Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert: 1.2 "ARTICLE 1 1.3 **TEACHER PENSIONS** 1.4 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 354.05, subdivision 38, is amended 1.5 to read: 1.6 Subd. 38. Normal retirement age. "Normal retirement age" means age 65 for a person 1.7 who first became a member of the association or a member of a pension fund listed in section 1.8 356.30, subdivision 3, before July 1, 1989. Through June 30, 2025 2024, for a person who 1.9 first becomes a member of the association after June 30, 1989, normal retirement age means 1.10 the higher of age 65 or "retirement age," as defined in United States Code, title 42, section 1.11 1.12 416(1), as amended, but not to exceed age 66. Beginning July 1, 2025 2024, normal retirement age for all members means age 65. 1.13 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment. 1.14 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 354A.12, subdivision 1, is amended 1.15 1.16 to read: Subdivision 1. Employee contributions. (a) The contribution required to be paid by 1.17 each member is the percentage of total salary specified below for the applicable program: 1.18 Program Percentage of Total Salary 1.19 basic program after June 30, 2016, through June 30, 2023 10 percent 1.20 basic program after June 30, 2023, through June 30, 2025 2024 10.25 percent 1.21 basic program after June 30, 2024, through June 30, 2025 1.22 10 basic program after June 30, 2025, through June 30, 2026 1 23 11.25

...... moves to amend H.F. No. 5040; S.F. No. 4643, as follows:

basic program after June 30, 2025 2026

1.24

1.1

11.5 percent

	04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
2.1 2.2	coordinated program after June 3 2023	30, 2016, through June 30,		7.5 percent
2.3 2.4	coordinated program after June 3 2025 2024	30, 2023, through June 30,		7.75 percent
2.5 2.6	coordinated program after June 3 2025	30, 2024, through June 30,		<u>7.5</u>
2.7 2.8	coordinated program after June 3 2026	30, 2025, through June 30,		<u>8.75</u>
2.9	coordinated program after June 3	30, 2025 <u>2026</u>	Ģ	9 percent
2.10	(b) Contributions must be made	by deduction from salary	and mu	st be remitted directly
2.11	to the St. Paul Teachers Retirement	Fund association at least	once ea	ch month.
2.12	(c) When an employee contribu	tion rate changes for a fisc	cal year,	the new contribution
2.13	rate is effective for the entire salary J	paid by the employer with t	he first j	payroll cycle reported.
2.14	EFFECTIVE DATE. This sect	tion is effective the day fol	llowing	final enactment.
2.15	Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022,	section 354B.20, is amend	ed by a	dding a subdivision to
2.16	read:			
2.17	Subd. 10a. IRAP to TRA trans	sfer account. "IRAP to TE	RA trans	sfer account" means
2.18	the account established under section	on 354B.215, subdivision	11.	
2.19	EFFECTIVE DATE. This sect	tion is effective January 1,	2025.	
2.20	Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2022,	section 354B.20, is amend	ed by a	dding a subdivision to
2.21	read:			
2.22	Subd. 11a. Offset amount. "Of	fset amount" means the les	sser of \$	\$10,000 or 25 percent
2.23	of the cost to purchase the maximum	m past service credit by an	eligible	e person under section
2.24	354B.215, subdivision 6, except that	at, if the eligible person ele	cts to pu	urchase, under section
2.25	354B.215, subdivision 6, paragraph	(c), less than the maximum	n past se	ervice credit, the offset
2.26	amount must not exceed the cost to	purchase the amount of p	ast serv	rice credit elected.
2.27	EFFECTIVE DATE. This sect	tion is effective January 1,	2025.	
2.28	Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2022,	section 354B.20, subdivis	ion 18,	is amended to read:
2.29	Subd. 18. Teachers Retiremen	t plan Association. "Teac	hers Re	tirement plan
2.30	Association" means the retirement	plan established by chapte	er 354.	

Article 1 Sec. 5.

2.31

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

3.1	Sec. 6. [354B.215] TEACHERS RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION COVERAGE FOR
3.2	EMPLOYEES WHO DID NOT RECEIVE ELECTION TO TRANSFER.
3.3	Subdivision 1. Definitions. (a) For purposes of this section, the terms defined in this
3.4	subdivision have the meanings given them, unless the context clearly indicates another
3.5	meaning is intended.
3.6	(b) "Executive director" means the executive director of the Teachers Retirement
3.7	Association.
3.8	(c) "Individual retirement account plan" means the individual retirement account plan
3.9	governed by chapter 354B.
3.10	(d) "Maximum past service credit" means service credit for the period beginning with
3.11	the date the eligible person was first covered by the individual retirement account plan to
3.12	the transfer date.
3.13	(e) "Minnesota State" means the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities.
3.14	(f) "Transfer date" means the date selected by the executive director under subdivision
3.15	5 for the purpose of preparing the estimates required by subdivision 5.
3.16	Subd. 2. Authority to transfer coverage. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the
3.17	contrary, an eligible person described in subdivision 3 is authorized to become a member
3.18	of the Teachers Retirement Association and purchase service credit upon making an election
3.19	under subdivision 6.
3.20	Subd. 3. Eligible person. (a) An eligible person is a person who:
3.21	(1) is employed by Minnesota State;
3.22	(2) has an account in the individual retirement account plan; and
3.23	(3) satisfies paragraph (b).
3.24	(b) A person satisfies this paragraph if Minnesota State is not able to produce at least
3.25	one of the following items by the end of the 60-day period under subdivision 4, paragraph
3.26	<u>(b):</u>
3.27	(1) a record indicating that the person received notice regarding the person's eligibility
3.28	to elect prospective coverage by the Teachers Retirement Association within the election
3.29	period under section 354B.211, subdivision 4 or 6, or its predecessor;
3.30	(2) a record that the person elected retirement coverage by the individual retirement
3.31	account plan; or

4.1	(3) other credible documentation demonstrating that the person was aware of the person's
4.2	right to elect retirement coverage by the Teachers Retirement Association.
4.3	Subd. 4. Eligible person application; information required from Minnesota State. (a)
4.4	To elect coverage by the Teachers Retirement Association, an eligible person must submit
4.5	a written application to the chancellor on a form provided by Minnesota State. The application
4.6	must include:
4.7	(1) an attestation that the person was not informed of the right to elect a transfer from
4.8	the individual retirement account plan to the Teachers Retirement Association and the person
4.9	was unaware of the right to elect such a transfer;
4.10	(2) the date on which the person first became a participant in the individual retirement
4.11	account plan;
4.12	(3) a signed release authorizing Minnesota State to provide employment and other
4.13	personnel information to the Teachers Retirement Association; and
4.14	(4) any other information that Minnesota State may require.
4.15	(b) No later than 60 days after receipt of the application under paragraph (a), Minnesota
4.16	State must verify the information provided by the person in the application, determine
4.17	whether the person is an eligible person under subdivision 3, and provide a written response
4.18	to the person regarding the determination of eligibility. If Minnesota State determines that
4.19	the person is not an eligible person, Minnesota State must include a copy of any
4.20	documentation identified in subdivision 3, paragraph (b), in its written response to the
4.21	person.
4.22	(c) If Minnesota State determines that the person is an eligible person under subdivision
4.23	3, Minnesota State must forward to the executive director:
4.24	(1) the application;
4.25	(2) confirmation or modification of the information provided by the eligible person in
4.26	the application;
4.27	(3) salary history for the eligible person;
4.28	(4) an estimate of the amount available for transfer from the eligible person's account
4.29	in the individual retirement account plan to the Teachers Retirement Association; and
4.30	(5) any other relevant information.
4.31	Subd. 5. Determination of service credit purchase amounts. (a) Upon receipt of the
4.32	application and information under subdivision 4, the executive director must prepare estimates

04/05/24 04:02 pm	DEVICIONIC	CT /T D	H5040-DE1
04/05/74 04:07 nm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H 20/40-10 H I
UT/UJ/4T UT.U4 DIII		טבו עבו	ココンサン・レレン

of the following as of a prospective transfer date selected by the executive director that is 5.1 no later than 90 days after receiving the application and information under subdivision 4: 5.2 (1) the purchase payment amount determined under section 356.551 to purchase the 5.3 maximum past service credit; 5.4 5.5 (2) the amount of service credit the eligible person would receive if the amount estimated under subdivision 4, paragraph (c), clause (4), is transferred to the Teachers Retirement 5.6 Association and used to purchase service credit under section 356.551; 5.7 (3) the purchase payment amount for additional years of service credit, if any, not to 5.8 exceed the maximum past service credit; and 5.9 (4) the offset amount attributable to the eligible person. 5.10 (b) No later than 90 days after receiving the application and information under subdivision 5.11 4, the executive director must send a written communication to the eligible person with the 5.12 amounts determined in paragraph (a) and inform Minnesota State of the offset amount. The 5.13 executive director may charge the eligible person a reasonable fee to cover the costs of 5.14 calculating the amounts required by paragraph (a). 5.15 (c) Minnesota State must notify the eligible person and the executive director no later 5.16 than 30 days after receiving notice of the offset amount from the executive director under 5.17 paragraph (b) if there are sufficient funds in the IRAP to TRA transfer account to pay the 5.18 full offset amount or, if there are not sufficient funds, the portion of the offset amount, if 5.19 any, that will be paid. 5.20 Subd. 6. Election to transfer coverage and purchase of service credit. (a) No later 5.21 than 60 days after the executive director sends the written communication required by 5.22 subdivision 5, the eligible person may elect to transfer coverage from the individual 5.23 retirement account plan to the Teachers Retirement Association effective as of the transfer 5.24 5.25 date. (b) If the eligible person elects to transfer coverage under paragraph (a), the available 5.26 5.27 balance in the eligible person's account in the individual retirement account plan must be transferred to the Teachers Retirement Association, not to exceed the amount required by 5.28 the Teachers Retirement Association to purchase the maximum past service credit, as 5.29 adjusted for the offset amount, if any. 5.30 (c) If the available balance in the eligible person's account in the individual retirement 5.31 account plan plus the offset amount, if any, is less than the amount needed to cover the cost 5.32 to purchase the maximum past service credit, the eligible person must: 5.33

	04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE
--	-------------------	----------	-------	----------

6.1	(1) direct the transfer of funds from the eligible person's account in the higher education
6.2	supplemental retirement plan established under chapter 354C, from a source specified in
6.3	section 356.441, subdivision 1, or from more than one of the foregoing sources in an amount,
6.4	in total, sufficient to cover the rest of the cost to purchase the maximum past service credit;
6.5	<u>or</u>
6.6	(2) elect fewer years or partial years of service credit corresponding to the amount of
6.7	service credit that may be purchased using the funds transferred from the individual
6.8	retirement account plan, the offset amount, and if directed by the eligible person, funds
6.9	from any of the sources described in clause (1).
6.10	(d) Minnesota State must promptly initiate the transfer of funds or work with the eligible
6.11	person to initiate the transfer of funds to the Teachers Retirement Association from the
6.12	eligible person's account in the individual retirement account plan and, if directed by the
6.13	eligible person under paragraph (c), from any other account over which Minnesota State
6.14	has the authority to initiate or approve transfers when directed by a participant.
6.15	(e) Unless the balance in the IRAP to TRA transfer account is zero, Minnesota State
6.16	must direct a transfer to the Teachers Retirement Association of an amount that is equal to
6.17	the offset amount attributable to the eligible person. If the balance in the IRAP to TRA
6.18	transfer account is less than the amount needed to transfer the offset amount, Minnesota
6.19	State must direct a transfer of the remaining balance in the IRAP to TRA transfer account
6.20	to the Teachers Retirement Association.
6.21	Subd. 7. Commencement of membership in the Teachers Retirement Association. (a)
6.22	Upon receipt by the Teachers Retirement Association of the transfer or transfers under
6.23	subdivision 6, the eligible person's membership in the Teachers Retirement Association
6.24	commences effective as of the transfer date and the executive director must grant past service
6.25	credit to the eligible person.
6.26	(b) The executive director may adjust the amount of past service credit granted to the
6.27	eligible person as necessary to ensure that the Teachers Retirement Association does not
6.28	receive less than required to cover the cost of the past service credit granted.
6.29	(c) Upon membership commencement, the eligible person ceases to be an active
6.30	participant in the individual retirement account plan.
6.31	(d) Upon membership commencement, the person's membership status is irrevocable.
6.32	Neither Minnesota State nor the Teachers Retirement Association may seek to revoke the
6 33	eligible person's membership status due to events, including but not limited to Minnesota

	04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
--	-------------------	----------	-------	-----------

State producing documentation that would have previously disqualified the person as an 7.1 eligible person under subdivision 3. 7.2 Subd. 8. Service credit for vesting. The Teachers Retirement Association must grant 7.3 service credit to the eligible person for all years or partial years of service with Minnesota 7.4 State for the purpose of vesting in a retirement annuity under section 354.44 or in a retirement 7.5 benefit under section 354.46 or 354.48. 7.6 Subd. 9. Notice to employees. No later than March 31, 2025, and periodically thereafter, 7.7 Minnesota State must provide notice to all employees summarizing this section and offer 7.8 assistance to any eligible person who wishes to elect to transfer coverage from the individual 7.9 7.10 retirement account plan to the Teachers Retirement Association. Minnesota State must designate personnel responsible for assisting employees with the requirements of this section. 7.11 The notice must identify these personnel and provide their contact information. 7.12 Subd. 10. Annual report required. The chancellor and the executive director must 7.13 submit an annual report to the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement stating 7.14 the number of employees who elected a transfer during the prior calendar year. Without 7.15 identifying any eligible person, the report must include, for each eligible person, the total 7.16 amount transferred by the eligible person from the eligible person's account in the individual 7.17 retirement account plan and other sources to purchase past service credit and the offset 7.18 amount, if any. The report must be submitted to the Legislative Commission on Pensions 7.19 and Retirement no later than January 31 of each year. 7.20 Subd. 11. **IRAP to TRA transfer account created.** (a) The IRAP to TRA transfer 7.21 account is created in the special revenue fund. 7.22 (b) Minnesota State must use the money in the IRAP to TRA transfer account established 7.23 under paragraph (a) to transfer amounts required by subdivision 6, paragraph (e), until the 7.24 balance in the account is zero. 7.25 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025. 7.26 7.27 Sec. 7. Laws 2022, chapter 65, article 3, section 1, subdivision 2, is amended to read: Subd. 2. Three-year Temporary suspension of earnings limitation for teachers 7.28 covered by TRA and SPTRFA. (a) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 354.44, 7.29 subdivision 5, no portion of a reemployed teacher's annuity paid under Minnesota Statutes, 7.30 chapter 354, shall be deferred regardless of the amount of the salary earned from the teaching 7.31 service during the preceding fiscal year. This paragraph applies only to salary earned during 7.32

0.4.0.7.10.4.0.4		~- /	******
04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
*			

fiscal years 2022, 2023, and 2024, 2025, 2026, and 2027 and annuity payments made during calendar years 2023, 2024, and 2025, 2026, 2027, and 2028.

(b) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 354A.31, subdivision 3, no portion of a reemployed teacher's annuity paid under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 354A, shall be deferred or forfeited regardless of the amount of the salary earned from the teaching service during the preceding calendar year. This <u>subdivision paragraph</u> applies only to salary earned during calendar years 2022, 2023, and 2024, 2025, 2026, and 2027 and annuity payments made during calendar years 2023, 2024, and 2025, 2026, 2027, and 2028.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 8. Laws 2022, chapter 65, article 3, section 1, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. Expiration date. This section expires effective January 1, 2026 2029.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

ARTICLE 2

VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER RELIEF ASSOCIATIONS

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.001, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Relief association.** (a) "Relief association" or "volunteer firefighters relief association" means a volunteer firefighters relief association or a volunteer firefighters division or account of a partially salaried and partially volunteer firefighters relief association that is:

- (1) organized and incorporated as a nonprofit corporation to provide retirement benefits to volunteer firefighters and paid on-call firefighters under chapter 317A and any laws of the state;
 - (2) governed by this chapter and sections 424A.091 to 424A.095; and
- 8.24 (3) directly associated with:

8.1

8.2

8.3

8.4

8.5

8.6

8.7

8.8

8.9

8.10

8.11

8.12

8.13

8.14

8.15

8.16

8.17

8.18

8.19

8.20

8.21

8.22

8.23

8.26

- 8.25 (i) a fire department established by municipal ordinance;
 - (ii) an independent nonprofit firefighting corporation that is organized under the provisions of chapter 317A and that operates primarily for firefighting purposes; or
- 8.28 (iii) a fire department operated as or by a joint powers entity that operates primarily for 8.29 firefighting purposes.
- 8.30 (b) "Relief association" or "volunteer firefighters relief association" does not mean:

04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1

(1) the Bloomington Fire Department Relief Association governed by Laws 2013, chapter 9.1 111, article 5, sections 31 to 42; Minnesota Statutes 2000, chapter 424; and Laws 1965, 9.2 chapter 446, as amended; or 9.3 (2) the statewide volunteer firefighter plan governed by chapter 353G. 9.4 (c) A relief association or volunteer firefighters relief association is a governmental 9.5 entity that receives and manages public money to provide retirement benefits for individuals 9.6 providing the governmental services of firefighting and emergency first response. 9.7 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025. 9.8 9.9 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.001, subdivision 5, is amended to read: Subd. 5. **Special fund.** "Special fund" means the special fund of a volunteer firefighters 9.10 relief association or the account for volunteer firefighters within the special fund of a partially 9.11 salaried and partially volunteer firefighters relief association. 9.12 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025. 9.13 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.001, subdivision 8, is amended to read: 9.14 Subd. 8. Firefighting service. "Firefighting service," if the applicable municipality 9.15 approves for a fire department that is a municipal department, or if the applicable contracting 9.16 municipality or municipalities approve for a fire department that is an independent nonprofit 9.17 firefighting corporation, includes fire department service rendered means duties performed 9.18 by firefighters and, if approved by the appropriate municipality or municipalities, duties 9.19 performed by fire prevention personnel. 9.20 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025. 9.21 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.001, subdivision 9, is amended to read: 9.22 9.23 Subd. 9. Separate from active service. "Separate from active service" means that a firefighter permanently ceases to perform fire suppression duties with a particular volunteer 9.24 fire department, permanently ceases to perform and fire prevention duties and, permanently 9.25 ceases to supervise fire suppression duties, and permanently ceases to supervise fire 9.26

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

prevention duties with a particular fire department.

9.27

	04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
--	-------------------	----------	-------	-----------

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.001, is amended by adding a subdivision 10.1 to read: 10.2 Subd. 9b. Firefighter. "Firefighter" means a person who is a volunteer firefighter, paid 10.3 on-call firefighter, part-time firefighter, full-time firefighter, career firefighter, or any 10.4 combination thereof. 10.5 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025. 10.6 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.001, subdivision 10, is amended to read: 10.7 Subd. 10. Volunteer firefighter. "Volunteer firefighter" means a person firefighter who 10.8 10.9 is a member of the applicable fire department or the independent nonprofit firefighting eorporation does not receive compensation per call or hour for firefighting services but who 10.10 may receive reimbursement for expenses, who has a choice of availability in providing 10.11 services with the fire department, and who is eligible for membership in the applicable a 10.12 relief association and: associated with the fire department or participates in the statewide 10.13 volunteer firefighter plan under chapter 353G. 10.14 (i) is engaged in providing emergency response services or delivering fire education or 10.15 prevention services as a member of a fire department; 10.16 10.17 (ii) is trained in or is qualified to provide fire suppression duties or to provide fire prevention duties under subdivision 8; and 10.18 (iii) meets any other minimum firefighter and service standards established by the fire 10.19 department or specified in the articles of incorporation or bylaws of the relief association. 10.20 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025. 10.21 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.001, is amended by adding a subdivision 10.22 to read: 10.23 Subd. 10a. Paid on-call firefighter. "Paid on-call firefighter" means a firefighter who 10.24 receives compensation per call or per hour for firefighting services, who has a choice of 10.25 availability regarding the firefighter's hours or scheduled shifts in providing services with 10.26 the fire department, and who is eligible for membership in a relief association associated 10.27 with the fire department or participates in the statewide volunteer firefighter plan under 10.28 chapter 353G. 10.29 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025. 10.30

	04/05/24 04:02 pr	n PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
--	-------------------	------------	-------	-----------

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.001, is amended by adding a subdivision 11.2 to read:

Subd. 10b. Part-time firefighter. "Part-time firefighter" means a firefighter who receives compensation per call or per hour for firefighting services, whose services with the fire department are scheduled, who is considered by the firefighter's employer to be in part-time employment, and who, as a result of providing firefighting services, is a member or is eligible to be a member of the general employees retirement plan or the public employees police and fire plan under chapter 353.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.001, is amended by adding a subdivision 11.10 11.11 to read:

Subd. 10c. Full-time firefighter or career firefighter. "Full-time firefighter" or "career firefighter" means a firefighter who receives compensation per hour or a salary for firefighting services, whose services with the fire department are scheduled and who, as a result of providing firefighting services, is a member or is eligible to be a member of the general employees retirement plan or the public employees police and fire plan under chapter 353.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.003, is amended to read:

424A.003 CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE CREDIT.

