this act and who has completed five service credit years
35 by September 1, 2000, and who transferred to plan III under section 114
36 of this act; or

37 (c) Any classified employee who is a retiree pursuant to RCW
38 41.34.020(8) and who has completed five service credit years by

1 September 1, 2000, and who transferred to plan III under section 114 of
2 this act; or

3 (d) Any classified employee who has a balance of at least one
4 thousand dollars in his or her member account and who has completed
5 five service credit years by September 1, 2000, and who transferred to
6 plan III under section 114 of this act.

7 (3) The 1998 retroactive extraordinary investment gain amount shall
8 be calculated as follows:

9 (a) An amount equal to the average benefit per year of service paid
10 to members of the teachers' retirement system plan III pursuant to
11 section 309 of this act in 1998;

12 (b) Distributed to persons eligible for the benefit provided in
13 subsection (1) of this section on the basis of their service credit
14 total on August 31, 1997.

15 (4) The 2000 retroactive extraordinary investment gain amount shall
16 be calculated as follows:

17 (a) An amount equal to the average benefit per year of service paid
18 to members of the teachers' retirement system plan III pursuant to
19 section 309 of this act in 2000;

20 (b) Distributed to persons eligible for the benefit provided in
21 subsection (1) of this section on the basis of their service credit
22 total on August 31, 1999.

23 (5) The legislature reserves the right to amend or repeal this
24 section in the future and no member or beneficiary has a contractual
25 right to receive this distribution not granted prior to that time.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 314.** Sections 311 through 313 of this act
27 constitute a new chapter in Title 41 RCW.

28 **Sec. 401.** RCW 41.45.010 and 1995 c 239 s 305 are each amended to
29 read as follows:

30 It is the intent of the legislature to provide a dependable and
31 systematic process for funding the benefits provided to members and
32 retirees of the public employees' retirement system, chapter 41.40 RCW;
33 the teachers' retirement system, chapter 41.32 RCW; the law enforcement
34 officers' and fire fighters' retirement system, chapter 41.26 RCW; the
35 school employees' retirement system, chapter 41.-- RCW (sections 1
36 through 25, 101 through 112, 114, and 201 through 213 of this act); and
37 the Washington state patrol retirement system, chapter 43.43 RCW.

1 The funding process established by this chapter is intended to
2 achieve the following goals:

3 (1) To continue to fully fund the public employees' retirement
4 system plan II, the teachers' retirement system plans II and III, the
5 school employees' retirement system plans II and III, and the law
6 enforcement officers' and fire fighters' retirement system plan II as
7 provided by law;

8 (2) To fully amortize the total costs of the public employees'
9 retirement system plan I, the teachers' retirement system plan I, and
10 the law enforcement officers' and fire fighters' retirement system plan
11 I not later than June 30, 2024;

12 (3) To establish predictable long-term employer contribution rates
13 which will remain a relatively constant proportion of the future state
14 budgets; and

15 (4) To fund, to the extent feasible, benefit increases for plan I
16 members and all benefits for plan II and III members over the working
17 lives of those members so that the cost of those benefits are paid by
18 the taxpayers who receive the benefit of those members' service.

19 **Sec. 402.** RCW 41.45.020 and 1995 c 239 s 306 are each amended to
20 read as follows:

21 As used in this chapter, the following terms have the meanings
22 indicated unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

23 (1) "Council" means the economic and revenue forecast council
24 created in RCW 82.33.010.

25 (2) "Department" means the department of retirement systems.

26 (3) "Law enforcement officers' and fire fighters' retirement system
27 plan I" and "law enforcement officers' and fire fighters' retirement
28 system plan II" mean the benefits and funding provisions under chapter
29 41.26 RCW.

30 (4) "Public employees' retirement system plan I" and "public
31 employees' retirement system plan II" mean the benefits and funding
32 provisions under chapter 41.40 RCW.

33 (5) "Teachers' retirement system plan I," "teachers' retirement
34 system plan II," and "teachers' retirement system plan III" mean the
35 benefits and funding provisions under chapter 41.32 RCW.

36 (6) "School employees' retirement system plan II" and "school
37 employees' retirement system plan III" mean the benefits and funding

provisions under chapter 41.-- RCW (sections 1 through 25, 101 through 112, 114, and 201 through 213 of this act).

(7) "Washington state patrol retirement system" means the retirement benefits provided under chapter 43.43 RCW.

~~((7))~~ (8) "Unfunded liability" means the unfunded actuarial accrued liability of a retirement system.

~~((8))~~ (9) "Actuary" or "state actuary" means the state actuary employed under chapter 44.44 RCW.

~~((9))~~ (10) "State retirement systems" means the retirement systems listed in RCW 41.50.030.

(11) "Classified employee" means a member of the Washington school employees' retirement system plan II or plan III as defined in section 2 of this act.

(12) "Teacher" means a member of the teachers' retirement system as defined in RCW 41.32.010(15).

Sec. 403. RCW 41.45.050 and 1995 c 239 s 308 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Employers of members of the public employees' retirement system, the teachers' retirement system, the school employees' retirement system, and the Washington state patrol retirement system shall make contributions to those systems based on the rates established in RCW 41.45.060 and 41.45.070.

(2) The state shall make contributions to the law enforcement officers' and fire fighters' retirement system based on the rates established in RCW 41.45.060 and 41.45.070. The state treasurer shall transfer the required contributions each month on the basis of salary data provided by the department.

(3) The department shall bill employers, and the state shall make contributions to the law enforcement officers' and fire fighters' retirement system, using the combined rates established in RCW 41.45.060 and 41.45.070 regardless of the level of pension funding provided in the biennial budget. Any member of an affected retirement system may, by mandamus or other appropriate proceeding, require the transfer and payment of funds as directed in this section.

(4) The contributions received for the public employees' retirement system shall be allocated between the public employees' retirement system plan I fund and public employees' retirement system plan II fund as follows: The contributions necessary to fully fund the public

1 employees' retirement system plan II employer contribution required by
2 RCW 41.40.650 shall first be deposited in the public employees'
3 retirement system plan II fund. All remaining public employees'
4 retirement system employer contributions shall be deposited in the
5 public employees' retirement system plan I fund.

6 (5) The contributions received for the teachers' retirement system
7 shall be allocated between the plan I fund and the combined plan II and
8 plan III fund as follows: The contributions necessary to fully fund
9 the combined plan II and plan III employer contribution shall first be
10 deposited in the combined plan II and plan III fund. All remaining
11 teachers' retirement system employer contributions shall be deposited
12 in the plan I fund.

13 (6) The contributions received for the school employees' retirement
14 system shall be allocated between the public employees' retirement
15 system plan I fund and the school employees' retirement system combined
16 plan II and plan III fund as follows: The contributions necessary to
17 fully fund the combined plan II and plan III employer contribution
18 shall first be deposited in the combined plan II and plan III fund.
19 All remaining school employees' retirement system employer
20 contributions shall be deposited in the public employees' retirement
21 system plan I fund.

22 (7) The contributions received under RCW 41.26.450 for the law
23 enforcement officers' and fire fighters' retirement system shall be
24 allocated between the law enforcement officers' and fire fighters'
25 retirement system plan I and the law enforcement officers' and fire
26 fighters' retirement system plan II fund as follows: The contributions
27 necessary to fully fund the law enforcement officers' and fire
28 fighters' retirement system plan II employer contributions shall be
29 first deposited in the law enforcement officers' and fire fighters'
30 retirement system plan II fund. All remaining law enforcement
31 officers' and fire fighters' retirement system employer contributions
32 shall be deposited in the law enforcement officers' and fire fighters'
33 retirement system plan I fund.

34 **Sec. 404.** RCW 41.45.060 and 1995 c 239 s 309 are each amended to
35 read as follows:

36 (1) The state actuary shall provide actuarial valuation results
37 based on the assumptions adopted under RCW 41.45.030.

(2) Not later than September 30, 1996, and every two years thereafter, consistent with the assumptions adopted under RCW 41.45.030, the council shall adopt both:

(a) A basic state contribution rate for the law enforcement officers' and fire fighters' retirement system; ~~((and))~~

(b) Basic employer contribution rates for the public employees' retirement system plan I, the teachers' retirement system plan I, and the Washington state patrol retirement system to be used in the ensuing biennial period; and

(c) A basic employer contribution rate for the school employees' retirement system for funding the public employees' retirement system plan I.

(3) The employer and state contribution rates adopted by the council shall be the level percentages of pay that are needed:

(a) To fully amortize the total costs of the public employees' retirement system plan I, the teachers' retirement system plan I, the law enforcement officers' and fire fighters' retirement system plan I, and the unfunded liability of the Washington state patrol retirement system not later than June 30, 2024; and

(b) To also continue to fully fund the public employees' retirement system plan II, the teachers' retirement system plans II and III, the school employees' retirement system plans II and III, and the law enforcement officers' and fire fighters' retirement system plan II in accordance with RCW 41.40.650, 41.26.450, and this section.

(4) The aggregate actuarial cost method shall be used to calculate a combined plan II and III employer contribution rate.

(5) The council shall immediately notify the directors of the office of financial management and department of retirement systems of the state and employer contribution rates adopted.

(6) The director of the department of retirement systems shall collect those rates adopted by the council.

Sec. 405. RCW 41.45.061 and 1997 c 10 s 2 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) The required contribution rate for members of the plan II teachers' retirement system shall be fixed at the rates in effect on July 1, 1996, subject to the following:

(a) Beginning September 1, 1997, except as provided in (b) of this subsection, the employee contribution rate shall not exceed the

1 employer plan II and III rates adopted under RCW 41.45.060 and
2 41.45.070 for the teachers' retirement system;

3 (b) In addition, the employee contribution rate for plan II shall
4 be increased by fifty percent of the contribution rate increase caused
5 by any plan II benefit increase passed after July 1, 1996((-

6 ~~(2) The required plan II and III contribution rates for employers~~
7 ~~shall be adopted in the manner described in RCW 41.45.060));~~

8 (c) In addition, the employee contribution rate for plan II shall
9 not be increased as a result of any distributions pursuant to sections
10 309 and 312 of this act.

11 (2) The required contribution rate for members of the school
12 employees' retirement system plan II shall be fixed at the rates in
13 effect on September 1, 2000, for members of the public employees'
14 retirement system plan II, subject to the following:

15 (a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, the member
16 contribution rate shall not exceed the school employees' retirement
17 system employer plan II and III contribution rate adopted under RCW
18 41.45.060 and 41.45.070;

19 (b) The member contribution rate for the school employees'
20 retirement system plan II shall be increased by fifty percent of the
21 contribution rate increase caused by any plan II benefit increase
22 passed after September 1, 2000.

