# RECEIVED

### RULE 10-3 TEACHER DEFERRED RETIREMENT OPTION PLAN (T-DROP)

A.C.A. §§ 24-7-1301 - 1316

I. The ATRS Board of Trustees has the authority under A.C.A. § 24-7-1301 to promulgate rules, <u>including the adoption of an interest rate by resolution of the Board</u>, for the administration of a deferred retirement option plan for eligible members, called the T-DROP.

#### **II. DEFINITIONS**

A. **DROP** means a deferred retirement option plan enacted by the General Assembly and administered under ATRS or a reciprocal system.

B. **Early participant** means a member who has at least <u>twenty-eight</u> (28) years of service with an ATRS or reciprocal employer but less than <u>thirty (30)</u> years, and participates in T-DROP under the requirements of A.C.A. § 24-7-1314 and any Board rules promulgated for early participants.

C. **Fiscal Year** means the operating year for the State of Arkansas that begins on July 1 of each calendar year and ends on June 30 of the next calendar year.

D. **Participant** means a member who elects to participate in T-DROP under A.C.A. § 24-7-1301 et seq.

E. **Plan deposits** means the deposits made to each participant's T-DROP account pursuant to A.C.A. § 24-7-1306.

F. Plan interest means the rate per annum, compounded annually on-June 30, as the Board shall set prior to the beginning of the fiscal year and applies to subsequent years unless modified by the Board, and adopt atthe end of each fiscal year, credited annually that is credited in each participant's T-DROP account. The Board shall determine the plan interest rate based upon A.C.A. § 24-7-1307(c). The interest rate shall be-2% less than ATRS' average rate of return with a maximum of 6% andminimum of 2%. The Board will determine the interest rate for thefollowing fiscal year based upon the rate of return for the immediatelypreceding twelve-month period ending March 31 prior to the start of such fiscal year. The initial calculation of this rate shall begin March 31, 2005, for interest to be credited in the 2005-2006 fiscal year. All T-DROP

participants that have not retired shall receive plan interest at the end of each fiscal year.

G. **Post 10-year T-DROP interest** means the rate per annum, compounded annually, as the Board shall set and adopt at the end of each fiscal year, credited on June 30 to the balance of the T-DROP participant's account that meets the following criteria:

i. The member participated in T-DROP for ten (10) years by receiving deposits, interest, or both; and

ii. The member has not retired.

H. **Quarter** means one-fourth (1/4) of a fiscal year. The four (4) quarters applicable in this rule are:

1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter:	July 1 through September 30
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter:	October 1 through December 31
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	January 1 through March 31
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter:	April 1 through June 30

I. **T-DROP Cash Balance Account** means the financial account set up for a participant who elects to defer distribution of his or her T-DROP account at a time that he or she is eligible to receive a lump-sum distribution of the T-DROP balance.

J. **T-DROP Cash Balance Account Interest** means the interest rate per annum applicable to a participant's T-DROP Cash Balance Account, compounded monthly into a participant's T-DROP Cash Balance Account. The interest rates payable on the T-DROP Cash Balance Accounts are set forth in this <u>rule Rule</u> in subsection <u>4 of the section VIII</u> titled "**T-DROP CASH BALANCE ACCOUNT"**.

K. **T-DROP Service Credit** shall be determined using the same rules that apply for service credit for an active member with the exception that "on call" availability shall not be used for T-DROP service credit requirements.

#### III. T-DROP PARTICIPATION and ACCOUNT CREDIT

A. In lieu of terminating employment and retiring under A.C.A. § 24-7-701, an active member of ATRS may elect to participate in T-DROP and continue to work for a covered employer. By continuing covered employment, the participant defers receipt of retirement benefits until a later date.

B. A member shall have at least <u>thirty (</u>30) years of credit in ATRS to participate in T-DROP, or, to become an early participant in T-DROP, at least <u>twenty-eight (</u>28) years but less than <u>thirty (</u>30).

C. During participation in T-DROP, ATRS shall credit each participant's T-DROP account with plan deposits and plan interest.

D. The plan interest rate determined by majority vote of the Board is final and binding upon ATRS and shall not be adjusted based on any revised rate of return reported after that date.

E. The Post 10-year-T-DROP interest rate shall be set by the Board <u>prior</u> to the beginning of each fiscal year at same meeting that the plan interest rate is set. The 10-year plus T-DROP interest rate is limited to a maximum of six percent (6%) and a minimum of four percent (4%). The Post 10-year-T-DROP interest rate will be credited to the participant's T-DROP account on June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year, or through the date of retirement, whichever occurs first.

F. The initial Post 10-year T-DROP interest rate for 2010 is set at four percent (4%) and will be credited to the participant's T-DROP account on June 30, 2010. The Post 10-year T-DROP interest rate shall be set prospectively by the Board prior to the beginning of each fiscal year and that interest rate shall be credited to the participant's T-DROP account June 30<sup>th</sup> of the following year.

G. The Post 10-year-T-DROP interest rate for each year determined by majority vote of the Board is final and binding upon the ATRS and shall not be adjusted based on any revised rate of return reported after that date.

#### **IV. RULES**

A. i. The participant's T-DROP benefit will be the monthly straight life annuity benefit to which the member would have been entitled had the member retired under A.C.A. § 24-7-701.

ii. The participant's T-DROP benefit may be reduced as set <u>forth</u> in these Rules and under A.C.A. § 24-7-1301 et seq.

iii. The T-DROP deposit shall not include the additional benefit, also known as the "monthly benefit stipend" provided in A.C.A. § 24-7-713.

B. Plan deposits shall be a percentage of the T-DROP benefit, as follows:

<u>Li.</u> One hundred percent (100%) reduced by the product of one percent (1.0%) multiplied by the number of years of contributory and noncontributory service credit, including reciprocal service, and fractions thereof.

ii. For a participant whose effective date in the T-DROP is before September 1, 2003, and who has more than thirty (30) years of service, the years of service above thirty (30) years shall be reduced by one-half of one percent (0.5%) for contributory years and three-tenths of one percent (0.3%) for noncontributory years.

iii. Beginning July 1, 2001, when a participant whose effective date in the T-DROP is before September 1, 2003, reaches normal retirement age, the plan deposits shall be 100% with no reduction.

iv. For a participant whose effective date in the T-DROP is September 1, 2003, or after and who has more than thirty (30) years of service, the plan deposits for the years of service above thirty (30) years shall be reduced based upon the reduction established at the time the participant entered T-DROP.

v. For a participant whose effective date in the T-DROP is September 1, 2003, or after, and who reaches normal retirement age but does not retire, the plan deposits shall continue as reduced based upon the reduction established at the time the participant entered T-DROP.

C. A participant shall elect an annuity option provided in A.C.A. § 24-7-706 at the time the participant separates from service and is granted a monthly retirement benefit or files for retirement upon reaching normal retirement age.

D. A.<u>i.</u> A member's participation in T-DROP shall not exceed ten (10) consecutive calendar years for accruing plan deposits; however, the Board is authorized under A.C.A. § 24-7-1307 to provide for a separate deposit, called the Post 10-year T-DROP interest.

B.<u>ii.</u> If a participant continues covered employment after completing ten (10) years in T-DROP, the T-DROP account will be credited with Post 10-year T-DROP interest as set by the Board. Benefits payable at retirement will be based on the account balance the month before the participant begins drawing retirement benefits.

E. The annuity upon which plan deposits are calculated shall receive the cost-of-living increase provided for in A.C.A. § 24-7-713 or § 24-7-727. The annuity plus the cost-of-living increase is reduced or adjusted under this Rule.

F. If a participant elects to cash out or annuitize their T-DROP account balance upon election to retire, once the T-DROP account is distributed to the member, the participant shall not be allowed to reenroll in T-DROP, unless the member cancels their election under A.C.A. § 24-7-1302.

G. As soon as possible after the end of each fiscal year, ATRS shall furnish the participant an annual statement of the participant's T-DROP account. The statement of T-DROP deposits and interest will not be final until the annual accounting has been reconciled for part-time T-DROP participants.

H. If a participant earns service credit of <u>one hundred sixty (160)</u> days or greater within a fiscal year and the participant does not terminate employment, retire, or die during the fiscal year, or the employer does not terminate the employer/employee relationship, then ATRS will allow crediting of twelve (12) monthly T-DROP deposits per fiscal year.