- (a) When a municipal fire department, a joint powers fire department, or an independent nonprofit firefighting corporation is directly associated with the volunteer a firefighters relief association, the fire chief shall certify annually by March 31 the service credit for the previous calendar year of each volunteer firefighter and paid on-call firefighter rendering active service with the fire department.
- (b) The certification shall be made to an officer of the relief association's board of trustees and to the municipal clerk or clerk-treasurer of the largest municipality in population served by the associated fire department.
- (c) The fire chief shall notify each volunteer firefighter and paid on-call firefighter rendering active service with the fire department of the amount of service credit rendered by the firefighter for the previous calendar year. Upon request, the fire chief shall provide the firefighter with a written explanation and documentation to support the determination of service credit. The service credit notification and a description of the process and deadlines

11.1

11.3

11.4

11.5

11.6

11.7

11.8

11.9

11.12

11.13

11.14

11.15

11.16

11.17

11.18

11.19

11.20

11.21

11.22

11.23

11.24

11.25

11.26

11.27

11.28

11.29

11.30

11.31

04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
-------------------	----------	-------	-----------

for the firefighter to challenge the fire chief's determination of service credit must be provided to the firefighter at least 21 days prior to its certification to the relief association and municipality. If the service credit amount is challenged, the fire chief shall accept and consider any additional pertinent information and shall make a final determination of service credit.

- (d) The service credit certification must be expressed as the number of completed months of the previous year during which an active volunteer firefighter or paid on-call firefighter rendered at least the minimum level of duties as specified and required by the fire department under the rules, regulations, and policies applicable to the fire department. No more than one year of service credit may be certified for a calendar year.
- (e) If a volunteer firefighter <u>or paid on-call firefighter</u> who is a member of the relief association leaves active firefighting service to render active military service that is required to be governed by the federal Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, as amended, the firefighter must be certified as providing service credit for the period of the military service, up to the applicable limit of the federal Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act. If the volunteer firefighter <u>or paid on-call firefighter</u> does not return from the military service in compliance with the federal Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, the service credits applicable to that military service credit period are forfeited and canceled at the end of the calendar year in which the time limit set by federal law occurs.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

- Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.01, subdivision 1, is amended to read:
- Subdivision 1. Minors Membership eligibility. No volunteer (a) A firefighter or any volunteer emergency medical personnel is eligible for membership in a firefighters relief association associated with a if the firefighter or volunteer emergency medical personnel satisfies the requirements of paragraph (b) or (c), as applicable, and is not otherwise prohibited from membership under this chapter.
- 12.28 (b) To be eligible for membership in a relief association, a firefighter must be a member

 12.29 of the fire department and:
- (1) provide services as a volunteer firefighter or as a paid on-call firefighter, although
 the firefighter need not exclusively provide services as either a volunteer firefighter or a
 paid on-call firefighter;

12.1

12.2

12.3

12.4

12.5

12.6

12.7

12.8

12.9

12.10

12.11

12.12

12.13

12.14

12.15

12.16

12.17

12.18

12.19

12.20

	04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
--	-------------------	----------	-------	-----------

13.1	(2) be engaged in providing emergency response services or delivering fire education
13.2	or prevention services as a member of a fire department;
13.3	(3) be trained in or qualified to provide fire suppression duties or to provide fire
13.4	prevention duties; and
13.5	(4) meet any other minimum firefighter and service standards established by the fire
13.6	department or specified in the articles of incorporation or bylaws of the firefighters relief
13.7	association.
13.8	(c) A volunteer emergency medical personnel is eligible to be a member of the firefighters
13.9	relief association and to qualify for a service pension or other benefit coverage of the relief
13.10	association on the same basis as fire department personnel who perform or supervise fire
13.11	suppression or fire prevention duties if:
13.12	(1) the fire department employs or otherwise uses the services of the person solely as
13.13	volunteer emergency medical personnel to perform emergency medical response duties or
13.14	supervise emergency medical response activities;
13.15	(2) the bylaws of the firefighters relief association authorize the volunteer emergency
13.16	medical personnel's eligibility; and
13.17	(3) the volunteer emergency medical personnel's eligibility is approved by:
13.18	(i) the municipality, a if the fire department is a municipal department;
13.19	(ii) the joint powers entity board, if the fire department is a joint powers entity; or
13.20	(iii) the contracting municipality or municipalities, if the fire department is an independent
13.21	nonprofit firefighting corporation may include as a.
13.22	(d) Minors are prohibited from membership in a firefighters relief association member
13.23	a minor serving as a volunteer firefighter.
13.24	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.
12.25	See 12 Minnesote Statutes 2022 section 4244 01 subdivision 2 is amonded to need.
13.25	Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.01, subdivision 2, is amended to read:
13.26	Subd. 2. Status of substitute volunteer firefighters. No person who is serving as a
13.27	substitute volunteer firefighter may be considered to be a firefighter for purposes of chapter
13.28	477B or this chapter and no substitute volunteer firefighter is authorized to be a member of
13.29	any volunteer firefighters relief association governed by chapter 477B or this chapter.
13.30	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.01, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

- Subd. 5. **Fire prevention personnel.** (a) If the applicable municipality or municipalities approve, the fire department may employ or otherwise utilize the services of persons as volunteer firefighters to perform fire prevention duties and to supervise fire prevention activities.
- (b) Personnel Volunteer firefighters and paid on-call firefighters serving in fire prevention positions are eligible to be members of the applicable volunteer firefighter firefighters relief association and to qualify for service pension or other benefit coverage of the relief association on the same basis as fire department personnel who perform fire suppression duties.
- (c) <u>Personnel Volunteer firefighters and paid on-call firefighters</u> serving in fire prevention positions also are eligible to receive any other benefits under the applicable law or practice for services on the same basis as personnel who are employed to perform fire suppression duties.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

- Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.015, subdivision 1, is amended to read:
- Subdivision 1. **Separation from active service; exception.** (a) No service pension is payable to a person while the person remains an active member of the respective fire department, and a person who is receiving a service pension is not entitled to receive any other benefits from the special fund of the relief association.
 - (b) No relief association as defined in section 424A.001, subdivision 4, may pay a service pension or disability benefit to a former member of the relief association if that person has not separated from active service with the fire department to which the relief association is directly associated, unless:
 - (1) the person discontinues volunteer firefighter <u>and paid on-call firefighter</u> duties with the fire department and performs duties within the fire department on a <u>part-time or full-time</u> basis;
 - (2) the governing body of the municipality, of the independent nonprofit firefighting corporation, or of the joint powers entity has filed its determination with the board of trustees of the relief association that the person's experience with and service to the fire department in that person's <u>part-time or full-time</u> capacity would be difficult to replace; and

14.1

14.2

14.3

14.4

14.5

14.6

14.7

14.8

14.9

14.10

14.11

14.12

14.13

14.14

14.15

14.21

14.22

14.23

14.24

14.25

14.26

14.27

14.28

14.29

14.30

04/05/24 04:02 pm PENSIONS SL/LD	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
----------------------------------	----------	-------	-----------

(3) the bylaws of the relief association were amended to provide for the payment of a service pension or disability benefit for such part-time or full-time employees.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

15.1

15.2

- Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.015, subdivision 5, is amended to read:
- Subd. 5. **Minnesota deferred compensation plan transfers.** A relief association may directly transfer on an institution-to-institution basis the eligible member's lump-sum pension amount to the requesting member's account in the Minnesota deferred compensation plan, if:
- 15.9 (1) the governing articles of incorporation or bylaws so provide;
- 15.10 (2) the volunteer firefighter participates in the Minnesota deferred compensation plan 15.11 at the time of retirement; and
- 15.12 (3) the applicable retiring firefighter requests in writing that the relief association do so.
- 15.13 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.
- Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.015, subdivision 7, is amended to read:
- Subd. 7. **Combined service pensions.** (a) A member with credit for service as an active firefighter in more than one volunteer firefighters relief association is entitled to a service pension from each participating relief association if:
- 15.18 (1) the articles of incorporation or bylaws of the relief associations provide for such combined service pensions;
- 15.20 (2) the applicable requirements of paragraphs (b) to (e) are met; and
- 15.21 (3) the member otherwise qualifies.
- 15.22 (b) A member receiving a service pension under this subdivision must be at least partially vested under the bylaws of the first participating relief association on the date on which the member terminates active service with that relief association. The service pension paid from the first participating relief association shall be based on the years of active service accrued in the first relief association and the vesting percentage applicable to those years of active service.
- 15.28 (c) To receive a service pension from each subsequent relief association, the member 15.29 must be at least partially vested under the bylaws of the subsequent relief association, taking 15.30 into consideration the member's total service credit accrued in all participating relief

04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1

associations to the date the member terminates active service with the subsequent relief association. The service pension paid from each subsequent relief association shall be based on the years of active service accrued solely in that relief association and the vesting percentage applicable to the combined amount of total service credit accrued in all of the participating relief associations.

- (d) The member must have one or more years of service credit in each participating relief association. The service pension must be based on:
- (1) for defined benefit relief associations, the service pension amount in effect for the relief association on the date on which the member's active volunteer firefighting services covered by that relief association terminate; and
- (2) for defined contribution relief associations, the member's individual account balance on the date on which the member's active volunteer firefighting services covered by that relief association terminate.
- (e) To receive a service pension under this subdivision, the member must become a member of the subsequent relief association within two years of the date of termination of active service with the prior relief association. If requested by the member or a subsequent relief association, the secretary of each prior relief association must provide written notice to the member and the subsequent relief association regarding the amount of active service accrued by the member in the prior relief association.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

- Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.016, subdivision 2, is amended to read:
- Subd. 2. **Defined contribution service pension eligibility.** (a) A relief association, when its articles of incorporation or bylaws so provide, may pay out of the assets of its special fund a defined contribution service pension to each of its members who:
 - (1) separates from active service with the fire department;
- 16.26 (2) reaches age 50;

16.1

16.2

16.3

16.4

16.5

16.6

16.7

16.8

16.9

16.10

16.11

16.12

16.13

16.14

16.15

16.16

16.17

16.18

16.19

16.20

- 16.27 (3) completes at least five years of active service as an active member of the fire department to which the relief association is associated;
- 16.29 (4) completes at least five years of active membership with the relief association before 16.30 separation from active service; and
- 16.31 (5) complies with any additional conditions as to age, service, and membership that are prescribed by the bylaws of the relief association.

- (b) In the case of a member who has completed at least five years of active service as an active member of the fire department to which the relief association is associated on the date that the relief association is established and incorporated, the requirement that the member complete at least five years of active membership with the relief association before separation from active service may be waived by the board of trustees of the relief association if the member completes at least five years of inactive membership with the relief association before the date of the payment of the service pension. During the period of inactive membership, the member is not entitled to receive any disability benefit coverage, is not entitled to receive additional individual account allocation of fire state aid or municipal contribution towards toward a service pension, and is considered to have the status of a person entitled to a deferred service pension.
- (c) The service pension earned by a volunteer <u>firefighter</u> under this chapter and the articles of incorporation and bylaws of the relief association may be paid whether or not the municipality or independent nonprofit firefighting corporation to which the relief association is associated qualifies for the receipt of fire state aid under chapter 477B.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

- Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.016, subdivision 6, is amended to read:
- Subd. 6. **Deferred service pensions.** (a) A "deferred member" means a member of a relief association who has separated from active service and membership and has completed the minimum service and membership requirements in subdivision 2. The requirement that a member separate from active service and membership is waived for persons who have discontinued their volunteer firefighter and paid on-call firefighter duties and who are employed on a <u>part-time or full-time</u> basis under section 424A.015, subdivision 1.
- (b) A deferred member is entitled to receive a deferred service pension when the member reaches at least age 50, or at least the minimum age specified in the bylaws governing the relief association if that age is greater than age 50, and makes a valid written application.
- (c) A defined contribution relief association must credit interest or additional investment performance on the deferred lump-sum service pension during the period of deferral for all deferred members on or after January 1, 2021. A defined contribution relief association may specify in its bylaws the method by which it will credit interest or additional investment performance to the accounts of deferred members. Such method shall be limited to one of the three methods provided in this paragraph. In the event the bylaws do not specify a method, the interest or additional investment performance must be credited using the method defined in clause (3). The permissible methods are:

17.1

17.2

17.3

17.4

17.5

17.6

17.7

17.8

17.9

17.10

17.11

17.12

17.13

17.14

17.15

17.16

17.17

17.18

17.19

17.20

17.21

17.22

17.23

17.24

17.25

17.26

17.27

17.28

17.29

17.30

17.31

17.32

17.33

(1) at the investment performance rate actually earned on that portion of the assets if the
deferred benefit amount is invested by the relief association in a separate account established
and maintained by the relief association;

- (2) at the investment performance rate actually earned on that portion of the assets if the deferred benefit amount is invested in a separate investment vehicle held by the relief association; or
- (3) at the investment return on the assets of the special fund of the defined contribution volunteer firefighters relief association in proportion to the share of the assets of the special fund to the credit of each individual deferred member account through the accounting date on which the investment return is recognized by and credited to the special fund.
- (d) Notwithstanding the requirements of section 424A.015, subdivision 6, bylaw amendments made in accordance with paragraph (c) on or before January 1, 2022, shall apply to members already in deferred status as of January 1, 2021.
- (e) Unless the bylaws provide differently, the dates that will be used by a relief association in determining the creditable amount of interest or additional investment performance on a must be allocated to each deferred member account beginning on the date that the member separates from active service and membership and ending on the last date that the deferred member account is valued before the final distribution of the deferred service pension shall be as follows:.
- (1) for a relief association that has elected to credit interest or additional investment performance under paragraph (c), clause (1) or (3), beginning on the date that the member separates from active service and membership and ending on the accounting date immediately before the deferred member commences receipt of the deferred service pension; or
- (2) for a relief association that has elected to credit interest or additional investment performance under paragraph (c), clause (2), beginning on the date that the member separates from active service and membership and ending on the date that the separate investment vehicle is valued immediately before the date on which the deferred member commences receipt of the deferred service pension.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.02, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Authorization.** (a) A defined benefit relief association, when its articles of incorporation or bylaws so provide, may pay out of the assets of its special fund a defined benefit service pension to each of its members who: (1) separates from active service with

18.1

18.2

18.3

18.4

18.5

18.6

18.7

18.8

18.9

18.10

18.11

18.12

18.13

18.14

18.15

18.16

18.17

18.18

18.19

18.20

18.21

18.22

18.23

18.24

18.25

18.26

18.27

18.28

18.29

18.30

18.31

18.32

the fire department; (2) reaches age 50; (3) completes at least five years of active service as an active member of the fire department to which the relief association is associated; (4) completes at least five years of active membership with the relief association before separation from active service; and (5) complies with any additional conditions as to age, service, and membership that are prescribed by the bylaws of the relief association. A service pension computed under this section may be prorated monthly for fractional years of service as the bylaws or articles of incorporation of the relief association so provide. The bylaws or articles of incorporation may define a "month," but the definition must require a calendar month to have at least 16 days of active service. If the bylaws or articles of incorporation do not define a "month," a "month" is a completed calendar month of active service measured from the member's date of entry to the same date in the subsequent month. The service pension earned by a volunteer firefighter under this chapter and the articles of incorporation and bylaws of the volunteer firefighters relief association may be paid whether or not the municipality or independent nonprofit firefighting corporation to which the relief association is associated qualifies for the receipt of fire state aid under chapter 477B.

- (b) In the case of a member who has completed at least five years of active service as an active member of the fire department to which the relief association is associated on the date that the relief association is established and incorporated, the requirement that the member complete at least five years of active membership with the relief association before separation from active service may be waived by the board of trustees of the relief association if the member completes at least five years of inactive membership with the relief association before the date of the payment of the service pension. During the period of inactive membership, the member is not entitled to receive disability benefit coverage, is not entitled to receive additional service credit towards toward computation of a service pension, and is considered to have the status of a person entitled to a deferred service pension under subdivision 7.
- (c) No municipality, independent nonprofit firefighting corporation, or joint powers entity may delegate the power to take final action in setting a service pension or ancillary benefit amount or level to the board of trustees of the relief association or to approve in advance a service pension or ancillary benefit amount or level equal to the maximum amount or level that this chapter would allow rather than a specific dollar amount or level.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

19.1

19.2

19.3

19.4

19.5

19.6

19.7

19.8

19.9

19.10

19.11

19.12

19.13

19.14

19.15

19.16

19.17

19.18

19.19

19.20

19.21

19.22

19.23

19.24

19.25

19.26

19.27

19.28

19.29

19.30

19.31

	04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
--	-------------------	----------	-------	-----------

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.02, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

- Subd. 3. **Determining maximum pension benefit.** (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) and section 424B.22, subdivision 4, a defined benefit relief association may not set in its bylaws a service pension amount above the following maximum amounts:
- (1) for a defined benefit relief association in which the governing bylaws provide for a monthly service pension, the maximum monthly service pension amount per month for each year of service credited is the lesser of \$100 or the maximum monthly service pension amount that could be adopted by the relief association as a bylaws amendment that satisfies section 424A.093, subdivision 6, paragraph (d); and
- (2) for a defined benefit relief association in which the governing bylaws provide for a lump-sum service pension, the maximum lump-sum service pension amount for each year of service credited is the lesser of \$15,000 or the maximum lump-sum service pension amount that could be adopted by the relief association as a bylaws amendment that satisfies section 424A.092, subdivision 6, paragraph (e).
- (b) A defined benefit relief association may set in its bylaws a service pension amount that is not greater than the maximum amounts in clause (1) or (2), as applicable, but only if the service pension amount has been ratified by the municipality.
- (1) For a defined benefit relief association that pays a monthly service pension, the maximum monthly service pension amount per month for each year of service credited is \$100.
- (2) For a defined benefit relief association that pays a lump-sum service pension, the maximum lump-sum service pension amount for each year of service credited is \$15,000.
- (c) The method of calculating service pensions must be applied uniformly for all years of active service. Credit must be given for all years of active service, unless the bylaws of the relief association provide that service credit is not given for:
- 20.26 (1) years of active service in excess of caps on service credit; or
- 20.27 (2) years of active service earned by a former member who:
- 20.28 (i) has ceased duties as a volunteer firefighter <u>and paid on-call firefighter</u> with the fire 20.29 department before becoming vested under subdivision 2; and
- 20.30 (ii) has not resumed active service with the fire department and active membership in 20.31 the relief association for a period as defined in the relief association's bylaws, of not less 20.32 than five years.

20.1

20.2

20.3

20.4

20.5

20.6

20.7

20.8

20.9

20.10

20.11

20.12

20.13

20.14

20.15

20.16

20.17

20.18

20.19

20.20

20.21

20.22

20.23

20.24

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

21.1

21.2

21.3

21.4

21.5

21.6

21.7

21.8

21.9

21.10

21.11

21.12

21.13

21.14

21.15

21.16

21.17

21.18

21.19

21.20

21.21

21.22

- Subd. 7. **Deferred service pensions.** (a) A member of a defined benefit relief association is entitled to a deferred service pension if the member separates from active service and membership and has completed the minimum service and membership requirements in subdivision 1. The requirement that a member separate from active service and membership is waived for persons who have discontinued their volunteer firefighter and paid on-call firefighter duties and who are employed on a part-time or full-time basis under section 424A.015, subdivision 1.
- (b) The deferred service pension is payable when the former member reaches at least age 50, or at least the minimum age specified in the bylaws governing the relief association if that age is greater than age 50, and when the former member makes a valid written application.
- (c) A defined benefit relief association that provides a lump-sum service pension governed by subdivision 2c may, when its governing bylaws so provide, credit interest on the deferred lump-sum service pension during the period of deferral. If provided for in the bylaws, interest must be credited in one of the following manners:
- (1) at the investment performance rate actually earned on that portion of the assets if the deferred benefit amount is invested by the relief association in a separate account established and maintained by the relief association;
- (2) at the investment performance rate actually earned on that portion of the assets if the deferred benefit amount is invested in a separate investment vehicle held by the relief association; or
- 21.24 (3) at an interest rate of up to five percent, compounded annually, as set by the board of trustees.
- (d) Any change in the interest rate set by the board of trustees under paragraph (c), clause (3), must be ratified by the governing body of the municipality or joint powers entity served by the fire department to which the relief association is directly associated, or by the independent nonprofit firefighting corporation, as applicable.
- (e) Interest under paragraph (c), clause (3), is credited beginning on the January 1 next following the date on which the deferred service pension interest rate as set by the board of trustees was ratified by the governing body of the municipality or joint powers entity served

04/05/24 04:02 pm PENSIONS SL/LD H5040-DE1

by the fire department to which the relief association is directly associated, or by the independent nonprofit firefighting corporation, as applicable.