23 (3) The employee contribution rate for plan II shall not be
24 increased as a result of any distributions pursuant to sections 312 and
25 313 of this act.

26 (4) The required plan II and III contribution rates for employers
27 shall be adopted in the manner described in RCW 41.45.060.

28 **Sec. 406.** RCW 41.45.070 and 1995 c 239 s 310 are each amended to
29 read as follows:

30 (1) In addition to the basic employer contribution rate established
31 in RCW 41.45.060, the department shall also charge employers of public
32 employees' retirement system, teachers' retirement system, school
33 employees' retirement system, or Washington state patrol retirement
34 system members an additional supplemental rate to pay for the cost of
35 additional benefits, if any, granted to members of those systems.
36 Except as provided in subsection (6) of this section, the supplemental
37 contribution rates required by this section shall be calculated by the

1 state actuary and shall be charged regardless of language to the
2 contrary contained in the statute which authorizes additional benefits.

3 (2) In addition to the basic state contribution rate established in
4 RCW 41.45.060 for the law enforcement officers' and fire fighters'
5 retirement system the department shall also establish a supplemental
6 rate to pay for the cost of additional benefits, if any, granted to
7 members of the law enforcement officers' and fire fighters' retirement
8 system. This supplemental rate shall be calculated by the state
9 actuary and the state treasurer shall transfer the additional required
10 contributions regardless of language to the contrary contained in the
11 statute which authorizes the additional benefits.

12 (3) The supplemental rate charged under this section to fund
13 benefit increases provided to active members of the public employees'
14 retirement system plan I, the teachers' retirement system plan I, the
15 law enforcement officers' and fire fighters' retirement system plan I,
16 and Washington state patrol retirement system, shall be calculated as
17 the level percentage of all members' pay needed to fund the cost of the
18 benefit not later than June 30, 2024.

19 (4) The supplemental rate charged under this section to fund
20 benefit increases provided to active and retired members of the public
21 employees' retirement system plan II, the teachers' retirement system
22 plan II and plan III, the school employees' retirement system plan II
23 and plan III, or the law enforcement officers' and fire fighters'
24 retirement system plan II, shall be calculated as the level percentage
25 of all members' pay needed to fund the cost of the benefit, as
26 calculated under RCW 41.40.650(~~(, — 41.32.775,)~~) or 41.26.450,
27 respectively.

28 (5) The supplemental rate charged under this section to fund
29 postretirement adjustments which are provided on a nonautomatic basis
30 to current retirees shall be calculated as the percentage of pay needed
31 to fund the adjustments as they are paid to the retirees. The
32 supplemental rate charged under this section to fund automatic
33 postretirement adjustments for active or retired members of the public
34 employees' retirement system plan I and the teachers' retirement system
35 plan I shall be calculated as the level percentage of pay needed to
36 fund the cost of the automatic adjustments not later than June 30,
37 2024.

38 (6) A supplemental rate shall not be charged to pay for the cost of
39 additional benefits granted to members pursuant to chapter 41.-- RCW

1 (sections 311 through 313 of this act); section 309 of this act; or
2 section 701, chapter . . ., Laws of 1998 (section 701 of this act).

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 407.** A new section is added to chapter 41.45
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 Upon the advice of the state actuary, the state treasurer shall
6 divide the assets in the public employees' retirement system plan II as
7 of September 1, 2000, in such a manner that sufficient assets remain in
8 plan II to maintain the employee contribution rate calculated in the
9 latest actuarial valuation of the public employees' retirement system
10 plan II. The state actuary shall take into account changes in assets
11 that occur between the latest actuarial valuation and the date of
12 transfer. The balance of the assets shall be transferred to the
13 Washington school employees' retirement system plan II and III.

14 **Sec. 501.** RCW 41.50.030 and 1995 c 239 s 316 are each amended to
15 read as follows:

16 (1) As soon as possible but not more than one hundred and eighty
17 days after March 19, 1976, there is transferred to the department of
18 retirement systems, except as otherwise provided in this chapter, all
19 powers, duties, and functions of:

- 20 (a) The Washington public employees' retirement system;
21 (b) The Washington state teachers' retirement system;
22 (c) The Washington law enforcement officers' and fire fighters'
23 retirement system;
24 (d) The Washington state patrol retirement system;
25 (e) The Washington judicial retirement system; and
26 (f) The state treasurer with respect to the administration of the
27 judges' retirement fund imposed pursuant to chapter 2.12 RCW.

28 (2) On July 1, 1996, there is transferred to the department all
29 powers, duties, and functions of the deferred compensation committee.

30 (3) The department shall administer chapter 41.34 RCW.

31 (4) The department shall administer the Washington school
32 employees' retirement system created under chapter 41.-- RCW (sections
33 1 through 25, 101 through 112, 114, and 201 through 213 of this act).

34 **Sec. 502.** RCW 41.50.060 and 1995 c 239 s 318 are each amended to
35 read as follows:

1 The director may delegate the performance of such powers, duties,
2 and functions, other than those relating to rule making, to employees
3 of the department, but the director shall remain and be responsible for
4 the official acts of the employees of the department.

5 The director shall be responsible for the public employees'
6 retirement system, the teachers' retirement system, the school
7 employees' retirement system, the judicial retirement system, the law
8 enforcement officers' and fire fighters' retirement system, and the
9 Washington state patrol retirement system. The director shall also be
10 responsible for the deferred compensation program.

11 **Sec. 503.** RCW 41.50.075 and 1996 c 39 s 16 are each amended to
12 read as follows:

13 (1) Two funds are hereby created and established in the state
14 treasury to be known as the Washington law enforcement officers' and
15 fire fighters' system plan I retirement fund, and the Washington law
16 enforcement officers' and fire fighters' system plan II retirement fund
17 which shall consist of all moneys paid into them in accordance with the
18 provisions of this chapter and chapter 41.26 RCW, whether such moneys
19 take the form of cash, securities, or other assets. The plan I fund
20 shall consist of all moneys paid to finance the benefits provided to
21 members of the law enforcement officers' and fire fighters' retirement
22 system plan I, and the plan II fund shall consist of all moneys paid to
23 finance the benefits provided to members of the law enforcement
24 officers' and fire fighters' retirement system plan II.

25 (2) All of the assets of the Washington state teachers' retirement
26 system shall be credited according to the purposes for which they are
27 held, to two funds to be maintained in the state treasury, namely, the
28 teachers' retirement system plan I fund and the teachers' retirement
29 system combined plan II and III fund. The plan I fund shall consist of
30 all moneys paid to finance the benefits provided to members of the
31 Washington state teachers' retirement system plan I, and the combined
32 plan II and III fund shall consist of all moneys paid to finance the
33 benefits provided to members of the Washington state teachers'
34 retirement system plan II and III.

35 (3) There is hereby established in the state treasury two separate
36 funds, namely the public employees' retirement system plan I fund and
37 the public employees' retirement system plan II fund. The plan I fund
38 shall consist of all moneys paid to finance the benefits provided to

1 members of the public employees' retirement system plan I, and the plan
2 II fund shall consist of all moneys paid to finance the benefits
3 provided to members of the public employees' retirement system plan II.

4 (4) There is hereby established in the state treasury the school
5 employees' retirement system combined plan II and III fund. The
6 combined plan II and III fund shall consist of all moneys paid to
7 finance the benefits provided to members of the school employees'
8 retirement system plan II and plan III.

9 **Sec. 504.** RCW 41.50.080 and 1981 c 3 s 34 are each amended to read
10 as follows:

11 The state investment board shall provide for the investment of all
12 funds of the Washington public employees' retirement system, the
13 teachers' retirement system, the school employees' retirement system,
14 the Washington law enforcement officers' and fire fighters' retirement
15 system, the Washington state patrol retirement system, the Washington
16 judicial retirement system, and the judges' retirement fund, pursuant
17 to RCW 43.84.150, and may sell or exchange investments acquired in the
18 exercise of that authority.

19 **Sec. 505.** RCW 41.50.086 and 1995 c 239 s 301 are each amended to
20 read as follows:

21 (1) The employee retirement benefits board is created within the
22 department of retirement systems.

23 (2) The board shall be composed of ~~((eight))~~ eleven members
24 appointed by the governor and one ex officio member as follows:

25 (a) Three members representing the public employees' retirement
26 system: One retired, two active. The members shall be appointed from
27 a list of nominations submitted by organizations representing each
28 category. The initial term of appointment shall be two years for the
29 retired member, one year for one active member, and three years for the
30 remaining active member.

31 (b) Three members representing the teachers' retirement system:
32 One retired, two active. The members shall be appointed from a list of
33 nominations submitted by organizations representing each category. The
34 initial term of appointment shall be one year for the retired member,
35 two years for one active member, and three years for the remaining
36 active member.

1 (c) Three members representing classified employees of school
2 districts and educational service districts: One retired, two active.
3 The members shall be appointed from a list of nominations submitted by
4 organizations representing each category. The initial term of
5 appointment shall be one year for the retired member, two years for one
6 active member, and three years for the remaining active member.

7 (d) Two members with experience in defined contribution plan
8 administration. The initial term for these members shall be two years
9 for one member and three years for the remaining member.

10 ~~((d))~~ (e) The director of the department shall serve ex officio
11 and shall be the chair of the board.

12 (3) After the initial appointments, members shall be appointed to
13 three-year terms.

14 (4) The board shall meet at least quarterly during the calendar
15 year, at the call of the chair.

16 (5) Members of the board shall serve without compensation but shall
17 receive travel expenses as provided for in RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.
18 Such travel expenses shall be reimbursed by the department from the
19 retirement system expense fund.

20 (6) The board shall adopt rules governing its procedures and
21 conduct of business.

22 (7) The actuary shall perform all actuarial services for the board
23 and provide advice and support.

24 ~~((8) The state investment board shall provide advice and support~~
25 ~~to the board.))~~

26 **Sec. 506.** RCW 41.50.086 and 1995 c 239 s 301 are each amended to
27 read as follows:

28 (1) The employee retirement benefits board is created within the
29 department of retirement systems.

30 (2) The board shall be composed of ~~((eight))~~ eleven members
31 appointed by the governor and one ex officio member as follows:

32 (a) Three members representing the public employees' retirement
33 system: One retired, two active. The members shall be appointed from
34 a list of nominations submitted by organizations representing each
35 category. The initial term of appointment shall be two years for the
36 retired member, one year for one active member, and three years for the
37 remaining active member.

1 (b) Three members representing the teachers' retirement system:
2 One retired, two active. The members shall be appointed from a list of
3 nominations submitted by organizations representing each category. The
4 initial term of appointment shall be one year for the retired member,
5 two years for one active member, and three years for the remaining
6 active member.