I. Part time employment while participating in the T-DROP plan:

i. In the first or fourth quarter of the fiscal year, five (5) or more days of service credit shall be required to credit the participant's account with three (3) monthly deposits for that particular quarter. If a participant receives less than five (5) days of service credit in either the first or fourth quarter of the fiscal year, then no T-DROP deposits shall be made in the three months for that particular quarter.

ii. In the second or third quarters of the fiscal year, fifteen (15) or more days of service credit shall be required to credit the participant's account with three (3) monthly deposits for that particular quarter. If a participant receives less than fifteen (15) days of service credit in either the second or third quarter of the fiscal year, then no T-DROP deposits shall be made in the three months for that particular quarter.

#### V. CEASING T-DROP AND DISTRIBUTION OPTIONS

A. T-DROP monthly deposits automatically cease when:

i. The participant separates from service and is granted a monthly retirement benefit from ATRS or a reciprocal plan; or

ii. The participant reaches normal retirement age and retires without separation from service, or

iii. The participant separates from covered employment but does not apply for monthly retirement benefits; or

iv. The participant dies.

B. Any lump-sum distribution of a participant's T-DROP account balance is eligible to be rolled over into <u>the member's</u> a qualifying retirement plan. The ATRS shall only roll over the T-DROP lump sum balance into one qualifying plan.

C. A participant may direct that all or a part of his or her their lump-sum distribution as set forth in Ark. Code Ann. § 24-7-1308 continue to be held by ATRS in a T-DROP Cash Balance Account described in this rule in the section titled **"T-DROP CASH BALANCE ACCOUNT"**.

D. T-DROP is intended to operate in accordance with Section 415 and other applicable sections of the IRS Code. Any provision of the T-DROP that conflicts with an applicable provision of the IRS Code is invalid.

E. If a participant separates from covered employment but does not apply for monthly retirement benefits, the T-DROP monthly deposit shall cease the month of separation from service. No deposits will be credited to the participant's account for the duration of the separation. Upon returning to covered employment, the monthly deposits will resume. Upon application for retirement, benefits will be paid according to the account balance at the time of separation from service or the month prior to the effective date of benefits after reaching normal retirement age. Provided however, if a member has not separated from covered employment and remains on an employer payroll without obtaining sufficient service credit for monthly deposits, the member shall remain eligible for annual interest.

F. <u>i.</u> If a participant leaves ATRS-covered employment to serve, on a voluntary or involuntary basis, in the uniformed services of the United States and returns to ATRS-covered employment, the member shall be treated as not having incurred a break in service with the employer. The employer shall certify to the ATRS that reemployment was in accordance with the requirements set forth in Section 4312 of P.L.103-353, the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Act (USERA) of 1994.

<u>ii.</u> Under this subsection, uniformed services of the United States are limited to the armed forces, the Army, and the Air National Guard when engaged in active duty for training, inactive duty training, full-time National Guard duty, the commissioned corps of the Public Health Service, and any other category of persons designated by the President in time of war or emergency.

#### VI. DEATH OF A T-DROP PARTICIPANT PRIOR TO RETIREMENT

A. In the event a participant dies while still in T-DROP, the benefits payable from the T-DROP account shall be determined according to A.C.A. § 24-7-710.

B. Unless otherwise directed to an alternative residual beneficiary or beneficiaries by the member, a A T-DROP participant's surviving spouse may choose to receive the T-DROP benefit in a lump sum. If the spouse elects a lump-sum payment of the T-DROP balance, then the survivor annuities payable under A.C.A. § 24-7-710 shall be calculated on the service credit and salary earned by the member prior to participating in T-DROP. If an alternative residual beneficiary or beneficiaries are chosen, then the residue is paid as a lump sum, and no monthly annuity is paid.

C. For the purposes of A.C.A. § 24-7-709 related to disposition of residue, any amount received from the T-DROP account, either in the form of a lump sum or annuity payments, shall be considered to be annuity payments received by the member or his or her designated beneficiary and shall act to reduce or eliminate the disposition of residue payable under A.C.A. § 24-7-1310.

#### VII. DROP PARTICIPATION UNDER RECIPROCAL SYSTEMS

A. If a reciprocal system offers a DROP for its members, then service credit in ATRS, a reciprocal system, or the combination of service credit in the systems may be counted to meet the minimum service credit requirements for participation under each system's DROP.

B. The benefit payable by the reciprocal system shall be based on the DROP provisions of each system. The final average salary used to determine plan deposits shall be that of the reciprocal system which furnishes the highest final average salary at the time of retirement. Each reciprocal system shall use the method of computing final average salary stipulated by its law. Salaries earned in the Arkansas Judicial Retirement System and alternate retirement plans shall not be used in computing final average salary.

C. Plan deposits and plan interest credited to the DROP account will be paid under the deferred retirement option program in effect for that reciprocal system.

#### VIII. T-DROP CASH BALANCE ACCOUNT

A. At the time that a participant may elect to receive a lump-sum distribution of all of his or her their T-DROP account balance, the participant may instead elect to defer all or a part of his or her their T-

DROP account and direct that such amount be held in a T-DROP Cash Balance Account for the participant. If a participant chooses to defer only part of the T-DROP distribution into a T-DROP Cash Balance Account, the remainder of the

T-DROP distribution shall be annuitized with ATRS according to the distribution options set out under A.C.A. § 24-7-1308.

B. After the T-DROP Cash Balance Account has been established on the ATRS' accounting system, a participant with a T-DROP Cash Balance Account balance may withdraw funds from the account two (2) times per quarter on such forms as ATRS may issue. ATRS may allow the participant to obtain an additional withdrawal withdrawals in a quarter for a manifest emergency with Executive Director approval. Minimum distributions will be made sufficient to satisfy legal requirements under Ark. Code Ann. § 24-7-730 and the Internal Revenue Code.

C. A T-DROP Cash Balance Account shall be credited monthly with T-DROP Cash Balance Account interest, beginning the month after the account is established, and debited for all withdrawals and distributions.

D. <u>i.</u> The initial interest rates for participants electing to enter the T-DROP Cash Balance Account program are set forth in this subsection. Members establishing a T-DROP Cash Balance Account on or after July 1, 2012, shall receive interest on their T-DROP Cash Balance Account according to the following schedule:

After establishing a T-DROP Cash Balance Account and:		
For the first fiscal year of participation:	2.00% interest.	
For two (2) fiscal years:	2.25% interest.	
For three (3) fiscal years:	2.50% interest.	
For four (4) fiscal years:	2.75% interest.	
For five (5) fiscal years:	3.00% interest.	
For six (6) fiscal years:	3.25% interest.	
For seven (7) fiscal years:	3.50% interest.	
For eight (8) or more fiscal years:	4.00% interest.	

ii. These interest rates are minimum interest rates that apply to T-DROP Cash Balance Accounts that are established while these rates are in effect. The T-DROP Cash Balance Account interest may be increased by the ATRS Board of Trustees on a forwardlooking and Ad Hoc basis.

E. The interest rates set forth in subsection D above and payable on T-DROP Cash Balance Accounts established on or after July 1, 2012, shall remain at the initial rate set for July 1, 2012, T-DROP Cash Balance Account entrants unless the ATRS Board of Trustees adopts a different interest rate schedule to be used for future entrants to the T-DROP Cash

Balance Account at least one (1) year prior to the beginning of a fiscal year in which the new interest rates shall apply. The ATRS Board of Trustees may adopt an interest rate schedule for new entrants by Resolution, setting forth the new interest rate schedule for the T-DROP Cash Balance Account. T-DROP Cash Balance Accounts existing prior to the effective date of the Resolution shall be unaffected by the new interest rate schedule.

F. When adjusting and setting rates for interest on a T-DROP Cash Balance Account, the Board may consider the current market conditions, competing financial offerings to members, the bank rate for certificates of deposits, the status of ATRS' returns on investments, and the current state of T-DROP Cash Balance Account participation. The Board throughresolution may periodically authorize by resolution a special ad hoc incentive payment for the Cash Balance Accounts if the Board determines that payment is likely to retain existing T-DROP Cash Balance Account holders and increase future participation in T-DROP Cash Balance Accounts. The ad hoc increase may be set as a single amount to be applied to all Cash Balance Accounts or may be computed as a graduated amount based upon the length of time the Cash Balance Account has been in existence.