- (f) Unless the bylaws of a relief association that has elected to credit interest or additional investment performance on deferred lump-sum service pensions under paragraph (c) specifies a different interest or additional investment performance method, including the interest or additional investment performance period starting date and ending date, the interest or additional investment performance on a deferred service pension is creditable as follows:
- (1) for a relief association that has elected to credit interest or additional investment performance under paragraph (c), clause (1) or (3), beginning on the first day of the month next following the date on which the member separates from active service and membership and ending on the last day of the month immediately before the month in which the deferred member commences receipt of the deferred service pension; or
- (2) for a relief association that has elected to credit interest or additional investment performance under paragraph (c), clause (2), beginning on the date that the member separates from active service and membership and ending on the date that the separate investment vehicle is valued immediately before the date on which the deferred member commences receipt of the deferred service pension.
- (g) For a deferred service pension that is transferred to a separate account established and maintained by the relief association or separate investment vehicle held by the relief association, the deferred member bears the full investment risk subsequent to transfer and in calculating the accrued liability of the volunteer firefighters relief association that pays a lump-sum service pension, the accrued liability for deferred service pensions is equal to the separate relief association account balance or the fair market value of the separate investment vehicle held by the relief association.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

- Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.02, subdivision 9, is amended to read:
- Subd. 9. **Limitation on ancillary benefits.** A defined benefit relief association, including any volunteer firefighters relief association governed by Laws 2013, chapter 111, article 5, sections 31 to 42, or any volunteer firefighters division of a relief association governed by chapter 424, and the Bloomington Fire Department Relief Association may only pay ancillary benefits which that would constitute an authorized disbursement as specified in section 424A.05 subject to the following requirements or limitations:

22.1

22.2

22.3

22.4

22.5

22.6

22.7

22.8

22.9

22.10

22.11

22.12

22.13

22.14

22.15

22.16

22.17

22.18

22.19

22.20

22.21

22.22

22.23

22.24

04/05/24 04:02 pm PENSIONS SL/LD H5040-DE1

(1) with respect to a defined benefit relief association in which governing bylaws provide solely for a lump-sum service pension to a retiring member, or provide a retiring member the choice of either a lump-sum service pension or a monthly service pension and the lump-sum service pension was chosen, no ancillary benefit may be paid to any former member or paid to any person on behalf of any former member after the former member (i) terminates active service with the fire department and active membership in the relief association; and (ii) commences receipt of a service pension as authorized under this section; and

- (2) with respect to any defined benefit relief association, no ancillary benefit paid or payable to any member, to any former member, or to any person on behalf of any member or former member, may exceed in amount the total earned service pension of the member or former member. The total earned service pension must be calculated by multiplying the service pension amount specified in the bylaws of the relief association at the time of death or disability, whichever applies, by the years of service credited to the member or former member. The years of service must be determined as of (i) the date the member or former member became entitled to the ancillary benefit; or (ii) the date the member or former member died entitling a survivor or the estate of the member or former member to an ancillary benefit. The ancillary benefit must be calculated without regard to whether the member had attained the minimum amount of service and membership credit specified in the governing bylaws. For active members, the amount of a permanent disability benefit or a survivor benefit must be equal to the member's total earned service pension except that the bylaws of a defined benefit relief association may provide for the payment of a survivor benefit in an amount not to exceed five times the yearly service pension amount specified in the bylaws on behalf of any member who dies before having performed five years of active service in the fire department with which the relief association is affiliated. For deferred members, the amount of a permanent disability benefit or a survivor benefit must be calculated using the service pension amount in effect on the date specified in section 424A.015, subdivision 6, unless the bylaws of the relief association specify a different service pension amount to be used for the calculation.
- (3)(i) If a lump sum survivor or death benefit is payable under the articles of incorporation or bylaws, the benefit must be paid:
- (A) as a survivor benefit to the surviving spouse of the deceased firefighter;
- 23.33 (B) as a survivor benefit to the surviving children of the deceased firefighter if no surviving spouse;

23.1

23.2

23.3

23.4

23.5

23.6

23.7

23.8

23.9

23.10

23.11

23.12

23.13

23.14

23.15

23.16

23.17

23.18

23.19

23.20

23.21

23.22

23.23

23.24

23.25

23.26

23.27

23.28

23.29

23.30

23.31

(C) as a survivor benefit to a designated beneficiary of the deceased firefighter if no surviving spouse or surviving children; or

- (D) as a death benefit to the estate of the deceased active or deferred firefighter if no surviving children and no beneficiary designated.
- 24.5 (ii) If there are no surviving children, the surviving spouse may waive, in writing, wholly or partially, the spouse's entitlement to a survivor benefit.
- 24.7 (4)(i) If a monthly benefit survivor or death benefit is payable under the articles of incorporation or bylaws, the benefit must be paid:
 - (A) as a survivor benefit to the surviving spouse of the deceased firefighter;
- 24.10 (B) as a survivor benefit to the surviving children of the deceased firefighter if no surviving spouse;
- 24.12 (C) as a survivor benefit to a designated beneficiary of the deceased firefighter if no surviving spouse or surviving children; or
- 24.14 (D) as a death benefit to the estate of the deceased active or deferred firefighter if no surviving spouse, no surviving children, and no beneficiary designated.
 - (ii) If there are no surviving children, the surviving spouse may waive, in writing, wholly or partially, the spouse's entitlement to a survivor benefit.
 - (iii) For purposes of this clause, if the relief association bylaws authorize a monthly survivor benefit payable to a designated beneficiary, the relief association bylaws may limit the total survivor benefit amount payable.
 - (5) For purposes of this section, for a monthly benefit volunteer fire firefighters relief association or for a combination lump-sum and monthly benefit volunteer fire firefighters relief association where a monthly benefit service pension has been elected by or a monthly benefit is payable with respect to a firefighter, a designated beneficiary must be a natural person. For purposes of this section, for a lump-sum volunteer fire firefighters relief association or for a combination lump-sum and monthly benefit volunteer fire firefighters relief association where a lump-sum service pension has been elected by or a lump-sum benefit is payable with respect to a firefighter, a trust created under chapter 501C may be a designated beneficiary. If a trust is payable to the surviving children organized under chapter 501C as authorized by this section and there is no surviving spouse, the survivor benefit may be paid to the trust, notwithstanding a requirement of this section to the contrary.
 - **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.

24.1

24.2

24.3

24.4

24.9

24.16

24.17

24.18

24.19

24.20

24.21

24.22

24.23

24.24

24.25

24.26

24.27

24.28

24.29

24.30

24.31

04/05/24 04:02 t	om	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1

Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.021, is amended to read:

25.1

25.2

25.3

25.4

25.5

25.6

25.7

25.8

25.9

25.10

25.11

25.12

25.13

25.14

25.15

25.16

25.17

25.18

25.19

25.20

25.21

25.22

25.23

25.25

25.26

424A.021 CREDIT FOR BREAK IN SERVICE TO PROVIDE UNIFORMED SERVICE.

- Subdivision 1. Authorization. Subject to restrictions stated in this section, a volunteer firefighter or paid on-call firefighter who is absent from firefighting service due to service in the uniformed services, as defined in United States Code, title 38, section 4303(13), may obtain service credit if the relief association is a defined benefit plan or an allocation by the relief association as though the person was an active member if the relief association is a defined contribution plan for the period of the uniformed service, not to exceed five years, unless a longer period is required under United States Code, title 38, section 4312.
- Subd. 2. Limitations. (a) To be eligible for service credit or an allocation as though an active member under this section, the volunteer firefighter must return to firefighting service with coverage by the same relief association or by the successor to that relief association upon discharge from service in the uniformed service within the time frame required in United States Code, title 38, section 4312(e).
- (b) Service credit or an allocation as though an active member is not authorized if the firefighter separates from uniformed service with a dishonorable or bad conduct discharge or under other than honorable conditions.
 - (c) Service credit or an allocation as though an active member is not authorized if the firefighter fails to provide notice to the fire department that the individual is leaving to provide service in the uniformed service, unless it is not feasible to provide that notice due to the emergency nature of the situation.
 - **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.
- Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.092, subdivision 6, is amended to read: 25.24
- Subd. 6. Municipal ratification for bylaws amendments. (a) The board of trustees of a relief association may adopt an amendment to the articles of incorporation or bylaws that increases the coverage, service pensions, or retirement benefits provided by the relief 25.27 association only after preparing an estimate of the expected increase in the financial 25.28 requirements and change to the accrued liability and the overall funding balance of the 25.29 special fund resulting from the amendment. 25.30
- (b) For purposes of this subdivision, "financial requirements" "overall funding balance" 25.31 means the amount of the surplus or deficit calculated under subdivision 3, paragraph (e) 25.32

(b). "Accrued liability" means the amount calculated under subdivision 2 or 2a, as applicable. "Estimate" means the estimate required in paragraph (a).

- (c) If the special fund of a relief association to which this section applies does not have a surplus over has a deficit from full funding under subdivision 3, paragraph (e) (b), clause (5) (3), and or if the municipality is required to provide financial support to the special fund under this section has a minimum obligation under subdivision 3, paragraph (d), the board of trustees of the relief association may adopt an any amendment to the articles of incorporation or bylaws adopted by the board of trustees that increases the coverage, service pensions, or retirement benefits provided by the relief association. The amendment is not effective until it is ratified by the governing body of the affiliated municipality or independent nonprofit firefighting corporation, as applicable. The governing body may ratify such the amendment only if the relief association has delivered to the governing body the estimate described in paragraphs (a) and (b), certified by an officer of the relief association.
- (d) If the special fund of a relief association to which this section applies <u>is fully funded</u> <u>or</u> has a surplus over full funding under subdivision 3, paragraph (e) (b), clause (5) (3), and if the municipality <u>is not required to provide financial support</u> <u>does not have a minimum</u> <u>obligation under subdivision 3, paragraph (d),</u> to the special fund under this section, the relief association may adopt an amendment to the articles of incorporation or bylaws that increases the coverage, service pensions, or retirement benefits provided by the relief association. (1) The amendment is effective if the municipality ratifies the amendment. (2) The amendment is effective without municipal ratification if or, in the absence of municipal ratification, the amendment satisfies paragraph (e).
- (e) An amendment satisfies this paragraph if the estimate described in paragraphs (a) and (b) demonstrates that the amendment will not cause:
- 26.25 (1) the amount of the resulting increase in the accrued liability of the special fund to
 26.26 exceed 90 percent of the amount of the surplus over full funding reported in the prior year;
 26.27 and
 - (2) the financial requirements of the special fund to exceed the expected amount of the future fire state aid and police and firefighter retirement supplemental state aid to be received by the relief association. an increase in the minimum obligation of the municipality for the upcoming calendar year under subdivision 3, paragraph (d); and
 - (3) the special fund of the relief association to have a deficit from full funding under subdivision 3, paragraph (c), clause (5), on the day immediately following the adoption of the amendment.

26.1

26.2

26.3

26.4

26.5

26.6

26.7

26.8

26.9

26.10

26.11

26.12

26.13

26.14

26.15

26.16

26.17

26.18

26.19

26.20

26.21

26.22

26.23

26.24

26.28

26.29

26.30

26.31

26.32

26.33

04/05/24 04:02 pm PENSIONS SL/LD H5040-DE1

(f) If a relief association amends the articles of incorporation or bylaws without municipal ratification under this subdivision, and, subsequent to the amendment, the financial requirements of the special fund of the relief association under this section are such so as to require financial support from minimum obligation of the municipality under subdivision 3, paragraph (d), increases, the provision which that was implemented without municipal ratification is no longer effective and on July 31. Any service pensions or retirement benefits payable after that date may be paid only in accordance with the articles of incorporation or bylaws as amended with municipal ratification.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

- Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.093, subdivision 6, is amended to read:
- Subd. 6. **Municipal ratification for bylaws amendments.** (a) The board of trustees of a relief association may adopt an amendment to the articles of incorporation or bylaws that increases the coverage, service pensions, or retirement benefits provided by the relief association only after the board of trustees has had an updated actuarial valuation including the proposed change or an estimate of the expected actuarial impact of the proposed change prepared by the actuary of the relief association.
- (b) If the special fund of a relief association to which this section applies does not have a surplus over has a deficit from full funding under subdivision 4, and or if the municipality is required to provide financial support to the special fund has a minimum obligation under this section subdivision 5, the board of trustees of the relief association may adopt an any amendment to the articles of incorporation or bylaws adopted by the board of trustees that increases the coverage, service pensions, or retirement benefits provided by the relief association. The amendment is not effective until it is ratified by the governing body of the affiliated municipality or independent nonprofit firefighting corporation, as applicable. The governing body may ratify such the amendment only if the relief association has delivered to the governing body the actuarial valuation or estimate described in paragraph (a), certified by an officer of the relief association.
- (c) If the special fund of a relief association to which this section applies <u>is fully funded</u> <u>or</u> has a surplus over full funding under subdivision 4, and if the municipality <u>is does</u> not <u>required to provide financial support to the special fund have a minimum obligation under this section subdivision 5</u>, the relief association may adopt an amendment to the articles of incorporation or bylaws that increases the coverage, service pensions, or retirement benefits provided by the relief association. The amendment is effective:
 - (1) if the municipality ratifies the amendment; or

27.1

27.2

27.3

27.4

27.5

27.6

27.7

27.8

27.9

27.10

27.11

27.12

27.13

27.14

27.15

27.16

27.17

27.18

27.19

27.20

27.21

27.22

27.23

27.24

27.25

27.26

27.27

27.28

27.29

27.30

27.31

27.32

27.33

(2) without municipal ratification if the amendment satisfies paragraph (d).

28.1

28.2

28.3

28.4

28.5

28.6

28.7

28.8

28.9

28.10

28.11

28.12

28.13

28.14

28.15

28.16

28.17

28.18

28.19

28.20

28.21

28.23

28.24

28.25

28.26

28.27

28.28

28.29

28.30

28.31

28.32

28.33

- (d) An amendment satisfies this paragraph if the actuarial valuation or estimate described in paragraph (a) demonstrates that the amendment will not cause:
- (1) the amount of the resulting increase in the accrued liability of the special fund to exceed 90 percent of the amount of the surplus over full funding reported in the prior year; and
- (2) the financial requirements of the special fund to exceed the expected amount of the future fire state aid and police and firefighter retirement supplemental state aid to be received by the relief association. an increase in the minimum obligation of the municipality for the upcoming calendar year; and
- (3) the special fund of the relief association to have a deficit from full funding under subdivision 4 on the day immediately following the adoption of the amendment.
- (e) If a relief association amends its articles of incorporation or bylaws without municipal ratification pursuant to this subdivision, and, subsequent to the amendment, the financial requirements of the special fund of the relief association under this section are such so as to require financial support from minimum obligation of the municipality increases under this section, the provision which that was implemented without municipal ratification is no longer effective and on July 31. Any service pensions or retirement benefits payable after that date may be paid only in accordance with the articles of incorporation or bylaws as amended with municipal ratification.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.094, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. Authorized inclusion in fire state aid program; covered nonprofit corporations. (a) This section applies to any independent nonprofit firefighting corporation incorporated or organized under chapter 317A which that: (1) operates exclusively for firefighting purposes; (2) which is composed of volunteer firefighters, paid on-call firefighters, or both volunteer firefighters and paid on-call firefighters; and (3) which has a duly established separate subsidiary incorporated firefighters relief association which that provides retirement coverage for or pays a service pension to a retired firefighter or a retirement benefit to a surviving dependent of either an active or a retired firefighter, and which that is subject to the applicable provisions of chapter 424A.

(b) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a municipality contracting with an independent nonprofit firefighting corporation must be included in the distribution of fire

state aid to the appropriate county auditor by the state auditor only if the independent 29.1 nonprofit firefighting corporation complies with the provisions of this section. 29.2 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025. 29.3 Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.095, subdivision 2, is amended to read: 29.4 Subd. 2. Investment report. (a) Annually, the state auditor must provide an investment 29.5 report to each relief association that has complied with the reporting requirements under 29.6 section 356.219, subdivisions 1 and 3. The investment report must contain the following 29.7 information: 29.8 (1) the relief association's average annual rates of return for at least the previous one-, 29.9 three-, five-, ten-, 15-, and 20-year periods for which the state auditor has investment 29.10 information; 29.11 (2) the relief association's asset allocation; 29.12 29.13 (3) the average annual one-year and ten-year benchmark rates of return; (4) the average annual one-year and ten-year rates of return for the statewide volunteer 29.14 29.15 firefighter plan; (5) the one-year and ten-year average annual rates of return for the State Board of 29.16 Investment supplemental investment fund; and 29.17 (6) a graphical comparison between: 29.18 29.19 (i) the relief association's average annual rates of return for the previous year and for the previous multiyear periods provided under clause (1); and 29.20 29.21 (ii) the average annual rates of return for the same periods for the supplemental investment fund's balanced fund or any successor fund. 29.22 (b) The state auditor shall select the benchmark rates of return based on the best practice 29.23 in the industry. 29.24 (c) An officer of the relief association's board of trustees must certify to the state auditor 29.25 that the board reviewed the investment report. The certification must accompany the audited 29.26 financial statements or detailed financial statement under section 424A.014, subdivision 1 29.27 or 2, whichever applies. A copy of the report must be kept on file by the relief association 29.28

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

and must be available for inspection by any member of the public.

29.29

04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1

Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.10, is amended to read:

424A.10 STATE SUPPI	EMENTAL	BENEFIT:	'; VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS.
			, , obcitibliting in the contraction

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** For purposes of this section:

30.2

30.3

30.4

30.5

30.6

30.7

30.8

30.9

30.10

30.11

30.12

30.13

30.14

30.15

30.16

30.17

30.18

30.19

30.20

30.21

30.22

30.23

30.24

30.25

30.26

30.27

30.28

30.29

30.30

- (1) "qualified recipient" means a volunteer firefighter who receives a lump-sum distribution of pension or retirement benefits from a volunteer firefighters relief association or from the statewide volunteer firefighter plan; and
- (2) "survivor of a deceased active or deferred volunteer firefighter" means the surviving spouse of a deceased active or deferred volunteer firefighter or, if none, the surviving child or children of a deceased active or deferred volunteer firefighter, or, if none, the designated beneficiary of the deceased active or deferred volunteer firefighter, or, if no beneficiary has been designated, the estate of the deceased active or deferred volunteer firefighter;
 - (3) "active volunteer firefighter" means a person who:
- (i) regularly renders fire suppression service, the performance or supervision of authorized fire prevention duties, or the performance or supervision of authorized emergency medical response activities for a fire department;
 - (ii) has met the statutory and other requirements for relief association membership; and
- (iii) is deemed by the relief association under law and its bylaws to be a fully qualified member of the relief association or from the statewide volunteer firefighter plan for at least one month;
 - (4) "deferred volunteer firefighter" means a former active volunteer firefighter who:
- (i) terminated active firefighting service, the performance or supervision of authorized fire prevention duties, or the performance or supervision of authorized emergency medical response activities; and
- (ii) has sufficient service credit from the applicable relief association or from the statewide volunteer firefighter plan to be entitled to a service pension under the bylaws of the relief association, but has not applied for or has not received the service pension; and
- (5) "volunteer firefighter" includes an individual whose services were utilized to perform or supervise fire prevention duties if authorized under section 424A.01, subdivision 5, and individuals whose services were used to perform emergency medical response duties or supervise emergency medical response activities if authorized under section 424A.01, subdivision 5a.