7 (c) Three members representing the school employees' retirement
8 system: One retired, two active. The members shall be appointed from
9 a list of nominations submitted by organizations representing each
10 category. The initial term of appointment shall be one year for the
11 retired member, two years for one active member, and three years for
12 the remaining active member.

13 (d) Two members with experience in defined contribution plan
14 administration. The initial term for these members shall be two years
15 for one member and three years for the remaining member.

16 ~~((d))~~ (e) The director of the department shall serve ex officio
17 and shall be the chair of the board.

18 (3) After the initial appointments, members shall be appointed to
19 three-year terms.

20 (4) The board shall meet at least quarterly during the calendar
21 year, at the call of the chair.

22 (5) Members of the board shall serve without compensation but shall
23 receive travel expenses as provided for in RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.
24 Such travel expenses shall be reimbursed by the department from the
25 retirement system expense fund.

26 (6) The board shall adopt rules governing its procedures and
27 conduct of business.

28 (7) The actuary shall perform all actuarial services for the board
29 and provide advice and support.

30 ~~((8) The state investment board shall provide advice and support~~
31 ~~to the board.))~~

32 **Sec. 507.** RCW 41.50.088 and 1995 c 239 s 302 are each amended to
33 read as follows:

34 (1) The board shall adopt rules as necessary and exercise all the
35 powers and perform all duties prescribed by law with respect to:

36 ~~((1) The preselection of options for members to choose from for~~
37 ~~self-directed investment deemed by the board to be in the best interest~~

1 of the member. At the board's request, the state investment board may
2 provide investment options for purposes of this subsection;

3 ~~((2)))~~ (a) The board shall recommend to the state investment board
4 types of options for member self-directed investment in the teachers'
5 retirement system plan III and the school employees' retirement system
6 plan III, as deemed by the board to be reflective of the members'
7 preferences.

8 (b) The selection of optional benefit payment schedules available
9 to members and survivors of members upon the death, disability,
10 retirement, or termination of the member. The optional benefit
11 payments may include but not be limited to: Fixed and participating
12 annuities, joint and survivor annuities, and payments that bridge to
13 social security or defined benefit plan payments;

14 ~~((3)))~~ (c) Approval of actuarially equivalent annuities that may
15 be purchased from the combined plan II and plan III funds under RCW
16 41.50.075 (2) or (3); and

17 ~~((4)))~~ (d) Determination of the basis for administrative charges
18 to the self-directed investment fund to offset self-directed account
19 expenses; ~~((and~~

20 ~~(5)))~~ (2) Selection of investment options for the deferred
21 compensation program.

22 **Sec. 508.** RCW 41.50.110 and 1996 c 39 s 17 are each amended to
23 read as follows:

24 (1) Except as provided by RCW 41.50.255 and subsection (6) of this
25 section, all expenses of the administration of the department and the
26 expenses of administration of the retirement systems created in
27 chapters 2.10, 2.12, 41.26, 41.32, 41.40, 41.34, 41.-- (sections 1
28 through 25, 101 through 112, 114, and 201 through 213 of this act) and
29 43.43 RCW shall be paid from the department of retirement systems
30 expense fund.

31 (2) In order to reimburse the department of retirement systems
32 expense fund on an equitable basis the department shall ascertain and
33 report to each employer, as defined in RCW 41.26.030, 41.32.010,
34 section 2 of this act, or 41.40.010, the sum necessary to defray its
35 proportional share of the entire expense of the administration of the
36 retirement system that the employer participates in during the ensuing
37 biennium or fiscal year whichever may be required. Such sum is to be
38 computed in an amount directly proportional to the estimated entire

1 expense of the administration as the ratio of monthly salaries of the
2 employer's members bears to the total salaries of all members in the
3 entire system. It shall then be the duty of all such employers to
4 include in their budgets or otherwise provide the amounts so required.

5 (3) The department shall compute and bill each employer, as defined
6 in RCW 41.26.030, 41.32.010, section 2 of this act, or 41.40.010, at
7 the end of each month for the amount due for that month to the
8 department of retirement systems expense fund and the same shall be
9 paid as are its other obligations. Such computation as to each
10 employer shall be made on a percentage rate of salary established by
11 the department. However, the department may at its discretion
12 establish a system of billing based upon calendar year quarters in
13 which event the said billing shall be at the end of each such quarter.

14 (4) The director may adjust the expense fund contribution rate for
15 each system at any time when necessary to reflect unanticipated costs
16 or savings in administering the department.

17 (5) An employer who fails to submit timely and accurate reports to
18 the department may be assessed an additional fee related to the
19 increased costs incurred by the department in processing the deficient
20 reports. Fees paid under this subsection shall be deposited in the
21 retirement system expense fund.

22 (a) Every six months the department shall determine the amount of
23 an employer's fee by reviewing the timeliness and accuracy of the
24 reports submitted by the employer in the preceding six months. If
25 those reports were not both timely and accurate the department may
26 prospectively assess an additional fee under this subsection.

27 (b) An additional fee assessed by the department under this
28 subsection shall not exceed fifty percent of the standard fee.

29 (c) The department shall adopt rules implementing this section.

30 (6) Expenses other than those under RCW 41.34.060(2) shall be paid
31 pursuant to subsection (1) of this section.

32 **Sec. 509.** RCW 41.50.150 and 1997 c 221 s 1 are each amended to
33 read as follows:

34 (1) The employer of any employee whose retirement benefits are
35 based in part on excess compensation, as defined in this section,
36 shall, upon receipt of a billing from the department, pay into the
37 appropriate retirement system the present value at the time of the
38 employee's retirement of the total estimated cost of all present and

1 future benefits from the retirement system attributable to the excess
2 compensation. The state actuary shall determine the estimated cost
3 using the same method and procedure as is used in preparing fiscal note
4 costs for the legislature. However, the director may in the director's
5 discretion decline to bill the employer if the amount due is less than
6 fifty dollars. Accounts unsettled within thirty days of the receipt of
7 the billing shall be assessed an interest penalty of one percent of the
8 amount due for each month or fraction thereof beyond the original
9 thirty-day period.

10 (2) "Excess compensation," as used in this section, includes the
11 following payments, if used in the calculation of the employee's
12 retirement allowance:

13 (a) A cash out of unused annual leave in excess of two hundred
14 forty hours of such leave. "Cash out" for purposes of this subsection
15 means:

16 (i) Any payment in lieu of an accrual of annual leave; or

17 (ii) Any payment added to salary or wages, concurrent with a
18 reduction of annual leave;

19 (b) A cash out of any other form of leave;

20 (c) A payment for, or in lieu of, any personal expense or
21 transportation allowance to the extent that payment qualifies as
22 reportable compensation in the member's retirement system;

23 (d) The portion of any payment, including overtime payments, that
24 exceeds twice the regular daily or hourly rate of pay; and

25 (e) Any termination or severance payment.

26 (3) This section applies to the retirement systems listed in RCW
27 41.50.030 and to retirements occurring on or after March 15, 1984.
28 Nothing in this section is intended to amend or determine the meaning
29 of any definition in chapter 2.10, 2.12, 41.26, 41.32, 41.40, 41.--
30 (sections 1 through 25, 101 through 112, 114, and 201 through 213 of
31 this act), or 43.43 RCW or to determine in any manner what payments are
32 includable in the calculation of a retirement allowance under such
33 chapters.

34 (4) An employer is not relieved of liability under this section
35 because of the death of any person either before or after the billing
36 from the department.

37 **Sec. 510.** RCW 41.50.152 and 1995 c 387 s 1 are each amended to
38 read as follows:

(1) Except as limited by subsection (3) of this section, the governing body of an employer under chapter 41.32, 41.-- (sections 1 through 25, 101 through 112, 114, and 201 through 213 of this act), or 41.40 RCW shall comply with the provisions of subsection (2) of this section prior to executing a contract or collective bargaining agreement with members under chapter 41.32, 41.-- (sections 1 through 25, 101 through 112, 114, and 201 through 213 of this act), or 41.40 RCW which provides for:

(a) A cash out of unused annual leave in excess of two hundred forty hours of such leave. "Cash out" for purposes of this subsection means any payment in lieu of an accrual of annual leave or any payment added to regular salary, concurrent with a reduction of annual leave;

(b) A cash out of any other form of leave;

(c) A payment for, or in lieu of, any personal expense or transportation allowance;

(d) The portion of any payment, including overtime payments, that exceeds twice the regular rate of pay; or

(e) Any other termination or severance payment.

(2) Any governing body entering into a contract that includes a compensation provision listed in subsection (1) of this section shall do so only after public notice in compliance with the open public meetings act, chapter 42.30 RCW. This notification requirement may be accomplished as part of the approval process for adopting a contract in whole, and does not require separate or additional open public meetings. At the public meeting, full disclosure shall be made of the nature of the proposed compensation provision, and the employer's estimate of the excess compensation billings under RCW 41.50.150 that the employing entity would have to pay as a result of the proposed compensation provision. The employer shall notify the department of its compliance with this section at the time the department bills the employer under RCW ~~((41.40.150))~~ 41.50.150 for the pension impact of compensation provisions listed in subsection (1) of this section that are adopted after July 23, 1995.

(3) The requirements of subsection (2) of this section shall not apply to the adoption of a compensation provision listed in subsection (1) of this section if the compensation would not be includable in calculating benefits under chapter 41.32, 41.-- (sections 1 through 25, 101 through 112, 114, and 201 through 213 of this act), or 41.40 RCW for the employees covered by the compensation provision.

1 **Sec. 511.** RCW 41.50.255 and 1995 c 281 s 1 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 The director is authorized to pay from the interest earnings of the
4 trust funds of the public employees' retirement system, the teachers'
5 retirement system, the Washington state patrol retirement system, the
6 Washington judicial retirement system, the judges' retirement system,
7 the school district employees' retirement system, or the law
8 enforcement officers' and fire fighters' retirement system lawful
9 obligations of the appropriate system for legal expenses and medical
10 expenses which expenses are primarily incurred for the purpose of
11 protecting the appropriate trust fund or are incurred in compliance
12 with statutes governing such funds.

13 The term "legal expense" includes, but is not limited to, legal
14 services provided through the legal services revolving fund, fees for
15 expert witnesses, travel expenses, fees for court reporters, cost of
16 transcript preparation, and reproduction of documents.

17 The term "medical costs" includes, but is not limited to, expenses
18 for the medical examination or reexamination of members or retirees,
19 the costs of preparation of medical reports, and fees charged by
20 medical professionals for attendance at discovery proceedings or
21 hearings.