G. If a participant dies with a T-DROP Cash Balance Account, the account balance shall be paid as provided under Ark. Code Ann. § 24-7-1310.

Approved: Amended:	June 13, 1995 July 30, 1997 June 17, 2003 February 15, 2005 July 18, 2005 April 26, 2007 February 1, 2010 under emergency rules. June 7, 2010 Permanent July 1, 2011 (Emergency)
Adopted:	August 8, 2011
Effective:	November 11, 2011
Approved by Board:	February 6, 2012
Amended:	April 2, 2012 (Emergency)
Effective:	May 29, 2012
Approved by Board:	July 26, 2013
Amended:	October 9, 2013
Effective:	November 8, 2013
Approved by Board:	December 1, 2014

Amended:	May 18, 2015
Effective:	June 16, 2015
Approved by Board:	October 5, 2015
Amended:	February 1, 2016
Effective:	February 10, 2016

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law. Act 243 of the Regular Session

1	State of Arkansas		
2	91st General Assembly	A Bill	
3	Regular Session, 2017	HOU	JSE BILL 1305
4			
5	By: Representative Maddox		
6			
7		For An Act To Be Entitled	
8	AN ACT TO A	ALLOW MEMBERS OF THE ARKANSAS TEACHER	
9	RETIREMENT	SYSTEM TO DESIGNATE ONE OR MORE RESIDUAL	
10	BENEFICIAR	IES; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER	
11	PURPOSES.		
12			
13			
14		Subtitle	
15	TO AL	LOW MEMBERS OF THE ARKANSAS TEACHER	
1 <b>6</b>	RETIR	EMENT SYSTEM TO DESIGNATE ONE OR	
17	MORE	RESIDUAL BENEFICIARIES; AND TO	
18	DECLA	RE AN EMERGENCY.	
19			
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21	BE IT ENACTED BY THE GE	ENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:	
22			
23	SECTION 1. Arkan	nsas Code § 24-7-710(b)(1)(A)(i), concerning	survivor
24	annuity benefits under	the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System, is a	amended to
25	read as follows:		
26	(b)(l)(A)(i) The	Unless the member otherwise directs an alte	ernative
27	beneficiary by using a	beneficiary form approved by the system, a r	nember's
28	surviving spouse, who w	vas married to the member for at least the tw	vo (2)
29	years immediately prece	ding the member's death, shall receive an ar	nuity
30	computed in the same ma	nner in all respects as if the member had re	etired on
31	the date of the member'	s death and elected Option A under § 24-7-70	)6 to
32	provide one hundred per	cent (100%) survivor annuity benefits, inclu	ıding
33	benefits applicable und	er § 24-7-713, for his or her spouse.	
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35		sas Code § 24-7-710(b)(1), concerning surviv	
36	benefits under the Arka	nsas Teacher Retirement System, is amended t	o add an



1	additional subdivision to read as follows:
2	(F) If the member directs an alternative beneficiary by
3	using a beneficiary form approved by the system, the member may designate one
4	or more residual beneficiaries to receive a lump sum payment of the member's
5	residue amount under § 24-7-709 in lieu of the member's surviving spouse.
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7	SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 24-7-710(b), concerning survivor annuity
8	benefits under the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System, is amended to add an
9	additional subdivision to read as follows:
10	(3) The Board of Trustees of the Arkansas Teacher Retirement
11	System may adopt rules to carry out the provisions of this section.
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13	SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 24-7-1310(b), concerning the death of
14	Teacher Deferred Retirement Option Plan participants, is amended to read as
15	follows:
16	(b)(1) However, the plan participant's eligible surviving spouse may
17	choose to receive the plan benefit in a lump sum without affecting the
18	payment of a monthly retirement benefit payable from the Arkansas Teacher
19	Retirement System.
20	(2)(A) Subdivision (b)(1) of this section shall not apply if the
21	member has directed one (1) or more residual beneficiaries under § 24-7-710.
22	(B) If a member has directed one (1) or more residual
23	beneficiaries, the residual beneficiary shall receive the residual benefits
24	payable, and the spousal benefit shall not be paid.
25	
26	SECTION 5. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
27	General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the operations of a state
28	public retirement system are complex; that the Arkansas Teacher Retirement
29	System must be able to meet the needs of its members as anticipated by the
30	General Assembly; that certain provisions of the Arkansas Teacher Retirement
31	System Act are imminently in need of revision and updating to bring them into
32	conformance with sound public pension policy and actuarial requirements; that
33	such revision and updating is of great importance to members of the system
34	and to other citizens of the State of Arkansas; that the system needs to have
35	the ability to make immediate changes to maintain and improve its actuarial
36	status; and that this act is immediately necessary in order to maintain an