Subd. 2. **Payment of supplemental benefit.** (a) Upon the payment by a volunteer firefighters relief association or by the statewide volunteer firefighter plan of a lump-sum distribution to a qualified recipient, the association or retirement plan, as applicable, must pay a supplemental benefit to the qualified recipient. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the relief association must pay the supplemental benefit out of its special fund and the statewide volunteer firefighter plan must pay the supplemental benefit out of the statewide volunteer firefighter plan. This benefit is an amount equal to ten percent of the regular lump-sum distribution that is paid on the basis of the recipient's service as a volunteer firefighter. In no case may the amount of the supplemental benefit exceed \$1,000. A supplemental benefit under this paragraph may not be paid to a survivor of a deceased active or deferred volunteer firefighter in that capacity.

- (b) Upon the payment by a relief association or the retirement plan of a lump-sum survivor benefit to a survivor of a deceased active volunteer firefighter or of a deceased deferred volunteer firefighter, the association or retirement plan, as applicable, must pay a supplemental survivor benefit to the survivor of the deceased active or deferred volunteer firefighter from the special fund of the relief association and the retirement plan must pay a supplemental survivor benefit to the survivor of the deceased active or deferred volunteer firefighter from the retirement fund if chapter 353G so provides. The amount of the supplemental survivor benefit is 20 percent of the survivor benefit, but not to exceed \$2,000.
- (c) For purposes of this section, the term "regular lump-sum distribution" means the pretax lump-sum distribution excluding any interest that may have been credited during a volunteer firefighter's period of deferral.
- (d) An individual may receive a supplemental benefit under paragraph (a) or under paragraph (b), but not under both paragraphs with respect to one lump-sum volunteer firefighter benefit.
- (e) If a qualified recipient receives more than one lump-sum distribution, the qualified recipient is eligible to receive a supplemental benefit or supplemental survivor benefit, whichever is applicable, with each lump-sum distribution. Each supplemental benefit shall be calculated pursuant to paragraph (a) or (b), as applicable, and shall be subject to a separate limit.
- (f) Qualified recipients who elect to receive their lump-sum distribution in installments under section 424A.016, subdivision 5, or 424A.02, subdivision 8, are eligible to receive one supplemental benefit calculated on the total lump-sum distribution amount under paragraph (a) or (b), as applicable.

31.1

31.2

31.3

31.4

31.5

31.6

31.7

31.8

31.9

31.10

31.11

31.12

31.13

31.14

31.15

31.16

31.17

31.18

31.19

31.20

31.21

31.22

31.23

31.24

31.25

31.26

31.27

31.28

31.29

31.30

31.31

31.32

31.33

Subd. 3. **State reimbursement.** (a) Each year, to be eligible for state reimbursement of the amount of supplemental benefits paid under subdivision 2 during the preceding calendar year, the volunteer firefighters relief association or the statewide volunteer firefighter plan shall apply to the commissioner of revenue by February 15. By March 15, the commissioner shall reimburse the relief association for the amount of the supplemental benefits paid by the relief association to qualified recipients and to survivors of deceased active or deferred volunteer firefighters.

- (b) The commissioner of revenue shall prescribe the form of and supporting information that must be supplied as part of the application for state reimbursement. The commissioner of revenue shall reimburse the relief association by paying the reimbursement amount to the treasurer of the municipality where the association is located and shall reimburse the retirement plan by paying the reimbursement amount to the executive director of the Public Employees Retirement Association. Within 30 days after receipt, the municipal treasurer shall transmit the state reimbursement to the treasurer of the association if the association has filed a financial report with the municipality. If the relief association has not filed a financial report with the municipality, the municipal treasurer shall delay transmission of the reimbursement payment to the association until the complete financial report is filed. If the association has dissolved or has been removed as a trustee of state aid, the treasurer shall deposit the money in a special account in the municipal treasury, and the money may be disbursed only for the purposes and in the manner provided in section 424A.08. When paid to the association, the reimbursement payment must be deposited in the special fund of the relief association and when paid to the retirement plan, the reimbursement payment must be deposited in the retirement fund of the plan.
- (c) A sum sufficient to make the payments is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of revenue.
- Subd. 4. **In lieu of income tax exclusion.** (a) The supplemental benefit provided by this section is in lieu of the state income tax exclusion for lump-sum distributions of retirement benefits paid to volunteer firefighters.
- (b) If the law is modified to exclude or exempt volunteer firefighters' lump-sum distributions from state income taxation, the supplemental benefits under this section are no longer payable, beginning with the first calendar year in which the exclusion or exemption is effective. This subdivision does not apply to exemption of all or part of a lump-sum distribution under section 290.032 or 290.0802.
 - **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.

32.1

32.2

32.3

32.4

32.5

32.6

32.7

32.8

32.9

32.10

32.11

32.12

32.13

32.14

32.15

32.16

32.17

32.18

32.19

32.20

32.21

32.22

32.23

32.24

32.25

32.26

32.27

32.28

32.29

32.30

32.31

32.32

32.33

04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
-------------------	----------	-------	-----------

Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424B.22, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

- Subd. 2. **Involuntary dissolution and termination.** (a) A relief association is dissolved and the retirement plan administered by the relief association is terminated automatically if:
- (1) the fire department affiliated with a relief association is dissolved by action of the governing body of the municipality in which the fire department is located or by the governing body of the independent nonprofit firefighting corporation, whichever applies; or
- (2) the fire department affiliated with a relief association has terminated the employment or services of all active members of the relief association.
- (b) An involuntary termination of a relief association under this subdivision is effective on the December 31 that is at least eight months after the date on which the fire department is dissolved or the termination of employment or services of all active members of the relief association occurs. The board of trustees must comply with subdivisions 3 and 5 to 12. The board of trustees may comply with subdivision 4. The state auditor has the discretion to waive these requirements if the board of trustees requests a waiver in advance and provides adequate demonstration that meeting these requirements is not practicable.
- (c) The retirement plan administered by a relief association is terminated automatically if the relief association is dissolved, effective on the date of the dissolution of the relief association.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424B.22, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

Subd. 10. **Supplemental benefits.** Within 60 days after the distribution of benefits under subdivision 8, the municipality or firefighting corporation with which the fire department is affiliated shall pay supplemental benefits under section 424A.10 to each participant and survivor who satisfies the requirements of section 424A.10, subdivision 2₇. A supplemental benefit is payable to each participant who receives a retirement benefit if the participant is at least age 50. A supplemental benefit is payable to each participant or survivor who receives, respectively, a disability benefit or survivor benefit without regard to any minimum age requirement. The commissioner of revenue shall reimburse the municipality or independent nonprofit firefighting corporation for all supplemental benefits paid as provided in section 424A.10, subdivision 3.

33.1

33.2

33.3

33.4

33.5

33.6

33.7

33.8

33.9

33.10

33.11

33.12

33.13

33.14

33.15

33.16

33.17

33.18

33.19

33.20

33.21

33.23

33.24

33.25

33.26

33.27

33.28

33.29

33.30

33.31

04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
-------------------	----------	-------	-----------

34.1	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective for supplemental benefits reimbursed in
34.2	calendar year 2025 and thereafter.
34.3	Sec. 31. REVISOR INSTRUCTION.
34.4	In Minnesota Statutes, the revisor of statutes shall change the terms "volunteer firefighters
34.5	relief association," "volunteer firefighter relief association," "volunteer firefighters' relief
34.6	association," and "volunteer fire relief association" to "firefighters relief association"
34.7	wherever the terms appear. The revisor shall make any necessary grammatical changes or
34.8	changes to sentence structure necessary to preserve the meaning of the text as a result of
34.9	the changes.
34.10	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.
34.11	Sec. 32. REPEALER.
34.12	Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 424A.01, subdivision 5a, is repealed.
34.13	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.
34.14	ARTICLE 3
34.15 34.16	STATEWIDE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER PLAN; ADDING A DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN
34.17	Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 352.1155, subdivision 3, is amended to read:
34.18	Subd. 3. Service credit prohibition. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a person
34.19	eligible under this section may not, based on employment to which the waiver in this section
34.20	applies, earn further service credit in a Minnesota public defined benefit plan and is not
34.21	eligible to participate in a Minnesota public defined contribution plan, other than a volunteer
34.22	fire plan firefighter relief association governed by chapter 424A or the statewide volunteer
34.23	firefighter plan governed by chapter 353G. No employer or employee contribution to any
34.24	of these plans may be made on behalf of such a person.
34.25	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.
34.26	Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353G.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to
34.27	read:
34.28	Subd. 2a. Association. "Association" means the Public Employees Retirement Association
34.29	established under chapter 353.
34.30	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

5040-DE1						
vision to						
t portion						
Subd. 4a. Defined contribution fund. "Defined contribution fund" means that portion of the fund consisting of the assets attributable to the defined contribution plan.						
5.5 EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.						
vision to						
plan that						
defined						
mber's						
stment						
vision to						
the fund						
vision to						
vision to						
one of						
enefit						
monthly						
f service,						
fined						

35.27

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

	04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
--	-------------------	----------	-------	-----------

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353G.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to 36.1 read: 36.2 Subd. 5a. Fire department account. "Fire department account" means the account in 36.3 the name of each participating employer to which is credited the assets and, in the case of 36.4 a participating employer in the defined benefit plan, the liabilities related to the retirement 36.5 benefits for members who are or were providing service to the participating employer. 36.6 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025. 36.7 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353G.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to 36.8 read: 36.9 Subd. 5b. Firefighting corporation. "Firefighting corporation" means an independent 36.10 nonprofit firefighting corporation that is organized under the provisions of chapter 317A 36.11 and that operates primarily for firefighting purposes. 36.12 36.13 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025. Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353G.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to 36.14 read: 36.15 Subd. 5c. Forfeiture. "Forfeiture" means the portion of an account or pension benefit 36.16 that is forfeited when a volunteer firefighter ends service before becoming 100 percent 36.17 vested in the account or pension benefit. 36.18 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025. 36.19 Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353G.01, is amended by adding a subdivision 36.20 to read: 36.21 Subd. 6b. Individual account. "Individual account" means the account in a fire 36.22 department account in the defined contribution plan established for a member under section 36.23 353G.082 to which allocations are credited and from which deductions are taken under 36.24 36.25 section 353G.082. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025. 36.26 Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 353G.01, subdivision 7b, is amended 36.27 to read: 36.28 Subd. 7b. Lump-sum division. "Lump-sum division" means the division of the defined 36.29

36.30

benefit plan governed by section 353G.11.

	04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
--	-------------------	----------	-------	-----------

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025. 37.1 Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 353G.01, subdivision 8b, is amended 37.2 to read: 37.3 Subd. 8b. Monthly benefit division. "Monthly benefit division" means the division of 37.4 the defined benefit plan governed by section 353G.112. 37.5 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025. 37.6 Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353G.01, subdivision 9, is amended to read: 37.7 Subd. 9. Municipality. "Municipality" means a governmental entity specified in section 37.8 477B.01, subdivision 10, a city or township that has established a fire department, a city or 37.9 township that has entered into a contract with an independent nonprofit a firefighting 37.10 corporation, or a city or township that has entered into a contract with a joint powers entity 37.11 established under section 471.59 that has established or operates a fire department. 37.12 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025. 37.13 Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353G.01, subdivision 9a, is amended to read: 37.14 Subd. 9a. Relief association. "Relief association" means a volunteer firefighter relief 37.15 association established as defined under chapter 424A, including a volunteer firefighter 37.16 relief association to which records, assets, and liabilities related to lump-sum or monthly 37.17 benefits for active and former firefighters will be transferred from the retirement fund upon 37.18 satisfaction of the requirements of section 353G.17 424A.001, subdivision 4. 37.19 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025. 37.20 Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353G.01, is amended by adding a subdivision 37.21 37.22 to read: Subd. 9b. Normal retirement age. "Normal retirement age" means age 50. 37.23 37.24 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025. Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353G.01, is amended by adding a subdivision 37.25 to read: 37.26 Subd. 9c. Participating employer. "Participating employer" means the municipality or 37.27

37.28

37.29

firefighting corporation that has joined the retirement plan and is associated with a fire

department with volunteer firefighters who are covered by the retirement plan.

04/05/24 04:02 pm	DEVICIONIC	CT /T D	H5040-DE1
04/05/74 04:07 nm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H 20/40-10 H I
UT/UJ/4T UT.U4 DIII		טבו עבו	ココンサン・レレン

38.1	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.
30.1	LITECTIVE DIVIDE THIS SECTION IS CITECTIVE SURGERY 1, 2025.

- Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353G.01, subdivision 11, is amended to read:
- Subd. 11. **Retirement fund.** "Retirement fund" means the statewide volunteer firefighter
- fund established under section 353G.02, subdivision 3, consisting of the defined contribution
- 38.5 fund and the defined benefit fund.
- 38.6 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.
- Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 353G.01, subdivision 12, is amended to read:
- Subd. 12. **Retirement plan.** "Retirement plan" or "plan" means the retirement statewide
- volunteer firefighter plan, either the lump-sum division or the monthly benefit division
- consisting of the defined contribution plan and the defined benefit plan, established by this
- 38.12 chapter.
- 38.13 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.
- Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 353G.01, subdivision 12a, is
- 38.15 amended to read:
- Subd. 12a. **Service credit.** "Service credit" means the period of service rendered by a
- volunteer firefighter that is certified under section 353G.07 by the fire chief of the fire
- department in which the volunteer firefighter serves. A volunteer firefighter's service credit
- 38.19 equals all periods of service with any fire department covered by the plan.
- 38.20 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024.
- Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 353G.01, subdivision 14a, is
- 38.22 amended to read:
- Subd. 14a. Vesting service credit. "Vesting service credit" means service credit plus
- any earlier period of service rendered as a volunteer firefighter, as defined in subdivision
- 38.25 15, in another fire department covered by the plan or in a fire department in the state that
- was not covered by the plan at the time the service was rendered. The earlier period of
- 38.27 service must be certified by the fire chief of the fire department covered by the plan in a
- 38.28 manner similar to the requirements of section 353G.07. The volunteer firefighter must
- 38.29 provide documentation in a form acceptable to the executive director regarding the earlier
- 38.30 period of service.

39.1	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2024.	
37.1	LITECTIVE DITTE. THIS SECTION IS CHECKIVE JULY 1, 2021.	

- Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 353G.01, subdivision 15, is amended to read:
- Subd. 15. **Volunteer firefighter.** "Volunteer firefighter" means a person who is an active a member of the fire department of a municipality or an independent nonprofit a firefighting corporation and who, in that capacity, on either a volunteer or on-call basis, engages in:
- 39.7 (1) fire suppression or prevention activities, provides;
- 39.8 (2) emergency response services;
- 39.9 (3) emergency medical response activities; or delivers
- 39.10 (4) fire education or prevention services on an on-call basis supervises personnel engaged
 39.11 in any of the foregoing.
- 39.12 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.
- Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 353G.02, subdivision 1, is amended to read:
- Subdivision 1. <u>Retirement plan</u>. The statewide volunteer firefighter plan, consisting of a <u>lump-sum division defined contribution plan</u> and a <u>monthly benefit division defined benefit</u> plan, is <u>created</u> established.
- 39.18 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.
- Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 353G.02, subdivision 3, is amended to read:
- Subd. 3. **Retirement fund.** (a) The statewide volunteer firefighter fund, consisting of a lump-sum account and a monthly benefit account, is created established. The retirement fund contains the assets attributable to the statewide volunteer firefighter defined contribution plan and the defined benefit plan.
 - (b) The State Board of Investment shall invest those portions of the retirement fund not required for immediate purposes in the statewide lump-sum volunteer firefighter plan in the statewide volunteer firefighter account of the Minnesota supplemental investment fund under section 11A.17.
- 39.29 (c) The commissioner of management and budget is the ex officio treasurer of the statewide volunteer firefighter retirement fund. The commissioner of management and

39.25

39.26

39.27

04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
-------------------	----------	-------	-----------

budget's general bond to the state covers all liability for actions taken as the treasurer of the retirement fund.

(d) The revenues of the plan beyond investment returns are governed by section 353G.08 and must be deposited in the fund. The disbursements of the plan are governed by section 353G.08. The commissioner of management and budget shall transmit a detailed statement showing all credits to and disbursements from the retirement fund to the executive director monthly.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

- Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 353G.02, subdivision 4, is amended to read:
- Subd. 4. <u>Periodic audit; biennial actuarial valuation; biennial funding report.</u> (a)

 The legislative auditor shall periodically audit the <u>statewide volunteer firefighter retirement</u>

 fund.
 - (b) The executive director must retain an approved actuary under section 356.214 to perform biennial actuarial valuation valuations of each fire department account in the lump-sum monthly division of the statewide volunteer firefighter plan may be performed periodically as determined to be appropriate or useful by the board. An actuarial valuation of the monthly benefit division of the statewide volunteer firefighter plan must be performed as frequently as required by government sector generally accepted accounting standards.

 An. The actuarial valuation must be performed by the approved actuary retained under section 356.214 and must conform with section 356.215 and the standards for actuarial work. An The actuarial valuation must contain sufficient detail for each participating employing entity employer to ascertain the actuarial condition of its account in the retirement fund and the amount of its required contribution requirement towards its to the account.
- 40.25 (c) The executive director must perform biennial funding assessments of each fire
 40.26 department account in the lump-sum division. The assessment must comply with section
 40.27 353G.08, subdivision 1.

40.28 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.

- Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 353G.03, subdivision 3, is amended to read:
- Subd. 3. **Composition.** (a) The advisory board consists of ten members.
- 40.32 (b) The advisory board members are:

40.1

40.2

40.3

40.4

40.5

40.6

40.7

40.8

40.14

40.15

40.16

40.17

40.18

40.19

40.20

40.21

40.22

40.23

	04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
--	-------------------	----------	-------	-----------

41.1	(1) one representative of Minnesota townships, appointed by the Minnesota Association
41.2	of Townships;
41.3	(2) two representatives of Minnesota cities, appointed by the League of Minnesota Cities;
41.4	(3) one representative of Minnesota fire chiefs, who is a fire chief, appointed by the
41.5	Minnesota State Fire Chiefs Association;
41.6	(4) two representatives of Minnesota volunteer firefighters, all who are active volunteer
41.7	firefighters, one of whom is covered by the lump-sum division and one of whom is covered
41.8	by the monthly benefit division, appointed by the Minnesota State Fire Chiefs Association;
41.9	(5) three representatives of Minnesota volunteer firefighters who are, at least one of
41.10	whom is covered by the lump-sum division of the defined benefit plan and at least one of
41.11	whom is covered by the defined contribution plan, appointed by the Minnesota State Fire
41.12	Departments Association; and
41.13	(6) one representative of the Office of the State Auditor, designated by the state auditor.
41.14	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2027.
41.15	Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353G.05, as amended by Laws 2023, chapter
41.16	47, article 10, section 9, is amended to read:
41.17	353G.05 PLAN COVERAGE ELECTION.
41.18	Subdivision 1. Entities eligible to request coverage. (a) A relief association or a,
41.19	municipality, or independent nonprofit firefighting corporation affiliated with a relief
41.20	association may elect to have its volunteer firefighters covered by the lump-sum division,
41.21	if the volunteer firefighters for whom coverage is being requested are covered by a relief
41.22	association that is a lump-sum defined benefit relief association or a defined contribution
41.23	relief association governed by chapter 424A retirement plan.
41.24	(b) A relief association or a municipality or independent nonprofit firefighting corporation
41.25	affiliated with a relief association may elect to have its volunteer firefighters covered by
41.26	the lump-sum division or the monthly benefit division of the retirement plan, if the volunteer
41.27	firefighters for whom coverage is being requested are covered by a relief association that
41.28	is a monthly benefit defined benefit relief association governed by chapter 424A.
41.29	(c) A municipality or independent nonprofit firefighting corporation that is not affiliated
41.30	with a relief association may elect to have its volunteer firefighters covered by the lump-sum
41.31	division of the plan.