22 The director may also pay from the interest earnings of the trust
23 funds specified in this section costs incurred in investigating fraud
24 and collecting overpayments, including expenses incurred to review and
25 investigate cases of possible fraud against the trust funds and
26 collection agency fees and other costs incurred in recovering
27 overpayments. Recovered funds must be returned to the appropriate
28 trust funds.

29 **Sec. 512.** RCW 41.50.500 and 1991 c 365 s 1 are each amended to
30 read as follows:

31 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in
32 this section apply throughout RCW 41.50.500 through 41.50.650,
33 41.50.670 through 41.50.720, and 26.09.138.

34 (1) "Benefits" means periodic retirement payments or a withdrawal
35 of accumulated contributions.

36 (2) "Disposable benefits" means that part of the benefits of an
37 individual remaining after the deduction from those benefits of any

1 amount required by law to be withheld. The term "required by law to be
2 withheld" does not include any deduction elective to the member.

3 (3) "Dissolution order" means any judgment, decree, or order of
4 spousal maintenance, property division, or court-approved property
5 settlement incident to a decree of divorce, dissolution, invalidity, or
6 legal separation issued by the superior court of the state of
7 Washington or a judgment, decree, or other order of spousal support
8 issued by a court of competent jurisdiction in another state or
9 country, that has been registered or otherwise made enforceable in this
10 state.

11 (4) "Mandatory benefits assignment order" means an order issued to
12 the department of retirement systems pursuant to RCW 41.50.570 to
13 withhold and deliver benefits payable to an obligor under chapter 2.10,
14 2.12, 41.26, 41.32, 41.40, 41.-- (sections 1 through 25, 101 through
15 112, 114, and 201 through 213 of this act), or 43.43 RCW.

16 (5) "Obligee" means an ex spouse or spouse to whom a duty of
17 spousal maintenance or property division obligation is owed.

18 (6) "Obligor" means the spouse or ex spouse owing a duty of spousal
19 maintenance or a property division obligation.

20 (7) "Periodic retirement payments" means periodic payments of
21 retirement allowances, including but not limited to service retirement
22 allowances, disability retirement allowances, and survivors'
23 allowances. The term does not include a withdrawal of accumulated
24 contributions.

25 (8) "Property division obligation" means any outstanding court-
26 ordered property division or court-approved property settlement
27 obligation incident to a decree of divorce, dissolution, or legal
28 separation.

29 (9) "Standard allowance" means a benefit payment option selected
30 under RCW 2.10.146(1)(a), 41.26.460(1)(a), 41.32.785(1)(a),
31 41.40.188(1)(a), ~~((or))~~ 41.40.660(1), or section 23 of this act that
32 ceases upon the death of the retiree. Standard allowance also means
33 the benefit allowance provided under RCW 2.10.110, 2.10.130, 43.43.260,
34 41.26.100, 41.26.130(1)(a), or chapter 2.12 RCW. Standard allowance
35 also means the maximum retirement allowance available under RCW
36 41.32.530(1) following member withdrawal of accumulated contributions,
37 if any.

38 (10) "Withdrawal of accumulated contributions" means a lump sum
39 payment to a retirement system member of all or a part of the member's

1 accumulated contributions, including accrued interest, at the request
2 of the member including any lump sum amount paid upon the death of the
3 member.

4 **Sec. 513.** RCW 41.50.670 and 1996 c 39 s 18 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) Nothing in this chapter regarding mandatory assignment of
7 benefits to enforce a spousal maintenance obligation shall abridge the
8 right of an obligee to direct payments of retirement benefits to
9 satisfy a property division obligation ordered pursuant to a court
10 decree of dissolution or legal separation or any court order or court-
11 approved property settlement agreement incident to any court decree of
12 dissolution or legal separation as provided in RCW 2.10.180, 2.12.090,
13 41.04.310, 41.04.320, 41.04.330, 41.26.053, 41.32.052, section 11 of
14 this act, 41.34.070(3), 41.40.052, 43.43.310, or 26.09.138, as those
15 statutes existed before July 1, 1987, and as those statutes exist on
16 and after July 28, 1991. The department shall pay benefits under this
17 chapter in a lump sum or as a portion of periodic retirement payments
18 as expressly provided by the dissolution order. A dissolution order
19 may not order the department to pay a periodic retirement payment or
20 lump sum unless that payment is specifically authorized under the
21 provisions of chapter 2.10, 2.12, 41.26, 41.32, 41.-- (sections 1
22 through 25, 101 through 112, 114, and 201 through 213 of this act),
23 41.34, 41.40, or 43.43 RCW, as applicable.

24 (2) The department shall pay directly to an obligee the amount of
25 periodic retirement payments or lump sum payment, as appropriate,
26 specified in the dissolution order if the dissolution order filed with
27 the department pursuant to subsection (1) of this section includes a
28 provision that states in the following form:

29 If (the obligor) receives periodic retirement payments
30 as defined in RCW 41.50.500, the department of retirement systems shall
31 pay to (the obligee) dollars from such payments
32 or . . . percent of such payments. If the obligor's debt is expressed
33 as a percentage of his or her periodic retirement payment and the
34 obligee does not have a survivorship interest in the obligor's benefit,
35 the amount received by the obligee shall be the percentage of the
36 periodic retirement payment that the obligor would have received had he
37 or she selected a standard allowance.

1 If (the obligor) requests or has requested a withdrawal
2 of accumulated contributions as defined in RCW 41.50.500, or becomes
3 eligible for a lump sum death benefit, the department of retirement
4 systems shall pay to (the obligee) dollars plus
5 interest at the rate paid by the department of retirement systems on
6 member contributions. Such interest to accrue from the date of this
7 order's entry with the court of record.

8 (3) This section does not require a member to select a standard
9 allowance upon retirement nor does it require the department to
10 recalculate the amount of a retiree's periodic retirement payment based
11 on a change in survivor option.

12 (4) A court order under this section may not order the department
13 to pay more than seventy-five percent of an obligor's periodic
14 retirement payment to an obligee.

15 (5) Persons whose court decrees were entered between July 1, 1987,
16 and July 28, 1991, shall also be entitled to receive direct payments of
17 retirement benefits to satisfy court-ordered property divisions if the
18 dissolution orders comply or are modified to comply with this section
19 and RCW 41.50.680 through 41.50.720 and, as applicable, RCW 2.10.180,
20 2.12.090, 41.26.053, 41.32.052, section 11 of this act, 41.34.070,
21 41.40.052, 43.43.310, and 26.09.138.

22 (6) The obligee must file a copy of the dissolution order with the
23 department within ninety days of that order's entry with the court of
24 record.

25 (7) A division of benefits pursuant to a dissolution order under
26 this section shall be based upon the obligor's gross benefit prior to
27 any deductions. If the department is required to withhold a portion of
28 the member's benefit pursuant to 26 U.S.C. Sec. 3402 and the sum of
29 that amount plus the amount owed to the obligee exceeds the total
30 benefit, the department shall satisfy the withholding requirements
31 under 26 U.S.C. Sec. 3402 and then pay the remainder to the obligee.
32 The provisions of this subsection do not apply to amounts withheld
33 pursuant to 26 U.S.C. Sec. 3402(i).

34 **Sec. 514.** RCW 41.50.790 and 1996 c 175 s 1 are each amended to
35 read as follows:

36 (1) The department shall designate an obligee as a survivor
37 beneficiary of a member under RCW 2.10.146, 41.26.460, 41.32.530,
38 41.32.785, section 23 of this act, 41.40.188, or 41.40.660 if the

1 department has been served by registered or certified mail with a
2 dissolution order as defined in RCW 41.50.500 at least thirty days
3 prior to the member's retirement. The department's duty to comply with
4 the dissolution order arises only if the order contains a provision
5 that states in substantially the following form:

6 When (the obligor) applies for retirement the
7 department shall designate (the obligee) as
8 survivor beneficiary with a survivor benefit.

9 The survivor benefit designated in the dissolution order must be
10 consistent with the survivor benefit options authorized by statute or
11 administrative rule.

12 (2) The obligee's entitlement to a survivor benefit pursuant to a
13 dissolution order filed with the department in compliance with
14 subsection (1) of this section shall cease upon the death of the
15 obligee.

16 (3)(a) A subsequent dissolution order may order the department to
17 divide a survivor benefit between a survivor beneficiary and an
18 alternate payee. In order to divide a survivor benefit between more
19 than one payee, the dissolution order must:

20 (i) Be ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction following
21 notice to the survivor beneficiary;

22 (ii) Contain a provision that complies with subsection (1) of this
23 section designating the survivor beneficiary;

24 (iii) Contain a provision clearly identifying the alternate payee
25 or payees; and

26 (iv) Specify the proportional division of the benefit between the
27 survivor beneficiary and the alternate payee or payees.

28 (b) The department will calculate actuarial adjustment for the
29 court-ordered survivor benefit based upon the life of the survivor
30 beneficiary.

31 (c) If the survivor beneficiary dies, the department shall
32 terminate the benefit. If the alternate payee predeceases the survivor
33 beneficiary, all entitlement of the alternate payee to a benefit ceases
34 and the entire benefit will revert to the survivor beneficiary.

35 (d) For purposes of this section, "survivor beneficiary" means:

36 (i) The obligee designated in the provision of dissolution filed in
37 compliance with subsection (1) of this section; or

1 (ii) In the event of more than one dissolution order, the obligee
2 named in the first decree of dissolution received by the department.

3 (e) For purposes of this section, "alternate payee" means a person,
4 other than the survivor beneficiary, who is granted a percentage of a
5 survivor benefit pursuant to a dissolution order.

6 (4) The department shall under no circumstances be held liable for
7 not designating an obligee as a survivor beneficiary under subsection
8 (1) of this section if the dissolution order or amendment thereto is
9 not served on the department by registered or certified mail at least
10 thirty days prior to the member's retirement.

11 (5) If a dissolution order directing designation of a survivor
12 beneficiary has been previously filed with the department in compliance
13 with this section, no additional obligation shall arise on the part of
14 the department upon filing of a subsequent dissolution order unless the
15 subsequent dissolution order:

16 (a) Specifically amends or supersedes the dissolution order already
17 on file with the department; and

18 (b) Is filed with the department by registered or certified mail at
19 least thirty days prior to the member's retirement.

20 (6) The department shall designate a court-ordered survivor
21 beneficiary pursuant to a dissolution order filed with the department
22 before June 6, 1996, only if the order:

23 (a) Specifically directs the member or department to make such
24 selection;

25 (b) Specifies the survivor option to be selected; and

26 (c) The member retires after June 6, 1996.

27 **NEW SECTION. Sec. 515.** A new section is added to chapter 41.50
28 RCW to read as follows:

29 (1) If the department determines that due to employer error a
30 member of plan III has suffered a loss of investment return, the
31 employer shall pay the department for credit to the member's account
32 the amount determined by the department as necessary to correct the
33 error.

34 (2) If the department determines that due to departmental error a
35 member of plan III has suffered a loss of investment return, the
36 department shall credit to the member's account from the school
37 employees' retirement system combined plan II and III fund the amount
38 determined by the department as necessary to correct the error.

1 **Sec. 601.** RCW 41.40.010 and 1997 c 254 s 10 and 1997 c 88 s 6 are
2 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

3 As used in this chapter, unless a different meaning is plainly
4 required by the context:

5 (1) "Retirement system" means the public employees' retirement
6 system provided for in this chapter.

7 (2) "Department" means the department of retirement systems created
8 in chapter 41.50 RCW.

9 (3) "State treasurer" means the treasurer of the state of
10 Washington.

11 (4)(a) "Employer" for plan I members, means every branch,
12 department, agency, commission, board, and office of the state, any
13 political subdivision or association of political subdivisions of the
14 state admitted into the retirement system, and legal entities
15 authorized by RCW 35.63.070 and 36.70.060 or chapter 39.34 RCW; and the
16 term shall also include any labor guild, association, or organization
17 the membership of a local lodge or division of which is comprised of at
18 least forty percent employees of an employer (other than such labor
19 guild, association, or organization) within this chapter. The term may
20 also include any city of the first class that has its own retirement
21 system.

22 (b) "Employer" for plan II members, means every branch, department,
23 agency, commission, board, and office of the state, and any political
24 subdivision and municipal corporation of the state admitted into the
25 retirement system, including public agencies created pursuant to RCW
26 35.63.070, 36.70.060, and 39.34.030; except that after August 31, 2000,
27 school districts and educational service districts will no longer be
28 employers for the public employees' retirement system plan II.

29 (5) "Member" means any employee included in the membership of the
30 retirement system, as provided for in RCW 41.40.023. RCW 41.26.045
31 does not prohibit a person otherwise eligible for membership in the
32 retirement system from establishing such membership effective when he
33 or she first entered an eligible position.

34 (6) "Original member" of this retirement system means:

35 (a) Any person who became a member of the system prior to April 1,
36 1949;

37 (b) Any person who becomes a member through the admission of an
38 employer into the retirement system on and after April 1, 1949, and
39 prior to April 1, 1951;

1 (c) Any person who first becomes a member by securing employment
2 with an employer prior to April 1, 1951, provided the member has
3 rendered at least one or more years of service to any employer prior to
4 October 1, 1947;

5 (d) Any person who first becomes a member through the admission of
6 an employer into the retirement system on or after April 1, 1951,
7 provided, such person has been in the regular employ of the employer
8 for at least six months of the twelve-month period preceding the said
9 admission date;

10 (e) Any member who has restored all contributions that may have
11 been withdrawn as provided by RCW 41.40.150 and who on the effective
12 date of the individual's retirement becomes entitled to be credited
13 with ten years or more of membership service except that the provisions
14 relating to the minimum amount of retirement allowance for the member
15 upon retirement at age seventy as found in RCW 41.40.190(4) shall not
16 apply to the member;

17 (f) Any member who has been a contributor under the system for two
18 or more years and who has restored all contributions that may have been
19 withdrawn as provided by RCW 41.40.150 and who on the effective date of
20 the individual's retirement has rendered five or more years of service
21 for the state or any political subdivision prior to the time of the
22 admission of the employer into the system; except that the provisions
23 relating to the minimum amount of retirement allowance for the member
24 upon retirement at age seventy as found in RCW 41.40.190(4) shall not
25 apply to the member.

26 (7) "New member" means a person who becomes a member on or after
27 April 1, 1949, except as otherwise provided in this section.

28 (8)(a) "Compensation earnable" for plan I members, means salaries
29 or wages earned during a payroll period for personal services and where
30 the compensation is not all paid in money, maintenance compensation
31 shall be included upon the basis of the schedules established by the
32 member's employer.

33 (i) "Compensation earnable" for plan I members also includes the
34 following actual or imputed payments, which are not paid for personal
35 services:

36 (A) Retroactive payments to an individual by an employer on
37 reinstatement of the employee in a position, or payments by an employer
38 to an individual in lieu of reinstatement in a position which are
39 awarded or granted as the equivalent of the salary or wage which the

1 individual would have earned during a payroll period shall be
2 considered compensation earnable and the individual shall receive the
3 equivalent service credit;

4 (B) If a leave of absence is taken by an individual for the purpose
5 of serving in the state legislature, the salary which would have been
6 received for the position from which the leave of absence was taken,
7 shall be considered as compensation earnable if the employee's
8 contribution is paid by the employee and the employer's contribution is
9 paid by the employer or employee;

10 (C) Assault pay only as authorized by RCW 27.04.100, 72.01.045, and
11 72.09.240;

12 (D) Compensation that a member would have received but for a
13 disability occurring in the line of duty only as authorized by RCW
14 41.40.038;

15 (E) Compensation that a member receives due to participation in the
16 leave sharing program only as authorized by RCW 41.04.650 through
17 41.04.670; and

18 (F) Compensation that a member receives for being in standby
19 status. For the purposes of this section, a member is in standby
20 status when not being paid for time actually worked and the employer
21 requires the member to be prepared to report immediately for work, if
22 the need arises, although the need may not arise. ~~((Standby~~
23 ~~compensation is regular salary for the purposes of RCW 41.50.150(2).))~~

24 (ii) "Compensation earnable" does not include:

25 (A) Remuneration for unused sick leave authorized under RCW
26 41.04.340, 28A.400.210, or 28A.310.490;

27 (B) Remuneration for unused annual leave in excess of thirty days
28 as authorized by RCW 43.01.044 and 43.01.041.

29 (b) "Compensation earnable" for plan II members, means salaries or
30 wages earned by a member during a payroll period for personal services,
31 including overtime payments, and shall include wages and salaries
32 deferred under provisions established pursuant to sections 403(b),
33 414(h), and 457 of the United States Internal Revenue Code, but shall
34 exclude nonmoney maintenance compensation and lump sum or other
35 payments for deferred annual sick leave, unused accumulated vacation,
36 unused accumulated annual leave, or any form of severance pay.

37 "Compensation earnable" for plan II members also includes the
38 following actual or imputed payments, which are not paid for personal
39 services:

1 (i) Retroactive payments to an individual by an employer on
2 reinstatement of the employee in a position, or payments by an employer
3 to an individual in lieu of reinstatement in a position which are
4 awarded or granted as the equivalent of the salary or wage which the
5 individual would have earned during a payroll period shall be
6 considered compensation earnable to the extent provided above, and the
7 individual shall receive the equivalent service credit;

8 (ii) In any year in which a member serves in the legislature, the
9 member shall have the option of having such member's compensation
10 earnable be the greater of:

11 (A) The compensation earnable the member would have received had
12 such member not served in the legislature; or

13 (B) Such member's actual compensation earnable received for
14 nonlegislative public employment and legislative service combined. Any
15 additional contributions to the retirement system required because
16 compensation earnable under (b)(ii)(A) of this subsection is greater
17 than compensation earnable under (b)(ii)(B) of this subsection shall be
18 paid by the member for both member and employer contributions;

19 (iii) Assault pay only as authorized by RCW 27.04.100, 72.01.045,
20 and 72.09.240;

21 (iv) Compensation that a member would have received but for a
22 disability occurring in the line of duty only as authorized by RCW
23 41.40.038;

24 (v) Compensation that a member receives due to participation in the
25 leave sharing program only as authorized by RCW 41.04.650 through
26 41.04.670; and

27 (vi) Compensation that a member receives for being in standby
28 status. For the purposes of this section, a member is in standby
29 status when not being paid for time actually worked and the employer
30 requires the member to be prepared to report immediately for work, if
31 the need arises, although the need may not arise. ((Standby
32 compensation is regular salary for the purposes of RCW 41.50.150(2).))

33 (9)(a) "Service" for plan I members, except as provided in RCW
34 41.40.088, means periods of employment in an eligible position or
35 positions for one or more employers rendered to any employer for which
36 compensation is paid, and includes time spent in office as an elected
37 or appointed official of an employer. Compensation earnable earned in
38 full time work for seventy hours or more in any given calendar month
39 shall constitute one service credit month except as provided in RCW

1 41.40.088. Compensation earnable earned for less than seventy hours in
2 any calendar month shall constitute one-quarter service credit month of
3 service except as provided in RCW 41.40.088. Only service credit
4 months and one-quarter service credit months shall be counted in the
5 computation of any retirement allowance or other benefit provided for
6 in this chapter. Any fraction of a year of service shall be taken into
7 account in the computation of such retirement allowance or benefits.
8 Time spent in standby status, whether compensated or not, is not
9 service.

10 (i) Service by a state employee officially assigned by the state on
11 a temporary basis to assist another public agency, shall be considered
12 as service as a state employee: PROVIDED, That service to any other
13 public agency shall not be considered service as a state employee if
14 such service has been used to establish benefits in any other public
15 retirement system.

16 (ii) An individual shall receive no more than a total of twelve
17 service credit months of service during any calendar year. If an
18 individual is employed in an eligible position by one or more employers
19 the individual shall receive no more than one service credit month
20 during any calendar month in which multiple service for seventy or more
21 hours is rendered.

22 (iii) A school district employee may count up to forty-five days of
23 sick leave as creditable service solely for the purpose of determining
24 eligibility to retire under RCW 41.40.180 as authorized by RCW
25 28A.400.300. For purposes of plan I "forty-five days" as used in RCW
26 28A.400.300 is equal to two service credit months. Use of less than
27 forty-five days of sick leave is creditable as allowed under this
28 subsection as follows:

29 (A) Less than twenty-two days equals one-quarter service credit
30 month;

31 (B) Twenty-two days equals one service credit month;

32 (C) More than twenty-two days but less than forty-five days equals
33 one and one-quarter service credit month.

34 (b) "Service" for plan II members, means periods of employment by
35 a member in an eligible position or positions for one or more employers
36 for which compensation earnable is paid. Compensation earnable earned
37 for ninety or more hours in any calendar month shall constitute one
38 service credit month except as provided in RCW 41.40.088. Compensation
39 earnable earned for at least seventy hours but less than ninety hours

1 in any calendar month shall constitute one-half service credit month of
2 service. Compensation earnable earned for less than seventy hours in
3 any calendar month shall constitute one-quarter service credit month of
4 service. Time spent in standby status, whether compensated or not, is
5 not service.

6 Any fraction of a year of service shall be taken into account in
7 the computation of such retirement allowance or benefits.

8 (i) Service in any state elective position shall be deemed to be
9 full time service, except that persons serving in state elective
10 positions who are members of the Washington school employees'
11 retirement system, teachers' retirement system, or law enforcement
12 officers' and fire fighters' retirement system at the time of election
13 or appointment to such position may elect to continue membership in the
14 Washington school employees' retirement system, teachers' retirement
15 system, or law enforcement officers' and fire fighters' retirement
16 system.

17 (ii) A member shall receive a total of not more than twelve service
18 credit months of service for such calendar year. If an individual is
19 employed in an eligible position by one or more employers the
20 individual shall receive no more than one service credit month during
21 any calendar month in which multiple service for ninety or more hours
22 is rendered.

23 (iii) Up to forty-five days of sick leave may be creditable as
24 service solely for the purpose of determining eligibility to retire
25 under RCW 41.40.180 as authorized by RCW 28A.400.300. For purposes of
26 plan II "forty-five days" as used in RCW 28A.400.300 is equal to two
27 service credit months. Use of less than forty-five days of sick leave
28 is creditable as allowed under this subsection as follows:

29 (A) Less than eleven days equals one-quarter service credit month;

30 (B) Eleven or more days but less than twenty-two days equals one-
31 half service credit month;

32 (C) Twenty-two days equals one service credit month;

33 (D) More than twenty-two days but less than thirty-three days
34 equals one and one-quarter service credit month;

35 (E) Thirty-three or more days but less than forty-five days equals
36 one and one-half service credit month.

37 (10) "Service credit year" means an accumulation of months of
38 service credit which is equal to one when divided by twelve.

1 (11) "Service credit month" means a month or an accumulation of
2 months of service credit which is equal to one.

3 (12) "Prior service" means all service of an original member
4 rendered to any employer prior to October 1, 1947.

5 (13) "Membership service" means:

6 (a) All service rendered, as a member, after October 1, 1947;

7 (b) All service after October 1, 1947, to any employer prior to the
8 time of its admission into the retirement system for which member and
9 employer contributions, plus interest as required by RCW 41.50.125,
10 have been paid under RCW 41.40.056 or 41.40.057;

11 (c) Service not to exceed six consecutive months of probationary
12 service rendered after April 1, 1949, and prior to becoming a member,
13 in the case of any member, upon payment in full by such member of the
14 total amount of the employer's contribution to the retirement fund
15 which would have been required under the law in effect when such
16 probationary service was rendered if the member had been a member
17 during such period, except that the amount of the employer's
18 contribution shall be calculated by the director based on the first
19 month's compensation earnable as a member;

20 (d) Service not to exceed six consecutive months of probationary
21 service, rendered after October 1, 1947, and before April 1, 1949, and
22 prior to becoming a member, in the case of any member, upon payment in
23 full by such member of five percent of such member's salary during said
24 period of probationary service, except that the amount of the
25 employer's contribution shall be calculated by the director based on
26 the first month's compensation earnable as a member.

27 (14)(a) "Beneficiary" for plan I members, means any person in
28 receipt of a retirement allowance, pension or other benefit provided by
29 this chapter.

30 (b) "Beneficiary" for plan II members, means any person in receipt
31 of a retirement allowance or other benefit provided by this chapter
32 resulting from service rendered to an employer by another person.

33 (15) "Regular interest" means such rate as the director may
34 determine.

35 (16) "Accumulated contributions" means the sum of all contributions
36 standing to the credit of a member in the member's individual account,
37 including any amount paid under RCW 41.50.165(2), together with the
38 regular interest thereon.

1 (17)(a) "Average final compensation" for plan I members, means the
2 annual average of the greatest compensation earnable by a member during
3 any consecutive two year period of service credit months for which
4 service credit is allowed; or if the member has less than two years of
5 service credit months then the annual average compensation earnable
6 during the total years of service for which service credit is allowed.

7 (b) "Average final compensation" for plan II members, means the
8 member's average compensation earnable of the highest consecutive sixty
9 months of service credit months prior to such member's retirement,
10 termination, or death. Periods constituting authorized leaves of
11 absence may not be used in the calculation of average final
12 compensation except under RCW 41.40.710(2).

13 (18) "Final compensation" means the annual rate of compensation
14 earnable by a member at the time of termination of employment.

15 (19) "Annuity" means payments for life derived from accumulated
16 contributions of a member. All annuities shall be paid in monthly
17 installments.

18 (20) "Pension" means payments for life derived from contributions
19 made by the employer. All pensions shall be paid in monthly
20 installments.

21 (21) "Retirement allowance" means the sum of the annuity and the
22 pension.

23 (22) "Employee" or "employed" means a person who is providing
24 services for compensation to an employer, unless the person is free
25 from the employer's direction and control over the performance of work.
26 The department shall adopt rules and interpret this subsection
27 consistent with common law.

28 (23) "Actuarial equivalent" means a benefit of equal value when
29 computed upon the basis of such mortality and other tables as may be
30 adopted by the director.

31 (24) "Retirement" means withdrawal from active service with a
32 retirement allowance as provided by this chapter.

33 (25) "Eligible position" means:

34 (a) Any position that, as defined by the employer, normally
35 requires five or more months of service a year for which regular
36 compensation for at least seventy hours is earned by the occupant
37 thereof. For purposes of this chapter an employer shall not define
38 "position" in such a manner that an employee's monthly work for that
39 employer is divided into more than one position;

1 (b) Any position occupied by an elected official or person
2 appointed directly by the governor, or appointed by the chief justice
3 of the supreme court under RCW 2.04.240(2) or 2.06.150(2), for which
4 compensation is paid.

5 (26) "Ineligible position" means any position which does not
6 conform with the requirements set forth in subsection (25) of this
7 section.

8 (27) "Leave of absence" means the period of time a member is
9 authorized by the employer to be absent from service without being
10 separated from membership.

11 (28) "Totally incapacitated for duty" means total inability to
12 perform the duties of a member's employment or office or any other work
13 for which the member is qualified by training or experience.

14 (29) "Retiree" means any person who has begun accruing a retirement
15 allowance or other benefit provided by this chapter resulting from
16 service rendered to an employer while a member.

17 (30) "Director" means the director of the department.

18 (31) "State elective position" means any position held by any
19 person elected or appointed to state-wide office or elected or
20 appointed as a member of the legislature.

21 (32) "State actuary" or "actuary" means the person appointed
22 pursuant to RCW 44.44.010(2).

23 (33) "Plan I" means the public employees' retirement system, plan
24 I providing the benefits and funding provisions covering persons who
25 first became members of the system prior to October 1, 1977.

26 (34) "Plan II" means the public employees' retirement system, plan
27 II providing the benefits and funding provisions covering persons who
28 first became members of the system on and after October 1, 1977.

29 (35) "Index" means, for any calendar year, that year's annual
30 average consumer price index, Seattle, Washington area, for urban wage
31 earners and clerical workers, all items, compiled by the bureau of
32 labor statistics, United States department of labor.

33 (36) "Index A" means the index for the year prior to the
34 determination of a postretirement adjustment.

35 (37) "Index B" means the index for the year prior to index A.

36 (38) "Index year" means the earliest calendar year in which the
37 index is more than sixty percent of index A.

38 (39) "Adjustment ratio" means the value of index A divided by index
39 B.

1 (40) "Annual increase" means, initially, fifty-nine cents per month
2 per year of service which amount shall be increased each July 1st by
3 three percent, rounded to the nearest cent.

4 (41) "Separation from service" occurs when a person has terminated
5 all employment with an employer.

6 **Sec. 602.** RCW 41.40.062 and 1995 c 286 s 4 are each amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (1) The members and appointive and elective officials of any
9 political subdivision or association of political subdivisions of the
10 state may become members of the retirement system by the approval of
11 the local legislative authority.

12 (2) On and after September 1, 1965, every school district of the
13 state of Washington shall be an employer under this chapter. Every
14 member of each school district who is eligible for membership under RCW
15 41.40.023 shall be a member of the retirement system and participate on
16 the same basis as a person who first becomes a member through the
17 admission of any employer into the retirement system on and after April
18 1, 1949, except that after August 31, 2000, school districts will no
19 longer be employers for the public employees' retirement system plan
20 II.

21 **Sec. 603.** RCW 41.40.088 and 1991 c 343 s 9 and 1991 c 35 s 96 are
22 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

23 (1) A plan I member who is employed by a school district or
24 districts, an educational service district, the state school for the
25 deaf, the state school for the blind, institutions of higher education,
26 or community colleges:

27 (a) Shall receive a service credit month for each month of the
28 period from September through August of the following year if he or she
29 is employed in an eligible position, earns compensation earnable for
30 six hundred thirty hours or more during that period, and is employed
31 during nine months of that period, except that a member may not receive
32 credit for any period prior to the member's employment in an eligible
33 position;

34 (b) If a member in an eligible position does not meet the
35 requirements of (a) of this subsection, the member is entitled to a
36 service credit month for each month of the period he or she earns
37 earnable compensation for seventy or more hours; and the member is

1 entitled to a one-quarter service credit month for those calendar
2 months during which he or she earned compensation for less than seventy
3 hours.

4 (2) Except for any period prior to the member's employment in an
5 eligible position, a plan II member who is employed by a school
6 district or districts, an educational service district, the state
7 school for the blind, the state school for the deaf, institutions of
8 higher education, or community colleges:

9 (a) Shall receive a service credit month for each month of the
10 period from September through August of the following year if he or she
11 is employed in an eligible position, earns compensation earnable for
12 eight hundred ten hours or more during that period, and is employed
13 during nine months of that period;

14 (b) If a member in an eligible position for each month of the
15 period from September through August of the following year does not
16 meet the hours requirements of (a) of this subsection, the member is
17 entitled to one-half service credit month for each month of the period
18 if he or she earns earnable compensation for at least six hundred
19 thirty hours but less than eight hundred ten hours during that period,
20 and is employed nine months of that period.

21 (c) In all other instances, a member in an eligible position is
22 entitled to service credit months as follows:

23 (i) One service credit month for each month in which compensation
24 is earned for ninety or more hours;

25 (ii) One-half service credit month for each month in which
26 compensation is earned for at least seventy hours but less than ninety
27 hours; and

28 (iii) One-quarter service credit month for each month in which
29 compensation is earned for less than seventy hours.

30 (d) After August 31, 2000, school districts and educational service
31 districts will no longer be employers for the public employees'
32 retirement system plan II.

33 (3) The department shall adopt rules implementing this section.

34 **Sec. 604.** RCW 41.26.500 and 1990 c 274 s 12 are each amended to
35 read as follows:

36 (1) No retiree under the provisions of plan II shall be eligible to
37 receive such retiree's monthly retirement allowance if he or she is
38 employed in an eligible position as defined in RCW 41.40.010 ((or)),

1 41.32.010, or section 2 of this act, or as a law enforcement officer or
2 fire fighter as defined in RCW 41.26.030. If a retiree's benefits have
3 been suspended under this section, his or her benefits shall be
4 reinstated when the retiree terminates the employment that caused his
5 or her benefits to be suspended. Upon reinstatement, the retiree's
6 benefits shall be actuarially recomputed pursuant to the rules adopted
7 by the department.

8 (2) The department shall adopt rules implementing this section.

9 **Sec. 605.** RCW 41.32.800 and 1997 c 254 s 6 are each amended to
10 read as follows:

11 (1) Except as provided in RCW 41.32.802, no retiree under the
12 provisions of plan II shall be eligible to receive such retiree's
13 monthly retirement allowance if he or she is employed in an eligible
14 position as defined in RCW 41.40.010 ~~((or))~~, 41.32.010, or section 2 of
15 this act, or as a law enforcement officer or fire fighter as defined in
16 RCW 41.26.030.

17 If a retiree's benefits have been suspended under this section, his
18 or her benefits shall be reinstated when the retiree terminates the
19 employment that caused his or her benefits to be suspended. Upon
20 reinstatement, the retiree's benefits shall be actuarially recomputed
21 pursuant to the rules adopted by the department.

22 (2) The department shall adopt rules implementing this section.

23 **Sec. 606.** RCW 41.40.690 and 1997 c 254 s 13 are each amended to
24 read as follows:

25 (1) Except as provided in RCW 41.40.037, no retiree under the
26 provisions of plan II shall be eligible to receive such retiree's
27 monthly retirement allowance if he or she is employed in an eligible
28 position as defined in RCW 41.40.010 ~~((or))~~, 41.32.010, or section 2 of
29 this act, or as a law enforcement officer or fire fighter as defined in
30 RCW 41.26.030, except that a retiree who ends his or her membership in
31 the retirement system pursuant to RCW 41.40.023(3)(b) is not subject to
32 this section if the retiree's only employment is as an elective
33 official of a city or town.

34 (2) If a retiree's benefits have been suspended under this section,
35 his or her benefits shall be reinstated when the retiree terminates the
36 employment that caused his or her benefits to be suspended. Upon

1 reinstatement, the retiree's benefits shall be actuarially recomputed
2 pursuant to the rules adopted by the department.

3 (3) The department shall adopt rules implementing this section.

4 **Sec. 701.** RCW 41.32.8401 and 1997 c 10 s 1 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) Anyone who requests to transfer under RCW 41.32.817 before
7 January 1, 1998, and establishes service credit for January 1998, shall
8 have their member account increased by forty percent of:

9 (a) Plan II accumulated contributions as of January 1, 1996, less
10 fifty percent of any payments made pursuant to RCW 41.50.165(2); or

11 (b) All amounts withdrawn after January 1, 1996, which are
12 completely restored before January 1, 1998.

13 (2) A further additional payment of twenty-five percent, for a
14 total of sixty-five percent, shall be paid subject to the conditions
15 contained in subsection (1) of this section on July 1, 1998.

16 (3) Substitute teachers shall receive the additional payment
17 provided in subsection (1) of this section if they:

18 (a) Establish service credit for January 1998; and

19 (b) Establish any service credit from July 1996 through December
20 1997; and

21 (c) Elect to transfer on or before March 1, 1999.

22 ~~((3))~~ (4) If a member who requests to transfer dies before
23 January 1, 1998, the additional payment provided by this section shall
24 be paid to the member's estate, or the person or persons, trust, or
25 organization the member nominated by written designation duly executed
26 and filed with the department.

27 ~~((4))~~ (5) The legislature reserves the right to modify or
28 discontinue the right to an incentive payment under this section for
29 any plan II members who have not previously transferred to plan III.

30 **Sec. 702.** RCW 41.54.010 and 1993 c 517 s 8 are each amended to
31 read as follows:

32 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter
33 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

34 (1) "Base salary" means salaries or wages earned by a member of a
35 system during a payroll period for personal services and includes wages
36 and salaries deferred under provisions of the United States internal
37 revenue code, but shall exclude overtime payments, nonmoney maintenance

1 compensation, and lump sum payments for deferred annual sick leave,
2 unused accumulated vacation, unused accumulated annual leave, any form
3 of severance pay, any bonus for voluntary retirement, any other form of
4 leave, or any similar lump sum payment.

5 (2) "Department" means the department of retirement systems.

6 (3) "Director" means the director of the department of retirement
7 systems.

8 (4) "Dual member" means a person who (a) is or becomes a member of
9 a system on or after July 1, 1988, (b) has been a member of one or more
10 other systems, and (c) has never been retired for service from a
11 retirement system and is not receiving a disability retirement or
12 disability leave benefit from any retirement system listed in RCW
13 41.50.030 or subsection (6) of this section.

14 (5) "Service" means the same as it may be defined in each
15 respective system. For the purposes of RCW 41.54.030, military service
16 granted under RCW 41.40.170(3) or 43.43.260 may only be based on
17 service accrued under chapter 41.40 or 43.43 RCW, respectively.

18 (6) "System" means the retirement systems established under
19 chapters 41.32, 41.40, 41.44, 41.-- (sections 1 through 25, 101 through
20 112, 114, and 201 through 213 of this act), and 43.43 RCW; plan II of
21 the system established under chapter 41.26 RCW; and the city employee
22 retirement systems for Seattle, Tacoma, and Spokane. The inclusion of
23 an individual first class city system is subject to the procedure set
24 forth in RCW 41.54.061.

25 **Sec. 703.** RCW 41.54.030 and 1996 c 55 s 4, 1996 c 55 s 3, and 1996
26 c 39 s 19 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

27 (1) A dual member may combine service in all systems for the
28 purpose of:

29 (a) Determining the member's eligibility to receive a service
30 retirement allowance; and

31 (b) Qualifying for a benefit under RCW 41.32.840(2) or section 203
32 of this act.

33 (2) A dual member who is eligible to retire under any system may
34 elect to retire from all the member's systems and to receive service
35 retirement allowances calculated as provided in this section. Each
36 system shall calculate the allowance using its own criteria except that
37 the member shall be allowed to substitute the member's base salary from
38 any system as the compensation used in calculating the allowance.

1 (3) The service retirement allowances from a system which, but for
2 this section, would not be allowed to be paid at this date based on the
3 dual member's age may be received immediately or deferred to a later
4 date. The allowances shall be actuarially adjusted from the earliest
5 age upon which the combined service would have made such dual member
6 eligible in that system.

7 (4) The service retirement eligibility requirements of RCW
8 41.40.180 shall apply to any dual member whose prior system is plan I
9 of the public employees' retirement system established under chapter
10 41.40 RCW.

11 **Sec. 704.** RCW 41.54.040 and 1996 c 55 s 5 are each amended to read
12 as follows:

13 (1) The allowances calculated under RCW 41.54.030, 41.54.032, and
14 41.54.034 shall be paid separately by each respective current and prior
15 system. Any deductions from such separate payments shall be according
16 to the provisions of the respective systems.

17 (2) Postretirement adjustments, if any, shall be applied by the
18 respective systems based on the payments made under subsection (1) of
19 this section.

20 (3) The department shall adopt rules under chapter 34.05 RCW to
21 ensure that where a dual member has service in a system established
22 under chapter 41.32, 41.40, 41.44, 41.-- (sections 1 through 25, 101
23 through 112, 114, and 201 through 213 of this act), or 43.43 RCW;
24 service in plan II of the system established under chapter 41.26 RCW;
25 and service under the city employee retirement system for Seattle,
26 Tacoma, or Spokane, the additional cost incurred as a result of the
27 dual member receiving a benefit under this chapter shall be borne by
28 the retirement system incurring the additional cost.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 705.** A new section is added to chapter 41.54
30 RCW to read as follows:

31 Persons who were members of the public employees' retirement system
32 plan II prior to the effective date of this section and were
33 transferred or mandated into membership pursuant to chapter . . . , Laws
34 of 1998 (this act) shall suffer no diminution of benefits guaranteed to
35 public employees' retirement system plan II members as of the date of
36 their change in membership.

1 **Sec. 706.** RCW 41.05.011 and 1996 c 39 s 21 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in
4 this section shall apply throughout this chapter.

5 (1) "Administrator" means the administrator of the authority.

6 (2) "State purchased health care" or "health care" means medical
7 and health care, pharmaceuticals, and medical equipment purchased with
8 state and federal funds by the department of social and health
9 services, the department of health, the basic health plan, the state
10 health care authority, the department of labor and industries, the
11 department of corrections, the department of veterans affairs, and
12 local school districts.

13 (3) "Authority" means the Washington state health care authority.

14 (4) "Insuring entity" means an insurer as defined in chapter 48.01
15 RCW, a health care service contractor as defined in chapter 48.44 RCW,
16 or a health maintenance organization as defined in chapter 48.46 RCW.

17 (5) "Flexible benefit plan" means a benefit plan that allows
18 employees to choose the level of health care coverage provided and the
19 amount of employee contributions from among a range of choices offered
20 by the authority.

21 (6) "Employee" includes all full-time and career seasonal employees
22 of the state, whether or not covered by civil service; elected and
23 appointed officials of the executive branch of government, including
24 full-time members of boards, commissions, or committees; and includes
25 any or all part-time and temporary employees under the terms and
26 conditions established under this chapter by the authority; justices of
27 the supreme court and judges of the court of appeals and the superior
28 courts; and members of the state legislature or of the legislative
29 authority of any county, city, or town who are elected to office after
30 February 20, 1970. "Employee" also includes: (a) Employees of a
31 county, municipality, or other political subdivision of the state if
32 the legislative authority of the county, municipality, or other
33 political subdivision of the state seeks and receives the approval of
34 the authority to provide any of its insurance programs by contract with
35 the authority, as provided in RCW 41.04.205; (b) employees of employee
36 organizations representing state civil service employees, at the option
37 of each such employee organization, and, effective October 1, 1995,
38 employees of employee organizations currently pooled with employees of
39 school districts for the purpose of purchasing insurance benefits, at

1 the option of each such employee organization; and (c) employees of a
2 school district if the authority agrees to provide any of the school
3 districts' insurance programs by contract with the authority as
4 provided in RCW 28A.400.350.

5 (7) "Board" means the public employees' benefits board established
6 under RCW 41.05.055.