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1	orderly system of benefits for the members of the Arkansas Teacher Retirement
2	System. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being
3	immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and
4	safety shall become effective on:
5	(1) The date of its approval by the Governor;
6	(2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,
7	the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the
8	bill; or
9	(3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is
10	overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.
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14	APPROVED: 02/21/2017
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Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law. Act 1049 of the Regular Session

1	State of Arkansas As Engrossed: \$3/22/17 \$3/28/17 91st General Assembly As Engrossed: \$3/22/17 \$3/28/17
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3	Regular Session, 2017SENATE BILL 184
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5	By: Senator Hester
6	
7	For An Act To Be Entitled
8	AN ACT TO MODIFY THE METHOD USED TO SET THE TEACHER
9	DEFERRED RETIREMENT OPTION PLAN INTEREST RATE; TO
10	ALLOW BALANCE TRANSFERS BETWEEN RECIPROCAL SYSTEMS;
11	TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
12 13	
14	Subtitle
15	AN ACT TO MODIFY THE METHOD USED TO SET
16	THE TEACHER DEFERRED RETIREMENT OPTION
17	PLAN INTEREST RATE; TO ALLOW BALANCE
18	TRANSFERS BETWEEN RECIPROCAL SYSTEMS; AND
19	TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.
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22	BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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24	SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 24-7-1307(c), concerning account credit
25	under the Teacher Deferred Retirement Option Plan, is amended to read as
26	follows:
27	(c)(l) For the purposes of this section, plan interest shall be at the
28	rate determined by the board from time to time. The board shall determine the
29	plan interest rate to members' plan accounts based on:
30	(A) A fixed interest rate that is adopted by board
31	resolution prior to the beginning of the fiscal year and which applies to
32	subsequent fiscal years unless modified by the board; or
33	(B)(i) A variable interest rate formula that is based on
34	investment returns and other factors adopted by board resolution prior to the
35	beginning of the fiscal year.
36	(ii) If the board uses a variable interest rate



As Engrossed: \$3/22/17 \$3/28/17

1 formula, the board shall adopt by board resolution the plan interest rate 2 prior to the beginning of the fiscal year in which the plan interest rate 3 applies. 4 (2) In addition to the applicable interest rate for the fiscal 5 year, the board may adopt by board resolution a Teacher Deferred Retirement 6 Option Plan participation incentive rate during a fiscal year if investment 7 returns justify an incentive rate for the fiscal year. 8 9 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 24-7-1307(e), concerning account credit 10 under the Teacher Deferred Retirement Option Plan, is amended to read as 11 follows: 12 (e) For the purposes of this section, the ten (10) year plus plan 13 interest rate shall be the rate determined by the board as appropriate to be appropriate by the board and adopted by board resolution prior to the 14 15 beginning of the fiscal year in which the interest rate shall apply. 16 17 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the 18 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the operations of the Arkansas 19 Teacher Retirement System are complex; that the system must be able to meet the needs of its members as anticipated by the General Assembly; that certain 20 21 provisions of the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System Act are imminently in 22 need of revision and updating to bring them into conformance with sound 23 public pension policy and actuarial requirements; that such revision and 24 updating is of great importance to members of the system and to other 25 citizens of the State of Arkansas; that the system needs to have the ability 26 to make immediate changes to maintain and improve its actuarial status; and 27 that this act is immediately necessary in order to maintain an orderly 28 management of benefits for the members of the system. Therefore, an emergency 29 is declared to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for the 30 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective 31 on: 32 (1) The date of its approval by the Governor; 33 (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor. 34 the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the 35 bill: or 36 (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is

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1	overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.
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3	/s/Hester
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6	APPROVED: 04/06/2017
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