04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1

Subd. 1a. Requesting coverage. (a) An entity that is eligible under subdivision 1 to

make a request for coverage may initiate the process of obtaining coverage by filing a request 42.2 with the executive director, as described in this subdivision. 42.3 (b) The request for coverage must be in writing and on a form prescribed by the executive 42.4 director. 42.5 (c) If the request for coverage is for volunteer firefighters covered by a relief association 42.6 retirement plan, the secretary of the relief association, following approval of the request by 42.7 the board of trustees of the relief association, and the chief administrative officer of the 42.8 entity affiliated with the relief association, following approval of the request by the governing 42.9 42.10 body of the entity, must jointly make the request. If the relief association is affiliated with more than one entity, the chief administrative officer of each affiliated entity must execute 42.11 the request. 42.12 (d) If the request for coverage is for volunteer firefighters who are not covered by a 42.13 relief association retirement plan, the chief administrative officer of the entity operating the 42.14 fire department must make the request. 42.15 Subd. 1b. Selection of plan and division. (a) In the request for coverage, the entity must 42.16 select coverage by either the defined benefit plan or the defined contribution plan. 42.17 (b) If the entity selects coverage by the defined benefit plan, the entity must select 42.18 coverage by either the lump-sum division or the monthly division, except that the entity 42.19 may select coverage by the monthly division only if the relief association with which the 42.20 entity is affiliated is a defined benefit relief association, as defined under section 424A.001, 42.21 subdivision 1b, that provides a monthly pension. 42.22 (c) If the entity selects coverage by the defined contribution plan and the relief association 42.23 with which the entity is affiliated is a defined benefit relief association, as defined under 42.24 section 424A.001, subdivision 1b, the defined benefit relief association must complete a 42.25 conversion under section 353G.19 as part of the process of joining the retirement plan. 42.26 Subd. 1c. Selection of vesting schedule. (e) In the request for coverage, the entity must 42.27 identify the desired service pension amount and select a vesting schedule from the following 42.28 options: 42.29 42.30 (1) incremental vesting beginning with 40 percent vested after completing five years of active service and increasing by four percent upon completion of each additional year of 42.31 active service, until 100 percent vested upon completion of 20 years of active service; 42.32

04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1

43.1	(2) incremental vesting beginning with 40 percent vested after completing five years of
43.2	active service and increasing by 12 percent upon completion of each additional year of
43.3	active service, until 100 percent vested upon completion of ten years of active service; or
43.4	(3) incremental vesting beginning with 40 percent vested after completing ten years of
43.5	active service and increasing by six percent upon completion of each additional year of
43.6	active service, until 100 percent vested upon completion of 20 years of active service.
43.7	The entity must not select a vesting schedule that requires more years of service to become
43.8	partially or fully vested than the vesting schedule in effect under the former affiliated relief
43.9	association, if any.
43.10	(d) If the request for coverage is for volunteer firefighters covered by a monthly benefit
43.11	defined benefit relief association, the entity making the request must elect coverage either
43.12	by the monthly benefit division or by the lump-sum division.
43.13	(e) If the request for coverage is for volunteer firefighters covered by a relief association
43.14	that provides both a monthly benefit and a lump-sum benefit, the entity making the request
43.15	must elect coverage by the monthly benefit division, the lump-sum division, or by both
43.16	divisions.
43.17	(f) If the request for coverage is for volunteer firefighters covered by a relief association
43.18	with a plan governed by chapter 424A, the secretary of the relief association, following
43.19	approval of the request by the board of the relief association, and the chief administrative
43.20	officer of the entity affiliated with the relief association, following approval of the request
43.21	by the governing body of the entity, must jointly make the request. If the relief association
43.22	is affiliated with more than one entity, the chief administrative officer of each affiliated
43.23	entity must execute the request.
43.24	(g) If the request for coverage is for volunteer firefighters who are not covered by a
43.25	relief association, the chief administrative officer of the entity operating the fire department
43.26	must make the request.
43.27	Subd. 1d. Selection of benefit level. (a) If the request for coverage is for coverage by
43.28	the defined benefit plan, the entity making the request must identify the desired benefit
43.29	<u>level.</u>
43.30	(b) If the request for coverage is for the lump-sum division of the defined benefit plan,
43.31	the benefit level identified must be no less than \$500 per full year of service credit and no
43.32	more than the maximum amount permitted under section 424A.02, subdivision 3, per full

year of service credit. Benefit levels between the minimum and maximum must be in \$100
 increments.

- (c) If the request for coverage is for the monthly division of the defined benefit plan, the benefit level is the amount specified in the retirement benefit plan document applicable to the fire department.
- Subd. 2. Cost analysis for coverage by the <u>lump sum lump-sum</u> division of the <u>defined benefit plan</u>. (a) Upon receipt of a request for coverage by the <u>lump-sum division</u> defined benefit plan, the executive director must prepare a cost analysis as described in this subdivision and deliver the cost analysis to the board of trustees of the relief association, if one exists, and the governing body.
 - (b) The cost analysis under this subdivision must be based on:
- (1) the service pension amount benefit level under section 353G.11 closest to the service pension amount benefit level provided by the relief association if the relief association is a lump-sum defined benefit plan, an amount that is equal to 95 percent of the most current average account balance per relief association member if the relief association is a defined contribution plan, or the lowest service pension amount benefit level under section 353G.11 if there is no relief association, rounded up; and
- (2) if different than the amount under clause (1), the service pension amount <u>benefit</u>

 <u>level</u> identified in the request under subdivision <u>la 1d</u>.
- (c) The cost analysis must take into account the vesting option selected in the request under subdivision 1a 1c.
- (d) The cost analysis must be prepared using a mathematical procedure certified as accurate by an approved actuary retained by the Public Employees Retirement Association.
- (e) If the request for coverage was made by a relief association that has filed the information required under section 424A.014 in a timely fashion, upon request by the executive director, the state auditor shall provide the most recent data available on the financial condition of the relief association, the most recent firefighter demographic data available, and a copy of the current relief association bylaws. If a cost analysis is requested, but no relief association exists, the chief administrative officer of the entity operating the fire department shall provide the demographic information on the volunteer firefighters serving as members of the fire department requested by the executive director.
- Subd. 3. Cost analysis for coverage by the monthly benefit division of the defined

 benefit plan. (a) Upon receipt of a request for coverage by the monthly benefit division,

44.3

44.4

44.5

44.6

44.7

44.8

44.9

44.10

44.11

44.12

44.13

44.14

44.15

44.16

44.17

44.18

44.19

44.20

44.21

44.22

44.23

44.24

44.25

44.26

44.27

44.28

44.29

44.30

04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1

the executive director must prepare a cost analysis as described in this subdivision and deliver the cost analysis to the board of trustees of the relief association, if one exists, and the governing body.

- (b) The cost analysis under this subdivision must be prepared by the approved actuary retained by the Public Employees Retirement Association. The cost analysis must be based on:
- (1) the monthly service pension amount benefit level and other retirement benefit types and amounts in effect for the relief association as of the date of the request;
- (2) if different than the amount under clause (1), the monthly pension amount identified in the request under subdivision 1a 1d and evaluated in a special actuarial valuation prepared under sections 356.215 and 356.216; and
 - (3) the standards for actuarial work and the actuarial assumptions utilized in the most recent actuarial valuation, except that the applicable investment return actuarial assumption is six percent.
- (c) The cost analysis must take into account the vesting option selected in the request under subdivision 1a 1c.
- (d) The secretary of the relief association making the request must supply the demographic and financial data necessary for the cost analysis to be prepared.
- Subd. 4. **Invested assets review.** If a cost analysis is requested under subdivision 2 or 3, The executive director of the State Board of Investment shall review the investment portfolio of the relief association retirement plan, if applicable one exists, for compliance with the applicable provisions of chapter 11A and for appropriateness for retention under the established investment objectives and investment policies of the State Board of Investment. If the prospective retirement coverage change is approved under subdivision 5, the State Board of Investment may require that the relief association liquidate any investment security or other asset which the executive director of the State Board of Investment has determined to be an ineligible or inappropriate investment for retention by the State Board of Investment. The security or asset liquidation must occur before the effective date of the transfer of plan coverage. If requested to do so by the chief administrative officer of the relief association, the executive director of the State Board of Investment shall provide advice about the best means to conduct the liquidation.
- Subd. 5. **Finalization**; **coverage transfer.** (a) The transfer of coverage to the defined contribution plan is considered approved if, no later than 120 days after the filing of the

45.1

45.2

45.3

45.4

45.5

45.6

45.7

45.8

45.9

45.10

45.11

45.12

45.13

45.14

45.15

45.16

45.17

45.18

45.19

45.20

45.21

45.22

45.23

45.24

45.25

45.26

45.27

45.28

45.29

45.30

45.31

45.32

request for coverage with the executive director shall deliver the cost analysis requested under subdivision 2 or 3 to, the transfer is approved by both (1) the board of trustees of the relief association, if one exists, and (2) the governing body. If either the governing body or the board of trustees of the relief association does not take action to approve the transfer within 120 days after the filing of the request for coverage, the transfer is not approved.

- (b) The transfer of coverage to the <u>defined benefit</u> plan is considered approved if, <u>within</u> <u>no later than 120 days of after receipt of the cost analysis, the transfer is approved by both (1) the board of trustees of the relief association, if one exists, and (2) the governing body. If either the governing body or the board of trustees of the relief association does not take action to approve the transfer within 120 days of after receipt of the cost analysis, the transfer is not approved.</u>
- (c) If the transfer is approved, coverage by the plan is effective on the January 1 next following the date of approval by the last governing body or, if later, the date of approval by the board of trustees of the relief association.
 - Subd. 6. **Joint powers entities.** If transfer of coverage to the plan is being requested for volunteer firefighters that provide services to a fire department operated as or by a joint powers entity, whenever an election or approval by or delivery to the governing body of a municipality is required under this section, all municipalities that executed the joint powers agreement must execute the election or approval or receive delivery, unless the joint powers agreement specifies another process be followed in order for the action of a joint powers entity to be effective.
 - **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.
- Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 353G.07, is amended to read:

46.24 **353G.07 CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE CREDIT FOR PENSION BENEFIT**46.25 **ACCRUAL OR CONTRIBUTION ALLOCATION.**

- (a) Annually, by March 31, the fire chief of the <u>a</u> fire department with <u>volunteer</u> firefighters who are active members of either the <u>lump-sum division or the monthly benefit</u> division shall <u>retirement plan must</u> certify to the executive director the service credit for the previous calendar year of each <u>volunteer</u> firefighter rendering active service with the fire department.
- (b) The fire chief shall provide to each firefighter rendering active service with the fire department notification of the amount of service credit rendered by the firefighter for the calendar year. The service credit notification must be provided to the firefighter 60 days

46.1

46.2

46.3

46.4

46.5

46.6

46.7

46.8

46.9

46.10

46.11

46.12

46.13

46.14

46.15

46.16

46.17

46.18

46.19

46.20

46.21

46.22

46.26

46.27

46.28

46.29

Association, along with an indication explanation of the process for the firefighter to challenge the fire chief's determination of service credit. If the service credit amount is challenged in a timely fashion, the fire chief shall hold a hearing on the challenge, accept and consider any additional pertinent information, and make a final determination of service credit. The final determination of service credit by the fire chief is not reviewable by the executive director of the Public Employees Retirement Association or by the board of trustees of the Public Employees Retirement Association.

- (c) The service credit certification is an official public document. If a false service credit certification is filed or if false information regarding service credits is provided, section 353.19 applies.
- (d) The service credit certification must be expressed as a percentage of a full year of service during which an active firefighter rendered at least the minimum level and quantity of fire suppression, emergency response, fire prevention, or fire education duties required by the fire department under the rules and regulations applicable to the fire department. No more than one year of service credit may be certified for a calendar year.
- (e) If a firefighter covered by the <u>retirement</u> plan leaves active firefighting service to render active military service that is required to be governed by the federal Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, as amended, the person must be certified as providing a full year of service credit in each year of the military service, up to the applicable limit of the federal Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act. If the firefighter does not return from the military service in compliance with the federal Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, the service credits applicable to that military service credit period are forfeited and cancel at the end of the calendar year in which the federal law time limit occurs.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

Sec. 28. [353G.075] SERVICE CREDIT FOR VESTING.

- (a) Annually, the executive director must credit each volunteer firefighter with a year of service credit for vesting for each year of service credited for benefit accrual or contribution allocation under section 353G.07.
- (b) A volunteer firefighter is entitled to receive service credit toward vesting in the
 retirement plan for any period of service as a volunteer firefighter, as defined under section
 353G.01, subdivision 15, rendered as a firefighter in a fire department in the state that was

47.1

47.2

47.3

47.4

47.5

47.6

47.7

47.8

47.9

47.10

47.11

47.12

47.13

47.14

47.15

47.16

47.17

47.18

47.19

47.20

47.21

47.22

47.23

47.24

47.25

47.26

not covered by the retirement plan at the time the service was rendered if the firefighter submits a request to the executive director indicating the number of years and months of service for which credit is requested and provides documentation in a form acceptable to the executive director regarding the earlier period of service. The firefighter must submit a copy of the request and documentation to the fire chief of the fire department to which the firefighter is currently providing service.

(c) The executive director must credit a firefighter with all years of service as a member of the retirement plan for any participating employer for vesting purposes.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2024.

- Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 353G.08, subdivision 1, is amended to read:
 - Subdivision 1. Annual Biennial funding requirements reports; lump-sum division. (a) Annually, The executive director shall must determine the funding requirements of for each fire department account in the lump-sum division of the statewide volunteer firefighter plan on or before August 1 every other year. The funding requirements computed under this subdivision must be determined using a mathematical procedure developed and certified as accurate by the approved actuary retained by the Public Employees Retirement association and must be based on present value factors using a six percent investment return rate, without any decrement assumptions. The funding requirements executive director must be certified provide written notice of the funding requirements to the entity or entities associated with the fire department whose active firefighters are covered by the plan.
 - (b) The overall funding balance of each <u>lump-sum</u> <u>fire department</u> account for the current calendar year must be determined in the following manner:
 - (1) The total accrued liability for all active and deferred members of the account <u>fire</u> <u>department</u> as of December 31 of the current year must be calculated based on the service credit of active and deferred members as of that date.
 - (2) The total present assets of the <u>fire department</u> account projected to December 31 of the current year, including receipts by and disbursements from the account anticipated to occur on or before December 31, must be calculated. To the extent possible, The market executive director must begin phasing in the use of actuarial value of assets must be utilized in making this calculation beginning with the funding reports for 2026.
 - (3) The amount of the total present assets calculated under clause (2) must be subtracted from the amount of the total accrued liability calculated under clause (1). If the amount of

48.1

48.2

48.3

48.4

48.5

48.6

48.7

48.8

48.9

48.12

48.13

48.14

48.15

48.16

48.17

48.18

48.19

48.20

48.21

48.22

48.23

48.24

48.25

48.26

48.27

48.28

48.29

48.30

48.31

48.32

total present the assets exceeds the amount of the total accrued liability, then the account is considered to have a surplus over full funding. If the amount of the total present assets is less than the amount of the total accrued liability, then the account is considered to have a deficit from full funding. If the amount of total present assets is equal to the amount of the total accrued liability, then the special fund account is considered to be fully funded.

- (c) The financial requirements of each <u>lump-sum account</u> <u>fire department</u> for the following calendar year must be determined in the following manner:
- (1) The total accrued liability for all active and deferred members of the account <u>fire</u> <u>department</u> as of December 31 of the calendar year next following the current calendar year must be calculated based on the service used in the calculation under paragraph (b), clause (1), increased by one year.
- (2) The increase in the total accrued liability of the account for the following calendar year over the total accrued liability of the account for the current year must be calculated.
- (3) The amount of administrative expenses of the account must be calculated by multiplying the per-person dollar amount of the administrative expenses for the most recent prior calendar year by the number of active and deferred firefighters reported to PERA the association on the most recent service credit certification form for each the account.
- (4) If the account is fully funded, the financial requirement of the account for the following calendar year is the total of the amounts calculated under clauses (2) and (3).
- (5) If the account has a deficit from full funding, the financial requirement of the account for the following calendar year is the total of the amounts calculated under clauses (2) and (3) plus an amount equal to one-tenth of the amount of the deficit from full funding of the account.
- (6) If the account has a surplus over full funding, the financial requirement of the account for the following calendar year is the financial requirement of the account calculated as though the account was fully funded under clause (4) and, if the account has also had a surplus over full funding during the prior two years, additionally reduced by an amount equal to one-tenth of the amount of the surplus over full funding of the account.
- (d) The required contribution of the entity or entities associated with the fire department whose active firefighters are covered by the lump-sum division is the annual financial requirements of the lump-sum fire department account of the plan under paragraph (c) reduced by the amount of any fire state aid payable under chapter 477B or police and firefighter retirement supplemental state aid payable under section 423A.022 that is

49.1

49.2

49.3

49.4

49.5

49.6

49.7

49.8

49.9

49.10

49.11

49.12

49.13

49.14

49.15

49.16

49.17

49.18

49.19

49.20

49.21

49.22

49.23

49.24

49.25

49.26

49.27

49.28

49.29

49.30

49.31

49.32

reasonably anticipated to be received by the <u>retirement</u> plan attributable to the entity or entities during the following calendar year, and an amount of <u>interest investment earnings</u> on the assets projected to be received during the following calendar year calculated at the rate of six percent per annum. The required contribution must be allocated between the entities if more than one entity is involved. A reasonable amount of anticipated fire state aid is an amount that does not exceed the fire state aid actually received in the prior year multiplied by the factor 1.035.

(e) The financial requirement for each fire department account in the lump-sum division for the second year of the biennial valuation period must be in the amount determined in paragraph (d) increased by six percent, but no more than the excess, if any, of the amount determined under paragraph (c), clause (1), less the actual market value of assets in the fire department account as of that date.

(e) (f) The required contribution calculated in paragraph (d) must be paid to the <u>retirement</u> plan on or before December 31 of the year for which it was calculated. If the contribution is not received by the plan by December 31, it is payable with interest at an annual compound rate of six percent from the date due until the date payment is received by the plan. If the entity does not pay the full amount of the required contribution, the executive director shall collect the unpaid amount under section 353.28, subdivision 6.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353G.08, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. Cash flow funding requirement. If the executive director determines that a fire department account in the lump-sum retirement division or a the monthly benefit retirement account in the statewide volunteer firefighter plan division has insufficient assets to meet the service pensions expected to be payable from the account over the succeeding two years, the executive director shall certify the amount of the potential service pension shortfall to the municipality or municipalities and the municipality or municipalities shall participating employer, which must make an additional employer contribution to the account within ten days of the certification. If more than one municipality participating employer is associated with the account, unless the municipalities participating employers agree to and implement a different allocation, the municipalities shall participating employers must allocate the additional employer contribution one-half in proportion to the population of each municipality participating employer and one-half in proportion to the estimated market value of the property of each municipality participating employer.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

50.1

50.2

50.3

50.4

50.5

50.6

50.7

50.8

50.9

50.10

50.11

50.12

50.13

50.14

50.15

50.16

50.17

50.18

50.19

50.20

50.21

50.22

50.23

50.24

50.25

50.26

50.27

50.28

50.29

50.30

50.31

50.32

50.33

51.1	Sec. 31. [353G.082] FUNDING OF FIRE DEPARTMENT ACCOUNTS AND
51.2	ANNUAL ALLOCATION TO INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS IN THE DEFINED
51.3	CONTRIBUTION PLAN.
51.4	Subdivision 1. Fire department accounts and individual accounts established. (a)
51.5	The executive director must establish a fire department account for each participating
51.6	employer in the defined contribution plan that consists of individual accounts for the
51.7	volunteer firefighters providing firefighting services to the participating employer.
51.8	(b) The executive director must establish an individual account within each fire
51.9	department account for each volunteer firefighter covered by the defined contribution plan,
51.10	to which the executive director must credit an allocation of state aid, contributions, forfeitures,
51.11	and investment earnings and from which the executive director must deduct investment
51.12	losses and administrative expenses.
51.13	Subd. 2. State aid and contributions by the participating employer. Notwithstanding
51.14	any law to the contrary, the executive director must deposit in each fire department account
51.15	in the defined contribution plan for allocation to individual accounts under subdivision 3:
51.16	(1) any fire state aid payable under chapter 477B or police and firefighter retirement
51.17	supplemental state aid payable under section 423A.022 on behalf of the participating
51.18	employer with which the fire department is associated; and
51.19	(2) any contributions from the participating employer with which the fire department is
51.20	associated.
51.21	Subd. 3. Annual allocation and deduction in equal shares. (a) As of the end of each
51.22	calendar year, the executive director must credit to the individual account of each firefighter
51.23	providing services to a fire department and who did not leave firefighting service with the
51.24	fire department during the calendar year an equal share of:
51.25	(1) any fire state aid payable under chapter 477B and police and firefighter retirement
51.26	supplemental state aid payable under section 423A.022 received by the retirement fund that
51.27	is attributable to the participating employer associated with the fire department as soon as
51.28	practicable after the aid is received by the retirement fund;
51.29	(2) any contributions made by the participating employer to the retirement fund for the
51.30	benefit of the volunteer firefighters providing firefighting services to the participating
51.31	employer as soon as practicable after the contribution is received by the retirement fund;
51.32	<u>and</u>

	04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
52.1	(3) any forfeiture under section 35	3G.10, subdivision	1, attributable to a fo	rmer volunteer
52.2	firefighter of the fire department.			
52.3	(b) As of the end of each calenda	ar year, the executive	e director must dedu	ıct an equal
52.4	share of administrative expenses from	m each individual ac	ecount.	
52.5	(c) As of the end of the calendar	year, the executive of	director must alloca	te to the
52.6	individual account of a volunteer fire	efighter who has les	s than a full year of	service a
52.7	fractional share of the amount that w	ould have been allo	cated to the individu	ual account for
52.8	a full year of service. The fractional	amount is equal to t	he number of mont	hs of service
52.9	divided by twelve. A month will be	credited if the volun	teer firefighter was	credited with
52.10	at least 16 days of service.			
52.11	Subd. 4. Investment earnings an	nd losses. As of the	end of each calenda	ir year or more
52.12	frequently, if determined necessary b	by the executive dire	ector to make distrib	outions or for
52.13	other purposes, the executive director	or must:		
52.14	(1) credit investment earnings on	the assets of each f	ire department acco	ount to each
52.15	individual account in proportion to the	he share of the asset	s of the fire departr	nent account
52.16	credited to the individual account; an	<u>nd</u>		
52.17	(2) deduct investment losses on t	he assets of each fire	e department accou	nt from each
52.18	individual account in proportion to the	he share of the asset	s of the fire departr	nent account
52.19	credited to the individual account.			
52.20	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section	on is effective Janua	ary 1, 2025.	
52.21	Sec. 32. [353G.085] AUTHORIZ	ED DISBURSEME	ENTS.	
52.22	The assets of the retirement fund	may be disbursed o	nly as a distribution	n of lump-sum
52.23	retirement benefits, monthly retirement	ent benefits, or indiv	vidual accounts or f	or:
52.24	(1) administrative expenses of the	e retirement plan;		

Article 3 Sec. 32.