7 (8) "Retired or disabled school employee" means:

8 (a) Persons who separated from employment with a school district or
9 educational service district and are receiving a retirement allowance
10 under chapter 41.32 or 41.40 RCW as of September 30, 1993;

11 (b) Persons who separate from employment with a school district or
12 educational service district on or after October 1, 1993, and
13 immediately upon separation receive a retirement allowance under
14 chapter 41.32 or 41.40 RCW;

15 (c) Persons who separate from employment with a school district or
16 educational service district due to a total and permanent disability,
17 and are eligible to receive a deferred retirement allowance under
18 chapter 41.32 or 41.40 RCW.

19 (9) "Benefits contribution plan" means a premium only contribution
20 plan, a medical flexible spending arrangement, or a cafeteria plan
21 whereby state and public employees may agree to a contribution to
22 benefit costs which will allow the employee to participate in benefits
23 offered pursuant to 26 U.S.C. Sec. 125 or other sections of the
24 internal revenue code.

25 (10) "Salary" means a state employee's monthly salary or wages.

26 (11) "Participant" means an individual who fulfills the eligibility
27 and enrollment requirements under the benefits contribution plan.

28 (12) "Plan year" means the time period established by the
29 authority.

30 (13) "Separated employees" means persons who separate from
31 employment with an employer as defined in:

32 (a) RCW 41.32.010(11) on or after July 1, 1996((7)); or

33 (b) Section 2 of this act on or after September 1, 2000;

34 and who are at least age fifty-five and have at least ten years of
35 service under the teachers' retirement system plan III as defined in
36 RCW 41.32.010(40) or the Washington school employees' retirement system
37 plan III as defined in section 2 of this act.

1 **Sec. 707.** RCW 43.33A.190 and 1995 c 239 s 321 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 Pursuant to (~~((RCW 41.50.088, the state investment board, at the~~
4 ~~request of the employee retirement benefits board, is authorized to~~
5 ~~offer investment options for self-directed investment under plan III))~~
6 section 307 of this act, the state investment board shall invest all
7 self-directed investment moneys under teachers' retirement system plan
8 III and the school employees' retirement system plan III, with full
9 power to establish investment policy, develop investment options, and
10 manage self-directed investment funds.

11 **Sec. 708.** RCW 43.84.092 and 1997 c 218 s 5 are each amended to
12 read as follows:

13 (1) All earnings of investments of surplus balances in the state
14 treasury shall be deposited to the treasury income account, which
15 account is hereby established in the state treasury.

16 (2) The treasury income account shall be utilized to pay or receive
17 funds associated with federal programs as required by the federal cash
18 management improvement act of 1990. The treasury income account is
19 subject in all respects to chapter 43.88 RCW, but no appropriation is
20 required for refunds or allocations of interest earnings required by
21 the cash management improvement act. Refunds of interest to the
22 federal treasury required under the cash management improvement act
23 fall under RCW 43.88.180 and shall not require appropriation. The
24 office of financial management shall determine the amounts due to or
25 from the federal government pursuant to the cash management improvement
26 act. The office of financial management may direct transfers of funds
27 between accounts as deemed necessary to implement the provisions of the
28 cash management improvement act, and this subsection. Refunds or
29 allocations shall occur prior to the distributions of earnings set
30 forth in subsection (4) of this section.

31 (3) Except for the provisions of RCW 43.84.160, the treasury income
32 account may be utilized for the payment of purchased banking services
33 on behalf of treasury funds including, but not limited to, depository,
34 safekeeping, and disbursement functions for the state treasury and
35 affected state agencies. The treasury income account is subject in all
36 respects to chapter 43.88 RCW, but no appropriation is required for
37 payments to financial institutions. Payments shall occur prior to
38 distribution of earnings set forth in subsection (4) of this section.

1 (4) Monthly, the state treasurer shall distribute the earnings
2 credited to the treasury income account. The state treasurer shall
3 credit the general fund with all the earnings credited to the treasury
4 income account except:

5 (a) The following accounts and funds shall receive their
6 proportionate share of earnings based upon each account's and fund's
7 average daily balance for the period: The capitol building
8 construction account, the Cedar River channel construction and
9 operation account, the Central Washington University capital projects
10 account, the charitable, educational, penal and reformatory
11 institutions account, the common school construction fund, the county
12 criminal justice assistance account, the county sales and use tax
13 equalization account, the data processing building construction
14 account, the deferred compensation administrative account, the deferred
15 compensation principal account, the department of retirement systems
16 expense account, the drinking water assistance account, the Eastern
17 Washington University capital projects account, the education
18 construction fund, the emergency reserve fund, the federal forest
19 revolving account, the health services account, the public health
20 services account, the health system capacity account, the personal
21 health services account, the highway infrastructure account, the
22 industrial insurance premium refund account, the judges' retirement
23 account, the judicial retirement administrative account, the judicial
24 retirement principal account, the local leasehold excise tax account,
25 the local real estate excise tax account, the local sales and use tax
26 account, the medical aid account, the mobile home park relocation fund,
27 the municipal criminal justice assistance account, the municipal sales
28 and use tax equalization account, the natural resources deposit
29 account, the perpetual surveillance and maintenance account, the public
30 employees' retirement system plan I account, the public employees'
31 retirement system plan II account, the Puyallup tribal settlement
32 account, the resource management cost account, the site closure
33 account, the special wildlife account, the state employees' insurance
34 account, the state employees' insurance reserve account, the state
35 investment board expense account, the state investment board commingled
36 trust fund accounts, the supplemental pension account, the teachers'
37 retirement system plan I account, the teachers' retirement system
38 combined plan II and plan III account, the transportation
39 infrastructure account, the tuition recovery trust fund, the University

1 of Washington bond retirement fund, the University of Washington
2 building account, the volunteer fire fighters' relief and pension
3 principal account, the volunteer fire fighters' relief and pension
4 administrative account, the Washington judicial retirement system
5 account, the Washington law enforcement officers' and fire fighters'
6 system plan I retirement account, the Washington law enforcement
7 officers' and fire fighters' system plan II retirement account, the
8 Washington school employees' retirement system combined plan II and III
9 account, the Washington state patrol retirement account, the Washington
10 State University building account, the Washington State University bond
11 retirement fund, the water pollution control revolving fund, and the
12 Western Washington University capital projects account. Earnings
13 derived from investing balances of the agricultural permanent fund, the
14 normal school permanent fund, the permanent common school fund, the
15 scientific permanent fund, and the state university permanent fund
16 shall be allocated to their respective beneficiary accounts. All
17 earnings to be distributed under this subsection (4)(a) shall first be
18 reduced by the allocation to the state treasurer's service fund
19 pursuant to RCW 43.08.190.

20 (b) The following accounts and funds shall receive eighty percent
21 of their proportionate share of earnings based upon each account's or
22 fund's average daily balance for the period: The aeronautics account,
23 the aircraft search and rescue account, the central Puget Sound public
24 transportation account, the city hardship assistance account, the
25 county arterial preservation account, the department of licensing
26 services account, the economic development account, the essential rail
27 assistance account, the essential rail banking account, the ferry bond
28 retirement fund, the gasohol exemption holding account, the grade
29 crossing protective fund, the high capacity transportation account, the
30 highway bond retirement fund, the highway construction stabilization
31 account, the highway safety account, the marine operating fund, the
32 motor vehicle fund, the motorcycle safety education account, the
33 pilotage account, the public transportation systems account, the Puget
34 Sound capital construction account, the Puget Sound ferry operations
35 account, the recreational vehicle account, the rural arterial trust
36 account, the safety and education account, the small city account, the
37 special category C account, the state patrol highway account, the
38 transfer relief account, the transportation capital facilities account,
39 the transportation equipment fund, the transportation fund, the

1 transportation improvement account, the transportation revolving loan
2 account, and the urban arterial trust account.

3 (5) In conformance with Article II, section 37 of the state
4 Constitution, no treasury accounts or funds shall be allocated earnings
5 without the specific affirmative directive of this section.

6 NEW SECTION. Sec. 709. (1) The legislature declares that changing
7 the numerical designation of the different retirement plans within the
8 retirement systems from Roman numerals to Arabic numerals is of no
9 substantive importance.

10 (2) The code reviser, under RCW 1.08.025, is directed to change the
11 numerical designation of the retirement plans as follows:

12 (a) Where "I" is used, replace with "1";

13 (b) Where "II" is used, replace with "2"; and

14 (c) Where "III" is used, replace with "3."

15 NEW SECTION. Sec. 710. The state investment board, in
16 consultation with the employee retirement benefits board, shall develop
17 and implement administrative changes to mitigate the impact on the
18 other pension funds of the movement of plan III members in and out of
19 the state investment board portfolio. The changes shall be designed to
20 meet the goals of minimizing the impact of the self-directed investing
21 option on the state investment board's (1) asset allocation strategy,
22 (2) liquidity needs, and (3) transaction costs. The changes may
23 include but not be limited to restricting the frequency and timing of
24 transfers in and out of the state investment board portfolio and
25 charging appropriate fees to cover additional transaction costs caused
26 by such transfers. At the September 1998 meeting of the joint
27 committee on pension policy, the state investment board shall report on
28 its progress in identifying and implementing administrative changes
29 required by this section. If the state investment board determines
30 that statutory changes are required to achieve the goals specified in
31 this section, the state investment board shall recommend alternatives
32 at the September 1998 meeting of the joint committee on pension policy.

33 NEW SECTION. Sec. 711. The joint committee on pension policy
34 shall study the policy and the costs of merging the teachers'
35 retirement system and the Washington school employees' retirement

1 system and shall report their findings to the legislature by January
2 15, 1999.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 712.** The department of retirement systems shall
4 study the ongoing costs of administering the plan III systems, ways to
5 decrease those costs, and methods of charging members for higher-cost
6 investment options. The department shall report to the joint committee
7 on pension policy by September 1998.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 713.** The benefits provided pursuant to chapter
9 . . . , Laws of 1998 (this act) are not provided to employees as a
10 matter of contractual right prior to September 1, 2000. The
11 legislature retains the right to alter or abolish these benefits at any
12 time prior to September 1, 2000.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 714.** Except for sections 303, 306 through 309,
14 404, 505, 507, 515, 701, 707, and 710 through 713 of this act, this act
15 takes effect September 1, 2000.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 715.** Section 505 of this act expires September
17 1, 2000.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 716.** Sections 303, 306 through 309, 404, 505,
19 507, 515, 701, 707, and 710 through 713 of this act are necessary for
20 the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or
21 support of the state government and its existing public institutions,
22 and take effect immediately.

Passed the Senate March 7, 1998.

Passed the House March 4, 1998.

Approved by the Governor April 3, 1998.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 3, 1998.