

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 83rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2001
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 171

5 By: Senators Faris, T. Smith
6 By: Representative R. Smith
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

10 AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 24-7-713 TO PROVIDE AN
11 INCREASE IN THE ADDITIONAL MONTHLY BENEFIT FOR ALL
12 RETIREES IN THE TEACHER RETIREMENT SYSTEM; TO DECLARE
13 AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
14

Subtitle

15 TO PROVIDE AN INCREASE IN THE ADDITIONAL
16 MONTHLY BENEFIT FOR ALL RETIREES IN THE
17 TEACHER RETIREMENT SYSTEM.
18

19
20
21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
22

23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 24-7-713(b), concerning the additional monthly
24 benefit for retirees and beneficiaries of the Teacher Retirement System, is
25 amended to read as follows:

26 (b)(1) Effective July 1, 1999, subject to the minimum financial
27 conditions set forth in § 24-7-718, retirees and beneficiaries shall receive
28 an increase in benefits of not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) per month.
29 Provided, the Board of Trustees of the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System may
30 elect and is granted authority to increase the benefit to retirees in an
31 amount determined by the board, except that the benefit increase shall not
32 exceed ~~one hundred twenty five dollars (\$125)~~ two hundred dollars (\$200) per
33 month.

34 (2) Members retiring after July 1, 1999, shall receive an
35 additional benefit of not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) per month over and
36 above their regular annuity. Provided, the board may elect and is granted

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1 authority to increase the additional benefit to members retiring in an amount
2 determined by the board, except such additional benefit shall not exceed ~~one~~
3 ~~hundred twenty five dollars (\$125)~~ two hundred dollars (\$200) per month.

4 (3) In its discretion, the board may prorate the benefits
5 provided under this subsection for all individuals retiring after June 30,
6 1999, if the individual is also eligible for an additional monthly benefit as
7 a result of credited service under one (1) or more of the other reciprocal
8 systems, as such systems are enumerated in § 24-2-401.

9
10 SECTION 2. [THE ARKANSAS CODE REVISION COMMISSION IS NOT REQUIRED TO
11 CODIFY THIS SECTION.] No benefit enhancement provided for by this act shall
12 be implemented if it would cause the publicly supported retirement system's
13 unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities to exceed a thirty (30) year
14 amortization. No benefit enhancement provided for by this act shall be
15 implemented by any publicly supported system which has unfunded actuarial
16 accrued liabilities being amortized over a period exceeding thirty (30) years
17 until the unfunded actuarial accrued liability is reduced to a level less than
18 the standards prescribed by Arkansas Code, Title 24.

19
20 SECTION 3. Emergency Clause. It is found and determined by the Eighty-
21 third General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that an additional monthly
22 benefit amount for Teacher Retirement retirees will help offset the increasing
23 cost of health insurance; and that the beginning of the state's fiscal year is
24 the most administratively advantageous time to implement a benefit increase
25 for the system. Therefore an emergency is declared to exist and this act
26 being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health
27 and safety shall become effective on July 1, 2001.