(3) survivor benefits; and

52.25

52.26

52.27

52.28

(2) investment expenses of the retirement fund;

(4) a transfer of assets under section 353G.17.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1

Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 353G.09, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

- Subdivision 1. **Entitlement.** (a) A member with at least one year of service credit with a fire department with active firefighters that are covered by the plan is entitled to a retirement benefit as defined in subdivision 1a from the fire department's account in the plan if the member:
- (1) has separated from active service with the fire department for at least 30 days;
- 53.8 (2) has attained the normal retirement age of at least 50 years;

53.3

53.4

53.5

53.6

53.7

53.12

53.13

- 53.9 (3) has satisfied the minimum service requirement in paragraph (b) or (c), as applicable; 53.10 and
- 53.11 (4) applies in a manner prescribed by the executive director.
 - (b) If the member is a member of the lump-sum division or the defined contribution plan, the member satisfies the minimum service requirement if the member is at least 40 percent vested as determined under subdivision 2.
- (c) If the member is a member of the monthly benefit division, the member satisfies the minimum service requirement if the member has completed at least the minimum number of years of service specified in the retirement benefit plan document applicable to the member.
- 53.19 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.
- Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 353G.09, subdivision 1a, is amended to read:
- Subd. 1a. **Retirement benefit.** (a) A volunteer firefighter who is entitled to a service pension retirement benefit under subdivision 1 must receive a retirement benefit under subdivision 1, paragraph (a) or (b), (c), or (d), as applicable.
- (b) The retirement benefit of a member of the lump-sum division is equal to the number of years of service credit certified under section 353G.07 for the member, multiplied by the service pension benefit level applicable to the member under section 353G.11, multiplied by the member's vested percentage under subdivision 2.
- (c) The retirement benefit of a member of the monthly benefit division is equal to the number of years of service credit certified under section 353G.07 for the member, multiplied by the service pension benefit level applicable to the member under section 353G.112, multiplied by the member's vested percentage under subdivision 2.

04/05/24 04:02 pm PENSIONS SL/LD H5040-DE1

(d) The retirement benefit of a member of the defined contribution plan is equal to the balance in the member's account in the plan as of the end of the month after the month in which the executive director receives the application for a distribution of the retirement benefit multiplied by the member's vested percentage under subdivision 2.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

54.1

54.2

54.3

54.4

54.5

54.6

54.7

54.8

54.9

54.10

54.11

54.12

54.13

54.14

Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 353G.09, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Vested percentage.** A member of the plan has a nonforfeitable right to a retirement benefit, up to the percent vested. The member's vested percentage is determined under paragraph (a), (b), or (c), as applicable.

(a) If the member is a member of the lump-sum division and employed in a fire department that joined the plan before January 1, 2023, the member's vested percentage is equal to the percentage that corresponds to the number of years of vesting service credit, as follows:

54.15	Completed years of service credit	Vested percentage
54.16	less than 5	0 percent
54.17	5	40 percent
54.18	6	44 percent
54.19	7	48 percent
54.20	8	52 percent
54.21	9	56 percent
54.22	10	60 percent
54.23	11	64 percent
54.24	12	68 percent
54.25	13	72 percent
54.26	14	76 percent
54.27	15	80 percent
54.28	16	84 percent
54.29	17	88 percent
54.30	18	92 percent
54.31	19	96 percent

(b) If the member is a member of the lump-sum division or the defined contribution plan and employed in a fire department that joined joins the plan on or after January 1, 2023, the member's vested percentage is equal to the percentage determined by applying the vesting

54.32

54.33

04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
04/03/24 04:02 pm	LINDIOIND	טבו בט	113040-01

schedule selected in the request for coverage under section 353G.05, subdivision <u>1a 1c</u>, taking into account years of vesting service credit.

(c) If the member is a member of the monthly benefit division and has completed 20 years of service as a member of the plan, the member is 100 percent vested. If the member has completed less than 20 years of service as a member of the plan, the member's vested percentage is equal to the percentage determined under the retirement benefit plan document applicable to the member.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 353G.10, is amended to read:

353G.10 DEFERRED LEAVING FIREFIGHTING SERVICE PENSION AMOUNT BEFORE REACHING NORMAL RETIREMENT AGE.

Subdivision 1. Entitlement to a retirement benefit, to the extent vested. A person who was an active member of a fire department covered by either the lump-sum division or the monthly benefit division of the plan who has separated If a volunteer firefighter separates from active firefighting service for at least before reaching normal retirement age, the volunteer firefighter is entitled to a distribution of the volunteer firefighter's retirement benefit under section 353G.09, subdivision 1a, as follows:

- (1) if the volunteer firefighter is covered by the defined contribution plan, the volunteer firefighter is entitled to a distribution of the retirement benefit as soon as practicable after the volunteer firefighter submits an application for a distribution;
- (2) if the volunteer firefighter is covered by the lump-sum division of the defined benefit plan, the volunteer firefighter is entitled to a distribution of the volunteer firefighter's retirement benefit after the volunteer firefighter has reached age 50 and as soon as practicable after the volunteer firefighter submits an application for a distribution; and
- (3) if the volunteer firefighter is covered by the monthly benefit division of the defined benefit plan, the volunteer firefighter is entitled to begin a distribution of the volunteer firefighter's retirement benefit after the volunteer firefighter has reached age 50 and as soon as practicable after the volunteer firefighter submits an application for a distribution.
- Subd. 2. Application. No earlier than 30 days and who has completed at least five years of service credit, but has not attained the age of 50 years, is entitled to a deferred service pension on or after attaining the age of 50 years and applying after leaving active firefighting service, a volunteer firefighter entitled to a distribution under subdivision 1 must submit an application to the executive director in a manner specified by the executive director for the

55.1

55.2

55.3

55.4

55.5

55.6

55.7

55.8

55.9

55.10

55.11

55.12

55.13

55.14

55.15

55.16

55.17

55.18

55.19

55.20

55.21

55.22

55.23

55.24

55.25

55.26

55.27

55.28

55.29

55.30

55.31

55.32

04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
-------------------	----------	-------	-----------

56.1	service pension. The service pension payable is the nonforfeitable percentage of the service
56.2	pension under section 353G.09, subdivision 2, and is payable.
56.3	Subd. 3. Retirement benefit during period of deferral. (a) A volunteer firefighter's
56.4	account in the defined contribution plan must continue to be invested with the rest of the
56.5	assets of the individual accounts in the volunteer firefighter's fire department account and
56.6	until the account is distributed, credited with investment earnings or reduced by investment
56.7	losses under section 353G.082, subdivision 4, and a deduction taken for an equal share of
56.8	the administrative expenses under section 353G.082, subdivision 3, paragraph (b), until the
56.9	volunteer firefighter's account is distributed.
56.10	(b) A volunteer firefighter's retirement benefit in the defined benefit plan must be retained
56.11	in the defined benefit plan without any interest on or increase in the service pension over
56.12	during the period of deferral.
56.13	Subd. 4. Forfeiture of accounts of volunteer firefighters who end service. (a) The
56.14	portion of an account or pension benefit that is not vested is forfeited as of the earliest of:
56.15	(1) the last day of the calendar year that includes the fifth anniversary of the date on
56.16	which the volunteer firefighter ended service;
56.17	(2) immediately upon receiving a lump-sum payment of the entire vested portion of the
56.18	account or pension benefit; or
56.19	(3) immediately upon receiving the final payment consisting of the entire amount
56.20	remaining in the account or pension benefit that is vested.
56.21	(b) A volunteer firefighter with a zero percent vested interest in the account or pension
56.22	benefit is deemed to have received a distribution on the last day of service, and the account
56.23	or pension benefit must immediately be forfeited.
56.24	(c) Amounts forfeited remain forfeited and must not be reinstated upon the resumption
56.25	of service with the fire department or any other fire department covered by the retirement
56.26	<u>plan.</u>
56.27	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.
56.28	Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 353G.11, subdivision 2, is amended
56.29	to read:
56.30	Subd. 2. Benefit level changes in the lump-sum division level selection of the defined
56.31	benefit plan. (a) A fire department's fire chief or the governing body operating a fire
56.32	department may request an increase in the benefit level as provided in this subdivision.

04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1

(b) The fire chief or governing body must request a cost estimate from the executive director of an increase in the service pension level applicable to the active firefighters of the fire department may be requested by: (1) the fire chief of a department that has active membership covered by the lump-sum division; or (2) the governing body operating a fire department that has active membership covered by the lump-sum division.

- (c) The executive director must prepare the cost estimate using a procedure certified as accurate by the approved actuary retained by the association.
- (d) Within 120 days of the receipt of after receiving the cost estimate prepared by from the executive director using a procedure certified as accurate by the approved actuary retained by the Public Employees Retirement Association, the governing body may approve the service pension benefit level change, effective for January 1 of the following calendar year unless the governing body specifies in the approval document an effective date that is January 1 of the second year following the approval date. If the approval occurs after April 30, the required municipal contribution for the following calendar year must be recalculated and the results reported to the governing body. If not approved within 120 days of the receipt of the cost estimate, the service pension benefit level change is considered to have been disapproved.
- 57.18 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.
- Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 353G.11, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:
- 57.21 Subd. 2a. Benefit level changes in the monthly division of the defined benefit plan. (a)

 The fire chief of a fire department that has an active membership that is covered by the

 monthly benefit retirement division of the plan may initiate the process of modifying the

 retirement benefit plan document under this section.
 - (b) The modification procedure is initiated when the applicable fire chief files with the executive director of the Public Employees Retirement Association a written summary of the desired benefit plan document modification, the proposed benefit plan document modification language, a written request for the preparation of an actuarial cost estimate for the proposed benefit plan document modification, and payment of the estimated cost of the actuarial cost estimate.
 - (c) Upon receipt of the modification request and related documents, the executive director shall review the language of the proposed benefit plan document modification and, if a clarification is needed in the submitted language, shall inform the fire chief of the necessary

57.1

57.2

57.3

57.4

57.5

57.6

57.7

57.8

57.9

57.10

57.11

57.12

57.13

57.14

57.15

57.16

57.17

57.25

57.26

57.27

57.28

57.29

57.30

57.31

57.32

04/03/24 04:02 pm PENSIONS SL/LD II: 05/040-Di	04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
------------------------------------------------	-------------------	----------	-------	-----------

clarification. Once the proposed benefit plan document modification language has been 58.1 clarified by the fire chief and resubmitted to the executive director, the executive director 58.2 58.3 shall arrange for the approved actuary retained by the Public Employees Retirement Association to prepare a benefit plan document modification cost estimate under the 58.4 applicable provisions of section 356.215 and of the standards for actuarial work adopted 58.5 by the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement. Upon completion of the benefit 58.6 plan document modification cost estimate, the executive director shall forward the estimate 58.7 58.8 to the fire chief who requested it and to the chief financial officer of the municipality or entity with which the fire department is primarily associated. 58.9 (d) The fire chief, upon receipt of the cost estimate, shall circulate the cost estimate with 58.10 the active firefighters in the fire department and shall take reasonable steps to provide the 58.11 estimate results to any affected retired members of the fire department and their beneficiaries. 58.12 The chief financial officer of the municipality or entity associated with the fire department 58.13 shall present the proposed modification language and the cost estimate to the governing 58.14 body of the municipality or entity for its consideration at a public hearing held for that 58.15 purpose. 58.16 58.17 (e) If the governing body of the municipality or entity approves the modification language, the chief administrative officer of the municipality or entity shall notify the executive director 58.18 of the Public Employees Retirement Association of that approval. The benefit plan document 58.19 modification is effective on the January 1 following the date of filing the approval with the 58.20 Public Employees Retirement Association. 58.21 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025. 58.22 Sec. 39. [353G.114] ANCILLARY BENEFITS AND SUPPLEMENTAL BENEFITS. 58.23 (a) Except as provided under paragraph (b) and sections 353G.115 and 353G.12, no 58.24 58.25 disability, death, funeral, or other ancillary benefit beyond a retirement benefit is payable from the lump-sum division of the defined benefit plan or the defined contribution plan. 58.26 (b) Any member or survivor of a deceased member who receives a lump-sum distribution 58.27 of the member's retirement benefit from the lump-sum division of the defined benefit plan 58.28 or the defined contribution plan is entitled to a supplemental benefit under section 424A.10. 58.29

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

04/05/24 04:02 pm	DEVICIONIC	CT /T D	H5040-DE1
04/05/74 04:07 nm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H 20/40-10 H I
UT/UJ/4T UT.U4 DIII		טבו עבו	ココンサン・レレン

Sec. 40. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 353G.115, is amended to read:

353G.115 DISABILITY BENEFIT COVERAGE; AUTHORITY FOR CASUALTY

DISABILITY INSURANCE.

59.1

59.2

59.3

59.6

59.7

59.8

59.9

59.10

59.11

59.12

59.13

59.14

59.15

59.16

59.17

59.18

59.19

- (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) or (c), no disability benefit is payable from the statewide retirement plan.
 - (b) If the board approves the arrangement, disability coverage for the lump-sum division of the statewide plan members may be provided through a group disability insurance policy obtained from an insurance company licensed to do business in this state. The lump-sum retirement account of the statewide volunteer firefighter plan is authorized to pay the premium for the disability insurance authorized by this paragraph. The proportional amount of the total annual disability insurance premium must be added to the required contribution amount determined under section 353G.08.
 - (e) (b) The disability benefit coverage for a fire department in the monthly benefit division is the disability service pension amount specified in the retirement benefit plan document applicable to the fire department, applicable former volunteer firefighter relief association affiliated with the fire department and in effect as of the last day before the date on which retirement coverage transferred to the statewide volunteer firefighter retirement plan, subject to all conditions and limitations in the disability service pension specified therein.
- 59.20 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.
- Sec. 41. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 353G.12, subdivision 2, is amended to read:
- Subd. 2. Lump-sum <u>plan</u> <u>division</u>; survivor benefit amount. The amount of the survivor benefit for the lump-sum division is the amount of the <u>lump-sum service pension</u> retirement benefit that would have been payable to the member of the lump-sum division on the date of death if the member had been age 50 or older on that date.
 - **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.
- Sec. 42. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 353G.12, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:
- 59.30 Subd. 4. Defined contribution plan; survivor benefit amount. The amount of the survivor benefit for the defined contribution plan is the amount credited to the individual account of the deceased member on the date of death.

04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

60.1

60.2

60.3

60.4

60.5

60.6

60.7

60.8

60.9

60.10

60.11

60.12

60.13

60.14

60.15

60.16

60.17

60.18

60.19

60.20

60.21

60.22

60.23

60.24

60.25

60.26

60.27

60.28

60.29

60.30

60.31

60.32

Sec. 43. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 353G.14, is amended to read:

353G.14 DISTRIBUTIONS FROM LUMP-SUM DIVISION.

Subdivision 1. Lump sum. Unless a volunteer firefighter requests an annuity under subdivision 2, The executive director must distribute a the retirement benefit under section 353G.09, subdivision 1a, of a member of the lump-sum service pension division of the defined benefit plan or the defined contribution plan in the form of a single lump-sum payment from the account of each fire department covered by the plan in which the volunteer firefighter earned a retirement benefit under section 353G.09.

Subd. 2. Annuity Monthly payments. The executive director may purchase an annuity contract on behalf of a volunteer firefighter retiring from the lump-sum division of the plan with a total premium payment in an amount equal to the lump-sum service pension payable under section 353G.09 if the purchase was requested by the volunteer firefighter in a manner prescribed by the executive director. The annuity contract must be purchased from an insurance carrier that is licensed to do business in this state. If purchased, the annuity contract is in lieu of any service pension or other benefit from the lump-sum plan of the plan. The annuity contract may be purchased at any time after the volunteer firefighter discontinues active service, but the annuity contract must stipulate that no annuity amounts are payable before the volunteer firefighter attains the age of 50. The executive director must distribute the retirement benefit under section 353G.09, subdivision 1a, of a member of the monthly division of the defined benefit plan in the form of monthly payments as authorized under the retirement benefit plan document for the fire department in which the member is employed or for which the member provides services.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

Sec. 44. [353G.19] CONVERSION TO DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN.

Subdivision 1. Authority to initiate conversion. (a) A participating employer associated with a fire department covered by the defined benefit plan, including an entity previously affiliated with a defined benefit relief association when the entity made a request for coverage by the defined contribution plan under section 353G.05, subdivision 1b, paragraph (c), may convert to coverage by the defined contribution plan in accordance with this section.

