

1 State of Arkansas  
2 88th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2011  
4

As Engrossed: H2/17/11

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1143

5 By: Representatives Lenderman, B. Wilkins  
6

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO ALLOW A MEMBER TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR  
9 DISABILITY BENEFITS, SURVIVOR BENEFITS, AND LUMP-SUM  
10 DEATH BENEFITS UNDER THE ARKANSAS TEACHER RETIREMENT  
11 SYSTEM FOR AN ADDITIONAL FISCAL YEAR AFTER THE LAST  
12 FISCAL YEAR OF ACTUAL SERVICE; TO DECLARE AN  
13 EMERGENCY; TO AUTHORIZE THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
14 ARKANSAS TEACHER RETIREMENT SYSTEM TO PROMULGATE  
15 RULES CONCERNING ANNUITY OPTIONS; AND FOR OTHER  
16 PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

17  
18  
19 CONCERNING CERTAIN BENEFITS UNDER THE  
20 ARKANSAS TEACHER RETIREMENT SYSTEM; TO  
21 AUTHORIZE THE BOARD TO PROMULGATE RULES  
22 CONCERNING ANNUITY OPTIONS; TO DECLARE AN  
23 EMERGENCY.  
24

25  
26  
27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
28

29 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 24-7-704(a)(1)(B), concerning eligibility  
30 for disability retirement in the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System, is  
31 amended to read as follows:

32 (B)(i) An active member who has met the eligibility  
33 requirement of subdivision (a)(1)(A) of this section shall meet the  
34 termination of covered employment requirements under § 24-7-502 to be  
35 eligible for disability retirement benefits.

36 (ii) For eligibility under this section, a member is



1 considered active for an additional fiscal year following the last fiscal  
2 year that the member renders actual service to a covered employer and obtains  
3 at least one-fourth (1/4) year of service credit.

4 (iii) Service credit used in calculating any  
5 benefits paid under this section means days of service, including paid sick  
6 leave covered by the employer.

7  
8 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 24-7-706, concerning Arkansas Teacher  
9 Retirement System annuity options, is amended to add an additional subsection  
10 to read as follows:

11 (f) The Board of Trustees of the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System  
12 shall:

13 (1) Promulgate rules as necessary to administer this section;  
14 and

15 (2) Institute fair procedures for members of the system,  
16 including without limitation:

17 (A) Requirements for designating a beneficiary; and

18 (B) Spousal election.

19  
20 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 24-7-710, concerning the eligibility for  
21 survivor benefits under the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System, is amended to  
22 add an additional subsection to read as follows:

23 (g)(1) For eligibility under this section, a member is considered  
24 active for an additional fiscal year following the last fiscal year that the  
25 member renders actual service to a covered employer and obtains at least one-  
26 fourth (1/4) year of service credit.

27 (2) In addition, a member is considered active for eligibility  
28 under this section if in the fiscal year of a member's death, the member  
29 earned at least ten (10) days of service credit in each quarter before and  
30 including the quarter of the member's death.

31 (3) Service credit used in calculating any benefits paid under  
32 this section means days of service, including paid sick leave covered by the  
33 employer.

34 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 24-7-720, concerning the eligibility for a  
35 lump-sum benefit under the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System, is amended to  
36 add an additional subsection to read as follows:

