State of Arkansas 1 As Engrossed: H4/2/99 A Bill 2 82nd General Assembly Act 1450 of 1999 3 Regular Session, 1999 HOUSE BILL 1392 4 5 By: Representative Laverty 6 7 For An Act To Be Entitled 8 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 24-3-209 AND 24-4-608 9 PERTAINING TO DEATH IN SERVICE BENEFITS IN THE 10 ARKANSAS PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM; AND FOR 11 12 OTHER PURPOSES. " 13 Subtitle 14 "AN ACT PERTAINING TO DEATH IN SERVICE 15 BENEFITS IN THE ARKANSAS PUBLIC 16 EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM. " 17 18 19 20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS: 21 22 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Section 24-3-209 (b)(1)(A) is amended to read 23 as follows: "(A) In the event that a member dies and is not being paid on that date 24 by his employer, due solely to illness incurred before he left the payroll and 25 the death occurs within one (1) year of the last payroll, or if the member's 26 death occurs on or after July 1, 1998 and long term disability provided by the 27 employer was being paid at the time of death and the date of death is within 28 29 eighteen (18) month of the last payroll, then the member shall be considered, for purposes of this section, to have died as an active member if all other 30 31 necessary provisions of this section are met." 32 33 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Section 24-4-608 (b)(1)(A) is amended to read 34 as follows: 35 "(A) In the event that a member dies and is not being paid on that date by his employer, due solely to illness incurred before he left the payroll and 36

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the death occurs within one (1) year of the last payroll, or if the member's

death occurs on or after July 1, 1998 and long term disability provided by the

employer was being paid at the time of death and the date of death is within

eighteen (18) month of the last payroll, then the member shall be considered,

for purposes of this section, to have died as an active member if all other

necessary provisions of this section are met."

SECTION 3. No benefit enhancement provided for by this act shall be implemented if it would cause the publicly supported retirement system's unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities to exceed a thirty (30) year amortization. No benefit enhancement provided for by this act shall be implemented by any publicly supported system which has unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities being amortized over a period exceeding thirty (30) years until the unfunded actuarial accrued liability is reduced to a level less than the standards prescribed by Arkansas Code, Title 24.

SECTION 4. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

SECTION 5. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

SECTION 6. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 7. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is hereby found and determined by the Eighty-second General Assembly that certain provisions of the law governing the Public Employees' Retirement System need to be amended concerning eligibility for death benefits and that the effective administration of state government makes it necessary for these changes to begin at the start of the state's fiscal year. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace,

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1	health and safety shall become effective on July 1	, 1999.		
2	/s/ Laverty			
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