(b) Conversion from coverage by the defined benefit plan to coverage by the defined contribution plan consists of:

	04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
61.1	(1) a resolution by the governing b	ody of the particip	ating employer;	
61.2	(2) notice to all former and active v	volunteer firefighte	ers of the fire depa	artment;
61.3	(3) full vesting of all active and for	mer volunteer firef	fighters with an ac	crued benefit in
61.4	the defined benefit plan attributable to	service with the fi	re department; an	<u>ıd</u>
61.5	(4) allocation of surplus over full f	funding, if any, to in	ndividual account	s in the fire
61.6	department's new account in the define	ed contribution pla	<u>n.</u>	
61.7	(c) For an entity previously affiliate	ed with a defined b	penefit relief assoc	ciation when the
61.8	entity made a request for coverage by t	the defined contrib	ution plan under s	ection 353G.05,
61.9	subdivision 1b, paragraph (c), a conve	ersion must occur u	nder paragraph (b) immediately
61.10	after coverage by the retirement plan of	f the entity's fire dep	partment and the e	entity's volunteer
61.11	firefighters takes effect.			
61.12	Subd. 2. Resolutions by the gover	r ning body. To init	iate a conversion,	, the governing
61.13	body of the participating employer mu	ist file with the exe	ecutive director at	least 30 days
61.14	before the end of a calendar year:			
61.15	(1) a resolution that states that the	fire department ele	ects to participate	in the defined
61.16	contribution plan effective on convers	ion effective date,	which is the first	day of the next
61.17	calendar year; and			
61.18	(2) if the fire department account ha	ad a deficit from ful	l funding as defin	ed under section
61.19	353G.08, subdivision 1, paragraph (c)	, or the special fund	d of the defined b	enefit relief
61.20	association had a deficit from full fund	ding as defined in s	section 424A.092,	subdivision 3,
61.21	paragraph (b), a resolution approving	a contribution to th	ne retirement plan	in the amount
61.22	necessary to eliminate the deficit, which	ch is to be paid wit	thin 30 days of the	e filing of the
61.23	resolution or in installments over three	e years, with the fir	est payment to be	made within 30
61.24	days of the filing of the resolution.			
61.25	Subd. 3. Notice to participants. T	he participating en	nployer must prov	vide notice to all
61.26	active and former volunteer firefighter	rs in the fire depart	ment at least 30 d	ays before the
61.27	conversion effective date. The notice r	must include:		
61.28	(1) an explanation that the plan is o	converting from a c	defined benefit pla	an to a defined

(1) an explanation that the plan is converting from a defined benefit plan to a defined contribution plan, including definitions of those terms, on the conversion effective date and that the active and former volunteer firefighters will become fully vested in their accrued benefit as of the conversion effective date;

(2) a summary of the terms of the defined contribution plan;

61.29

61.30

61.31

04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
A			

62.1	(3) a section tailored to each volunteer firefighter that provides an estimate of the present
62.2	value of the participant's fully vested accrued benefit and the calculation that resulted in
62.3	that value;
62.4	(4) an estimate of any anticipated surplus and an explanation of the allocation of the
62.5	surplus; and
62.6	(5) contact information for the chief administrative officer or chief financial officer of
62.7	the participating employer and the designated staff member of the retirement plan who will
62.8	answer questions and directions to a website.
62.9	Subd. 4. Full vesting and determination of accrued benefit. (a) On the conversion
62.10	effective date, each active or former volunteer firefighter with a retirement benefit under
62.11	the defined benefit plan, except any retiree in pay status who is receiving a monthly benefit,
62.12	becomes 100 percent vested as of the conversion effective date in the firefighter's retirement
62.13	benefit, without regard to the number of years of vesting service credit.
62.14	(b) The executive director must determine the present value of each active or former
62.15	firefighter's accrued benefit as of the conversion effective date, taking into account the full
62.16	vesting requirement under paragraph (a).
62.17	Subd. 5. Surplus over full funding. If the fire department account has a surplus over
62.18	full funding, as defined under section 353G.08, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), the executive
62.19	director must allocate the surplus over full funding to the individual account of each active
62.20	and former volunteer firefighter, except any former volunteer firefighter receiving an annuity,
62.21	in the same proportion that the volunteer firefighter's accrued benefit bears to the total
62.22	accrued benefits of all active and former volunteer firefighters.
62.23	Subd. 6. Distribution to former volunteer firefighters in pay status. (a) If any former
62.24	volunteer firefighter or beneficiary is receiving an annuity, the executive director must
62.25	determine the present value of the remaining payments to the former volunteer firefighter
62.26	or beneficiary and offer the former volunteer firefighter or beneficiary:
62.27	(1) continued payments in the same monthly amount; or
62.28	(2) an immediate lump-sum distribution of the present value amount.
62.29	(b) The offer of an immediate lump-sum distribution must include an offer to the former
62.30	volunteer firefighter or beneficiary to elect a direct rollover of the amount to an eligible
62.31	retirement plan as permitted under section 356.635, subdivisions 3 to 7, if the distribution
62.32	is an eligible rollover distribution as defined in section 356.635, subdivisions 4 and 5.

	04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
53.1	Subd. 7. Prohibition against re	duction in accrued b	enefit. In no eve	nt mav the value
53.2	of a volunteer firefighter's individua			
63.3	the day following the conversion ef		•	
63.4	firefighter's accrued benefit as of the	e day before the conv	ersion effective of	late.
53.5	EFFECTIVE DATE. This sect	ion is effective Januar	ry 1, 2026.	
63.6	Sec. 45. REVISOR INSTRUCT	ION.		
63.7	The revisor of statutes shall char	nge the following terr	ns wherever the t	erms appear in
63.8	Minnesota Statutes, chapter 353G, u	nless the context indic	eates that the prev	ious term should
53.9	remain. The revisor of statutes shall	also make grammatic	cal changes relate	ed to the changes
53.10	in terms:			
53.11	(1) "Public Employees Retireme	ent Association" to "as	ssociation";	
53.12	(2) "independent nonprofit firef	ighting corporation" to	o "firefighting co	rporation"; and
53.13	(3) "monthly benefit division" to	o "monthly division."		
53.14	Sec. 46. <u>REPEALER.</u>			
63.15	(a) Minnesota Statutes 2022, sec	etion 353G.01, subdiv	ision 10, is repea	ıled.
63.16	(b) Minnesota Statutes 2023 Suj	oplement, sections 35	3G.01, subdivisio	ons 7a and 8a;
63.17	353G.02, subdivision 6; 353G.08, s	subdivision 3; 353G.1	1, subdivisions 1	, 1a, 3, and 4;
53.18	353G.112; and 353G.121, are repea	<u>lled.</u>		
53.19	EFFECTIVE DATE. This sect	ion is effective Januar	ry 1, 2025.	
53.20		ARTICLE 4		
53.21	PUBLIC EMPLOY	EES RETIREMENT	T ASSOCIATIO	N
53.22	Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 202	22, section 353.028, su	abdivision 1, is a	mended to read:
63.23	Subdivision 1. Definitions. (a) I	For purposes of this se	ection, each of th	e terms in this
53.24	subdivision has the meaning indicate	ted.		
53.25	(b) "City manager" means:			
53.26	(1) a person who is duly appoint	ted to and is holding t	he position of cit	y manager in a

government;; or

63.27

63.28

Plan B statutory city or in a home rule city operating under the "council-manager" form of

04/05/24 04:02 p	m PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1

(2) a person who is appointed to and is holding the position of chief administrative officer of a home rule charter city or a statutory city under a charter provision, ordinance, or resolution establishing such a position and prescribing its duties and responsibilities.

- (c) "Governing body" means the city council of the city employing the city manager.
- (d) "Election" means the election described in subdivision 2.

64.1

64.2

64.3

64.4

64.5

64.6

64.7

64.8

64.9

64.10

64.11

64.12

64.13

64.14

64.15

64.16

64.17

64.18

64.19

64.20

64.21

64.22

64.23

64.24

64.25

64.26

64.27

64.28

64.29

64.30

64.31

64.32

64.33

(e) "First employed" means a city manager employed by a city who, prior to employment as a city manager, has not been an employee in any position covered by any retirement plan administered by the association to which the city contributed or by any supplemental pension or deferred compensation plan under section 356.24 sponsored by the city.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective August 1, 2024.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353.028, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Election.** (a) A city manager <u>first employed by a city may elect make a onetime, irrevocable election</u> to be excluded from membership in the general employees retirement plan of the <u>Public Employees Retirement</u> association. The election of exclusion must be made within <u>six months</u> <u>30 days</u> following the commencement of employment, must be made in writing on a form prescribed by the executive director, and must be approved by a resolution adopted by the governing body of the city. The election of exclusion is not effective until it is filed with the executive director. Membership of a city manager in the general employees retirement plan ceases on the date the written election is received by the executive director or upon a later date specified. Employee and employer contributions made <u>during the first 30 days of employment</u> on behalf of a person exercising the option to be excluded from membership under this <u>section paragraph</u> must be refunded <u>or credited</u> in accordance with section 353.27, subdivision 7.

(b) A city manager who has elected exclusion under this subdivision may elect to revoke that action by filing a written notice with the executive director. The notice must be on a form prescribed by the executive director and must be approved by a resolution of the governing body of the city. Membership of the city manager in the association resumes prospectively from the date of the first day of the pay period for which contributions were deducted or, if pay period coverage dates are not provided, the date on which the notice of revocation or contributions are received in the office of the association, provided that the notice of revocation is received by the association within 60 days of the receipt of contributions previously been an employee in any position covered by any retirement plan administered by the association to which the city contributed or by any supplemental pension

04/05/24 04:02 pm PE	ENSIONS S	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
----------------------	-----------	-------	-----------

or deferred compensation plan under section 356.24 sponsored by the city is not eligible to make the election under paragraph (a).

(c) An election under paragraph (b) is irrevocable. Any election under paragraph (a) or (b) must include a statement that the individual will not seek authorization to purchase service credit for any period of excluded service.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective August 1, 2024.

65.1

65.2

65.3

65.4

65.5

65.6

65.7

65.8

65.9

65.10

65.11

65.12

65.13

65.14

65.15

65.16

65.17

65.18

65.19

65.20

65.21

65.22

- Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353.028, subdivision 3, is amended to read:
- Subd. 3. **Deferred compensation; city contribution.** (a) If an election of exclusion under subdivision 2 is made, and if the city manager and the governing body of the city additionally agree in writing that the additional compensation is to be deferred and is to be contributed on behalf of the city manager to a deferred compensation program which that meets the requirements of section 457 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and section 356.24, the governing body may compensate the city manager, in addition to the salary allowed under any limitation imposed on salaries by law or charter, in an amount equal to the employer contribution which that would be required by section 353.27, subdivision 3, if the city manager were a member of the general employees retirement plan.
- (b) Alternatively, if an election of exclusion under subdivision 2 is made, the city manager and the governing body of the city may agree in writing that the equivalent employer contribution to the contribution under section 353.27, subdivision 3, be contributed by the city to the defined contribution plan of the Public Employees Retirement Association under chapter 353D. Any agreement under this paragraph must be entered into within 30 days following the commencement of employment.

65.23 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2024.

- 65.24 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353.028, subdivision 4, is amended to read:
- Subd. 4. **Refunds; deferred annuity.** A city manager who makes an election to be excluded from membership is entitled to a refund of accumulated deductions or, if otherwise qualified, a deferred annuity under section 353.34, at the option of the manager.
- 65.28 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2024.
- 65.29 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353.028, subdivision 5, is amended to read:
- Subd. 5. Election; Other employment. If a city manager who has made an election to be excluded under subdivision 2 subsequently accepts employment in another governmental

04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1

subdivision or subsequently accepts employment in a position other than as a city manager in the same city, the election is rescinded on the effective date of employment.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective August 1, 2024.

66.1

66.2

66.3

66.4

66.5

66.6

66.7

66.8

66.9

66.10

66.11

66.14

66.15

66.16

66.17

66.18

66.19

66.20

66.21

66.22

66.23

66.24

66.25

66.26

66.27

66.28

66.29

66.30

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353.33, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

- Subd. 7. Partial reemployment Limitation on disability benefit payments. (a) If, following a work or non-work-related injury or illness, a disabled person member who remains totally and permanently disabled as defined in section 353.01, subdivision 19, has income earnings from employment that is not substantial gainful activity and the rate of earnings from that employment are less than, the amount of the member's disability benefit must be reduced as described in paragraph (b) if the total of the disability benefit and earnings exceeds the greater of:
- 66.12 (1) the <u>base monthly</u> salary rate <u>the member had been receiving</u> at the date of disability; 66.13 or
 - (2) the <u>base monthly</u> salary rate currently paid <u>by the employing governmental subdivision</u> for <u>similar</u> positions <u>similar</u> to the <u>employment position held by the disabled person</u> immediately before becoming disabled, whichever is greater, the executive director shall continue.
 - (b) If paragraph (a) applies, the member's disability benefit in an amount that, when added to the earnings and any workers' compensation benefit, does must be reduced until the disability benefit plus the monthly earnings from employment do not exceed the salary rate at the date of disability or the salary currently paid for positions similar to the employment position held by the disabled person immediately before becoming disabled, whichever is higher greater of the salaries described in paragraph (a), clause (1) or (2).

The disability benefit under this subdivision may not exceed the disability benefit originally allowed, plus any postretirement adjustments payable after December 31, 1988, in accordance with Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 11A.18, subdivision 10, or Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 356.41, through January 1, 2009, and thereafter as provided in section 356.415. No deductions for the retirement fund may be taken from the salary of a disabled person who is receiving a disability benefit as provided in this subdivision.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353.33, subdivision 7a, is amended to read:

Subd. 7a. **Trial work period.** (a) This subdivision applies only to the Public Employees Retirement Association general employees retirement plan.

- (b) If, following a work or non-work-related injury or illness, a disabled member receiving disability benefits attempts to return to work for their the member's previous public employer or attempts to return to a similar position with another public employer, on a full-time or less than full-time basis, the Public Employees Retirement association shall must continue paying the disability benefit for a period not to exceed six months. The disability benefit must continue in an amount that, when added to the subsequent employment earnings and workers' compensation benefit, does not exceed the base monthly salary the member had been receiving at the date of disability or the base monthly salary rate currently paid for similar positions, whichever is higher.
- (c) No deductions for the general employees retirement plan may be taken from the salary of a disabled person who is attempting to return to work under this provision unless the member waives further disability benefits.
- (d) A member only may return to employment and continue disability benefit payments once while receiving disability benefits from the general employees retirement plan administered by the Public Employees Retirement Association.
 - **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.
- Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 353.335, subdivision 1, is amended to read:
 - Subdivision 1. Reemployment earnings reporting required. Unless waived by the executive director, a disability benefit recipient must report all earnings from reemployment and from income from workers' compensation to the association annually by May 15 in a format prescribed by the executive director. If the form is not submitted by May 15, benefits must be suspended effective June 1. If, upon receipt of the form, the executive director determines that the disability benefit recipient is eligible for continued payment, benefits must be reinstated retroactive to June 1. The executive director may waive the requirements in this section if the medical evidence supports that the disability benefit recipient will not have earnings from reemployment.
- 67.31 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.

67.1

67.2

67.3

67.4

67.5

67.6

67.7

67.8

67.9

67.10

67.11

67.12

67.13

67.14

67.15

67.16

67.17

67.18

67.19

67.22

67.23

67.24

67.25

67.26

67.27

67.28

67.29

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353.64, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Police and fire plan membership; mandatory.** (a) A governmental subdivision must report a public employee for membership in the police and fire plan if the employee is employed full time as specified in clause (1), (2), or (3):

- (1) a full-time police officer or a person in charge of a designated police or sheriff's department, who by virtue of that employment is required by the employing governmental subdivision to be and is licensed by the Minnesota peace officer standards and training board under sections 626.84 to 626.863, who is charged with the prevention and detection of crime, who has the full power of arrest, who is assigned to a designated police or sheriff's department, and whose primary job is the enforcement of the general criminal laws of the state;
- (2) a full-time firefighter or a person in charge of a designated fire company or companies who supervisor of other firefighters who, in either case, is employed in a fire department, is required by the employing governmental subdivision to be and is licensed by the Board of Firefighter Training and Education under section 299N.05, and who is engaged in the hazards of or exposed to hazardous conditions resulting from firefighting or fire prevention, suppression, or investigation; or
- (3) a full-time police officer or firefighter meeting all the requirements of clause (1) or (2), as applicable, who as part of the employment position is periodically assigned less than 50 percent of the time to perform employment duties in the same department that are not within the scope of this subdivision the employment duties described in clause (1) or (2).
- (b) An individual to which <u>paragraph</u> (a), clause (3), applies must contribute as a member of the police and fire plan for both the primary and secondary <u>all</u> services that are provided to the employing governmental subdivision.
 - **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.
- Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353.64, subdivision 2, is amended to read:
- Subd. 2. Police and fire fund plan membership; part-time employment coverage option. (a) The governing body of a governmental subdivision may adopt a resolution, subject to requirements specified in paragraph (b), declaring that a public employee employed in a position on a part-time basis by that governmental subdivision is covered by the police and fire plan for that employment.
 - (b) If the public employee's position is related to police service, the resolution is valid if the conditions specified in paragraph (c) are met. If the public employee's position is

68.1

68.2

68.3

68.4

68.5

68.6

68.7

68.8

68.9

68.10

68.11

68.12

68.13

68.14

68.15

68.16

68.17

68.18

68.19

68.20

68.21

68.22

68.23

68.24

68.25

68.32

04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1

met. If the public employee in the applicable position is periodically assigned to employment duties not within the scope of this the employment duties described in subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (1) or (2), the resolution is considered valid if the governing body of the governmental subdivision declares that the public employee's position, for primary services provided at least 50 percent of the time worked, satisfies all of the requirements of subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (3), other than the requirement of full-time employment.

- (c) For the governing body of the governmental subdivision to declare a position to be that of a police officer, the duties and qualifications of the person so employed must, at a minimum, satisfy all of the requirements of subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (1), other than the requirement of full-time employment.
- (d) For the governing body of a governmental subdivision to declare a position to be that of a firefighter, the duties and qualifications of the person so employed must, at a minimum, satisfy all of the requirements of subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), other than the requirement of full-time employment.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

- Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353.64, subdivision 4, is amended to read:
- Subd. 4. **Resolution filing.** (a) A copy of the resolution of the governing body declaring a position to be that of police officer or firefighter shall be promptly filed with the board of trustees and shall be irrevocable.
 - (b) Following the receipt of adequate notice from the association, if a valid resolution is not filed with the public employees retirement association within six months following the date of that notice, any contributions or deductions made to the police and fire fund plan for the applicable employment are deemed to be contributions or deductions transmitted in error under section 353.27, subdivision 7a.
 - (c) The association must consider the filing by the governing body of a governmental subdivision of a resolution that satisfies the requirements of this section regarding an employee as sufficient evidence that the employee satisfies the eligibility requirements of this section, including subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (3), and subdivision 2.

69.30 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

69.1

69.2

69.3

69.4

69.5

69.6

69.7

69.8

69.9

69.10

69.11

69.12

69.13

69.14

69.15

69.16

69.17

69.21

69.22

69.23

69.24

69.25

69.26

69.27

69.28

	04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE
--	-------------------	----------	-------	----------

1 Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353.64, subdivision 5a, is amended to read: 70.1 Subd. 5a. **Transfers.** (a) A member of the police and fire fund plan continues to be a 70.2 member of that fund the police and fire plan if the member is transferred or has a change 70.3 in employment: 70.4 (1) to a different position with associated within the same police or fire department 70.5 functions in the same department or a related; 70.6 70.7 (2) to a police department in the same another governmental subdivision provided in the state of Minnesota; or 70.8 (3) to a fire department in another governmental subdivision in the state of Minnesota. 70.9 (b) The governing body sends of the governmental subdivision that employs the member, 70.10 in the case of a transfer under paragraph (a), clause (1), or the governing body of the 70.11 governmental subdivision by which the member becomes employed, in the case of a transfer 70.12 under paragraph (a), clause (2) or (3), must send a copy of a resolution to that effect to the 70.13 association. A police and fire fund plan member who is elected or assumes an appointive 70.14 position, including but not limited to, the positions of city council member, city manager, 70.15 and finance director is not eligible to retain membership in the public employees police and 70.16 fire fund plan. 70.17 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment. 70.18 Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 353D.01, subdivision 2, is amended 70.19 to read: 70.20 Subd. 2. Eligibility. (a) Eligibility to participate in the plan is available to: 70.21 (1) any elected or appointed local government official of a governmental subdivision 70.22 who elects to participate in the plan under section 353D.02, subdivision 1, and who, for the 70.23 service rendered to a governmental subdivision, is not a member of the association within 70.24 the meaning of section 353.01, subdivision 7; 70.25 (2) physicians who, if they did not elect to participate in the plan under section 353D.02, 70.26 subdivision 2, would meet the definition of member under section 353.01, subdivision 7; 70.27 (3) basic and advanced life-support emergency medical service personnel who are 70.28 employed by any public ambulance service that elects to participate under section 353D.02, 70.29 subdivision 3;

(4) members of a municipal rescue squad associated with the city of Litchfield in Meeker 70.31 County, or of a county rescue squad associated with Kandiyohi County, if an independent 70.32

04/03/24 04:02 pm PENSIONS SL/LD II: 05/040-Di	04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
------------------------------------------------	-------------------	----------	-------	-----------

nonprofit rescue squad corporation, incorporated under chapter 317A, performing emergency management services, and if not affiliated with a fire department or ambulance service and if its members are not eligible for membership in that fire department's or ambulance service's relief association or comparable pension plan;

- (5) employees of the Port Authority of the city of St. Paul who elect to participate in the plan under section 353D.02, subdivision 5, and who are not members of the association under section 353.01, subdivision 7;
- (6) city managers who elected to be excluded from the general employees retirement plan of the association under section 353.028 and who elected to participate in the public employees defined contribution plan under section 353.028, subdivision 3, paragraph (b);
- (7) volunteer or emergency on-call firefighters serving in a municipal fire department or an independent nonprofit firefighting corporation who are not covered by the police and 71.12 fire retirement plan and who are not covered by a volunteer firefighters relief association 71.13 and who elect to participate in the public employees defined contribution plan; 71.14
- (8) any elected county sheriffs sheriff who are is a former members member of the police 71.15 and fire plan and who are, is receiving a retirement annuity as provided under section 71.16 353.651, who does not have previous employment with the county for which the sheriff 71.17 was elected; and 71.18
- (9) persons appointed to serve on a board or commission of a governmental subdivision 71.19 or an instrumentality thereof. 71.20
- (b) Individuals otherwise eligible to participate in the plan under this subdivision who 71.21 are currently covered by a public or private pension plan because of their employment or 71.22 provision of services are not eligible to participate in the public employees defined 71.23 contribution plan. 71.24
- 71.25 (c) A former participant is a person who has terminated eligible employment or service and has not withdrawn the value of the person's individual account. 71.26
- 71.27 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2024.
- Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353D.02, as amended by Laws 2023, chapter 71.28 71.29 47, article 3, section 3, is amended to read:
- 71.30 353D.02 ELECTION OF COVERAGE.
- Subdivision 1. Local government officials. Eligible elected or appointed local 71.31 government officials may elect to participate in the defined contribution plan after within 71.32

71.1

71.2

71.3

71.4

71.5

71.6

71.7

71.8

71.9

71.10

04/05/24 04:02 pm PENSIONS SL/LD H5040-DE1

the first 30 days of being elected or appointed to public office by filing a membership application on a form prescribed by the executive director of the association authorizing contributions to be deducted from the official's salary. Participation begins on the first day of the pay period for which the contributions were deducted or, if pay period coverage dates are not provided, the date on which the membership application or contributions are received in the office of the association, whichever is received first, provided further that the membership application is received by the association within 60 days of the receipt of the contributions. An election to participate in the plan is revocable during incumbency irrevocable.

Subd. 2. Eligible physician. Eligible physicians may elect to participate in the defined contribution plan within 90 the first 30 days of commencing employment with a government subdivision under section 353.01, subdivision 6, by filing a membership application on a form prescribed by the executive director of the association authorizing contributions to be deducted from the physician's salary. Participation begins on the first day of the pay period for which the contributions were deducted. An election to participate in the defined contribution plan is irrevocable.

Subd. 3. **Eligible ambulance service personnel.** Each public ambulance service with eligible personnel may elect to participate in the plan. If a service elects to participate, its eligible personnel may elect to participate or to decline to participate. An individual's election must be made within 30 days of the service's election to participate or within 30 days of the date on which the individual was employed by began employment with the service or began to provide service for it, whichever date is later. An election by a service or an individual is revocable irrevocable.

Subd. 4. **Eligible rescue squad personnel.** The municipality or county, as applicable, associated with a rescue squad under section 353D.01, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (4), may elect to participate in the plan. If the municipality or county, as applicable, elects to participate, the eligible personnel may elect to participate or decline to participate. An eligible individual's election must be made within 30 days of the service's election to participate or within 30 days of the date on which the individual begins to provide service to first began employment with the rescue squad, whichever is later. Elections under this subdivision by a government unit or individual are irrevocable. The municipality or county, as applicable, must specify by resolution eligibility requirements for rescue squad personnel which must be satisfied if the individual is to be authorized to make the election under this subdivision.

72.1

72.2

72.3

72.4

72.5

72.6

72.7

72.8

72.9

72.10

72.11

72.12

72.13

72.14

72.15

72.16

72.17

72.18

72.19

72.20

72.21

72.22

72.23

72.24

72.25

72.26

72.27

72.28

72.29

72.30

72.31

72.32

72.33

Subd. 5. **St. Paul Port Authority personnel.** Employees of the Port Authority of the city of St. Paul who do not elect to participate in the general employees retirement plan may elect within the first 30 days of commencing employment to participate in the plan by filing a membership application on a form prescribed by the executive director of the association authorizing contributions to be deducted from the employee's salary. Participation begins on the first day of the pay period for which the contributions were deducted or, if pay period coverage dates are not provided, the date on which the membership application or the contributions are received in the office of the association, whichever is received first, if the membership application is received by the association within 60 days of the receipt of the contributions. An election to participate in the plan is irrevocable.

Subd. 6. **City managers.** City managers who elected to be excluded from the general employees retirement plan of the Public Employees Retirement Association under section 353.028, and who elected to participate in the plan under section 353.028, subdivision 3, paragraph (b), shall must file that election with the executive director within the first 30 days of commencing employment. Participation begins on the first day of the pay period next following the date of the coverage election. An election to participate by a city manager is revocable irrevocable.

Subd. 7. **Certain volunteer firefighters.** Volunteer or emergency on-call firefighters who are serving as members of a municipal fire department or an independent nonprofit firefighting corporation and who are not covered for that firefighting service by the public employees police and fire retirement plan under sections 353.63 to 353.68 or, by the applicable a volunteer firefighters relief association under chapter 424A, or by the statewide volunteer firefighter retirement plan under chapter 353G may elect to participate in the plan within the first 30 days of commencing service. An eligible firefighter's election is irrevocable. No employer contribution is payable by the fire department or the firefighting corporation unless the municipal governing body or the firefighting corporation governing body, whichever applies, ratifies the election.

Subd. 8. Election available only upon first hire and no prior retirement plan eligibility. Notwithstanding any other provisions under this section, an election under this section is available to eligible participants only within the first 30 days of commencing employment or service with the governmental subdivision. If the eligible participant has previously been or is currently in a position covered by any retirement plan administered by the association to which the governmental subdivision contributed or by any supplemental pension or deferred compensation plan under section 356.24 sponsored by the governmental subdivision, then the eligible participant must not receive an election.

73.1

73.2

73.3

73.4

73.5

73.6

73.7

73.8

73.9

73.10

73.11

73.12

73.13

73.14

73.15

73.16

73.17

73.18

73.19

73.20

73.21

73.22

73.23

73.24

73.25

73.26

73.27

73.28

73.29

73.30

73.31

73.32

73.33

73.34

	04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
--	-------------------	----------	-------	-----------

74.1 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2024.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353E.03, is amended to read:

- 353E.03 CORRECTIONAL SERVICE PLAN CONTRIBUTIONS.
- 74.4 Subdivision 1. **Member contributions.** A member of the local government correctional
- 74.5 service retirement plan shall make an employee contribution in an amount equal to 5.83
- 74.6 6.83 percent of salary.
- Subd. 2. **Employer contributions.** The employer shall contribute for a member of the
- 74.8 local government correctional service retirement plan an amount equal to 8.75 10.25 percent
- 74.9 of salary.

- 74.10 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective beginning with the first full pay period
- 74.11 after December 31, 2024.
- Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353E.04, subdivision 3, is amended to read:
- Subd. 3. **Annuity amount.** (a) The average salary as defined in subdivision 2, multiplied
- by 1.9 percent for each year of allowable service before January 1, 2025, and 2.2 percent
- 74.15 for each year of allowable service beginning on or after January 1, 2025, determines the
- 74.16 amount of the normal retirement annuity.
- (b) If a person has earned allowable service in the general employees retirement plan of
- 74.18 the Public Employees Retirement Association or the public employees police and fire
- 74.19 retirement plan before participation under this chapter, the retirement annuity representing
- such service must be computed in accordance with the formula specified in sections 353.29
- 74.21 and 353.30 or 353.651, whichever applies.
- 74.22 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.
- Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353E.06, subdivision 6, is amended to read:
- 74.24 Subd. 6. Resumption of employment Limitation on disability benefit payments. (a)
- 74.25 If a disabled employee member receiving disability benefits resumes a gainful occupation
- 74.26 from which with earnings are less than, the amount of the member's disability benefit must
- be reduced as described in paragraph (b) if the total of the disability benefit and earnings
- 74.28 exceeds the greater of:
- 74.29 (1) the <u>base monthly salary received rate the member had been receiving</u> at the date of
- 74.30 disability; or

04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1

75.1	(2) the <u>base</u> monthly salary <u>rate</u> currently paid <u>by the employing governmental subdivision</u>
75.2	for similar positions, or should the employee be entitled to receive workers' compensation
75.3	benefits,.
75.4	(b) If paragraph (a) applies, the member's disability benefit must be continued in an
75.5	amount that, when added to such earnings during the months of employment, and workers'
75.6	eompensation benefits, if applicable, does reduced until the disability benefit plus the
75.7	monthly earnings from employment do not exceed the monthly salary received at the date
75.8	of disability or the monthly salary currently payable for the same employment position or
75.9	an employment position substantially similar to the one the person held as of the date of
75.10	the disability, whichever is greater of the salaries described in paragraph (a), clause (1) or
75.11	<u>(2)</u> .
75.12	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.
75.13	Sec. 18. ONETIME IRREVOCABLE ELECTION.
75.14	Subdivision 1. City managers. (a) A city manager hired by a city within six months
75.15	before August 1, 2024, and who is currently participating in the general employee retirement
75.16	plan of the Public Employees Retirement Association may make a onetime irrevocable
75.17	election to be excluded from membership if the election is:
75.18	(1) in writing on a form prescribed by the executive director;
75.19	(2) approved by a resolution adopted by the governing body of the city; and
75.20	(3) received by the executive director between October 1, 2024, and October 30, 2024.
75.21	(b) Membership of a city manager in the general employees retirement plan ceases on
75.22	the date that the written election is received by the executive director. Employee and
75.23	employer contributions made on behalf of a person exercising the option to be excluded
75.24	from membership under this subdivision must be refunded or credited in accordance with
75.25	Minnesota Statutes, section 353.27, subdivision 7.
75.26	Subd. 2. Local government officials. A local government official elected or appointed
75.27	to public office in a city within six months before the effective date of this act may make a
75.28	onetime irrevocable election to participate in the public employees defined contribution
75.29	plan if the election is:
75.30	(1) in writing on a form prescribed by the executive director;
75.31	(2) approved by a resolution adopted by the governing body of the city; and
75.32	(3) received by the executive director between October 1, 2024, and October 30, 2024.

	04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
76.1	Subd. 3. Public ambulance serv	vice personnel. Eligib	le personnel hired	by or providing
76.2	service to a participating public aml	bulance service within	n six months befo	re the effective

date of this act may make a onetime irrevocable election to participate in the public

- employees defined contribution plan if the election is:
- 76.5 (1) in writing on a form prescribed by the executive director; and
- 76.6 (2) received by the executive director between October 1, 2024, and October 30, 2024.
- 76.7 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.
- 76.8 Sec. 19. **REPEALER.**

76.3

- 76.9 (a) Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353D.071, is repealed effective the day following
 76.10 final enactment.
- 76.11 (b) Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353.33, subdivision 5, and Minnesota Statutes 2023
 76.12 Supplement, section 353.335, subdivision 2, are repealed effective January 1, 2025.

76.13 **ARTICLE 5**

76.14 MINNESOTA STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM

- Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 352.01, subdivision 13, is amended to read:
- Subd. 13. Salary. (a) Subject to the limitations of section 356.611, "salary" means wages,
- or other periodic compensation, paid to an employee before deductions for deferred
- 76.18 compensation, supplemental retirement plans, or other voluntary salary reduction programs.
- 76.19 (b) "Salary" does not include:
- 76.20 (1) lump-sum sick leave payments;
- 76.21 (2) severance payments;
- 76.22 (3) lump-sum annual leave payments and overtime payments made at the time of separation from state service;
- (4) payments in lieu of any employer-paid group insurance coverage, including the difference between single and family rates that may be paid to an employee with single coverage;
- 76.27 (5) payments made as an employer-paid fringe benefit;
- 76.28 (6) workers' compensation payments;

04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1

77.1	(7) employer contributions to a deferred compensation or tax-sheltered annuity program;
77.2	and
77.3	(8) amounts contributed under a benevolent vacation and sick leave donation program.
77.4	(c) Amounts provided paid to an employee by the employer through a grievance
77.5	proceeding or a legal settlement are salary only if the grievance or settlement is reviewed
77.6	by the executive director and agreement is received by the executive director no fewer than
77.7	14 days before payment is made and the executive director determines that:
77.8	(1) the grievance or settlement agreement describes with sufficient specificity the period
77.9	or periods of time worked or not worked by the employee for which the amounts are
77.10	compensation; and
77.11	(2) the amounts are determined by the executive director to be consistent with salary as
77.12	defined in paragraph (a) and the determination is consistent with prior determinations.
77.13	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.
77.14	Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 352.03, subdivision 5, is amended to read:
77.15	Subd. 5. Executive director, deputy director, and assistant director. (a) The board
77.16	shall appoint an executive director, in this chapter called the director, on the basis of
77.17	education, experience in the retirement field, ability to manage and lead system staff, and
77.18	ability to assist the board in setting a vision for the system. The director must have had at
77.19	least five years' experience in either an executive level management position or in a position
77.20	with responsibility for the governance, management, or administration of a retirement plan.
77.21	(b) The executive director, deputy director, and assistant director must be in the
77.22	unclassified service but appointees may be selected from civil service lists if desired.
77.23	Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the board must set the salary of the executive
77.24	director. The salary of the executive director must not exceed the limit for a position listed
77.25	in section 15A.0815, subdivision 2. The board must set the salary of the executive director
77.26	with reference to a salary range in the managerial plan in effect under section 43A.18,
77.27	subdivision 3. The board must designate the salary range and the salary of the executive
77.28	director, which must not exceed the maximum for the salary range. The salary of the deputy
77.29	director and assistant director must be set in accordance with section 43A.18, subdivision
77.30	3.
77.31	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 352.113, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Age and service requirements.** (a) An employee covered by the system, who is less than who has satisfied the applicable allowable service credit requirement under section 352.115, subdivision 1, has not reached normal retirement age, and who becomes totally and permanently disabled after three or more years of allowable service if employed before July 1, 2010, or after five or more years of allowable service if employed after June 30, 2010, is entitled to a disability benefit in an amount provided in subdivision 3.

- (b) If the disabled employee's state service has terminated at any time, the employee must have at least two years of allowable service after last becoming a state employee covered by the system.
- 78.11 (c) Refunds may be repaid under section 352.23 before the effective accrual date of the disability benefit under subdivision 2.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective retroactively from July 1, 2023.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 352.12, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Death before termination of service.** If an employee dies before state service has terminated and neither a survivor annuity nor a reversionary bounce-back annuity is payable on behalf of the employee, or if a former employee who has sufficient service credit to be entitled to an annuity dies before the annuity has become payable, a refund with in an amount equal to the employee's accumulated contributions plus interest is payable upon filing a written application on a form prescribed by the executive director. The refund is payable to the last designated beneficiary or, if there is none, to the surviving spouse or, if none, to the employee's surviving children in equal shares or, if none, to the employee's surviving parents in equal shares or, if none, to the representative of the estate. Interest must be computed as provided in section 352.22, subdivision 2. Upon the death of an employee who has received a refund that was later repaid in full, interest must be paid on the repaid refund only from the date of the repayment. If the repayment was made in installments, interest must be paid only from the date on which the installment payments began. The designated beneficiary, the surviving spouse, or the representative of the estate of an employee who had received a disability benefit is not entitled to the payment of interest upon any balance remaining to the decedent's credit in the fund at the time of death, unless the death occurred before any payment could be negotiated.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

78.1

78.2

78.3

78.4

78.5

78.6

78.7

78.8

78.9

78.10

78.13

78.14

78.15

78.16

78.17

78.18

78.19

78.20

78.21

78.22

78.23

78.24

78.25

78.26

78.27

78.28

78.29

78.30

78.31

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 352.12, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. Surviving spouse benefit. (a) If an employee or former employee has eredit for at least three years allowable service if the employee was employed before July 1, 2010, or for at least five years of allowable service if the employee was employed after June 30, 2010, satisfied the applicable allowable service credit requirement under section 352.115, subdivision 1, and dies before an annuity or disability benefit has become payable, notwithstanding any designation of beneficiary to the contrary, the surviving spouse of the employee may elect to receive, in lieu of the refund with interest under subdivision 1, an annuity equal to the joint and 100 percent survivor annuity which the employee or former employee could have qualified for on the date of death.

- (b) If the employee was an active employee at the time of the employee's death, was under age 55, and has credit for at least 30 years of allowable service on the date of death, the surviving spouse may elect to receive a 100 percent joint and survivor annuity based on the age of the employee and surviving spouse on the date of death. The annuity is payable using the full early retirement reduction under section 352.116, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), to age 55 and one-half of the early retirement reduction from age 55 to the age payment begins.
- (c) If the employee was an active employee at the time of the employee's death, was under age 55₂ and has eredit for at least three years of allowable service credit on the date of death if the employee was employed before July 1, 2010, or for at least five years of allowable service if the employee was employed after June 30, 2010, satisfied the applicable allowable service credit requirement under section 352.115, subdivision 1, but did not yet qualify for retirement, the surviving spouse may elect to receive a 100 percent joint and survivor annuity based on the age of the employee and surviving spouse at the time of death. The annuity is payable using the full early retirement reduction under section 352.116, subdivision 1 or 1a, to age 55 and one-half of the early retirement reduction from age 55 to the age payment begins.
- (d) The surviving spouse eligible for benefits under paragraph (a) may apply for the annuity at any time after the date on which the employee or former employee would have attained the required age for retirement based on the allowable service earned. The surviving spouse eligible for surviving spouse benefits under paragraph (b) or (c) may apply for the annuity at any time after the employee's death. The annuity must be computed under sections 352.115, subdivisions 1, 2, and 3, and 352.116, subdivisions 1, 1a, and 3. Sections Section 352.22, subdivision subdivisions 3, and 352.72, subdivision 2 3a, apply to a deferred annuity or payable to a surviving spouse benefit payable under this subdivision. The annuity must

79.1

79.2

79.3

79.4

79.5

79.6

79.7

79.8

79.9

79.10

79.11

79.12

79.13

79.14

79.15

79.16

79.17

79.18

79.19

79.20

79.21

79.22

79.23

79.24

79.25

79.26

79.27

79.28

79.29

79.30

79.31

79.32

79.33

79.34

04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1

cease with the last payment received by the surviving spouse in the lifetime of the surviving spouse, or upon expiration of a term certain benefit payment to a surviving spouse under subdivision 2a. An amount equal to the excess, if any, of the accumulated contributions credited to the account of the deceased employee in excess of the total of the benefits paid and payable to the surviving spouse must be paid to the deceased employee's or former employee's last designated beneficiary or, if none, as specified under subdivision 1.

(e) Any employee or former employee may request in writing, with the signed consent of the spouse, that this subdivision not apply and that payment be made only to a designated beneficiary as otherwise provided by this chapter.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective retroactively from July 1, 2023.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 352.12, subdivision 2b, is amended to read:

Subd. 2b. **Dependent child survivor coverage.** If there is no surviving spouse eligible for benefits under subdivision 2, a dependent child or children as defined in section 352.01, subdivision 26, is eligible for monthly payments <u>under this subdivision</u>, but only if the <u>dependent child or children did not elect to receive a refund under subdivision 1</u>. Payments to a dependent child must be paid from the date of the employee's death to the date the dependent child attains age 20 if the child is under age 15. If the child is 15 years or older on the date of death, payment must be made for five years. The payment to a dependent child is an amount actuarially equivalent to the value of a 100 percent optional annuity under subdivision 2 using the age of the employee and age of the dependent child at the date of death in lieu of the age of the surviving spouse. If there is more than one dependent child, each dependent child shall receive a proportionate share of the actuarial value of the employee's account.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 352.12, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Absence of optional or reversionary** bounce-back annuity. Upon the death of a retired employee who selected neither an optional annuity or a reversionary bounce-back annuity, a refund must be paid in an amount equal to the excess, if any, of the accumulated contributions to the credit of the retired employee immediately before retirement in excess of the sum of (1) all annuities, retirement allowances, and disability benefits that had been received and had accrued in the lifetime of the decedent, and (2) the annuity, retirement allowance, or disability benefit if not negotiated, payable to the surviving spouse under section 352.115, subdivision 8, or 352.113, subdivision 4, for the calendar month in which

80.1

80.2

80.3

80.4

80.5

80.6

80.7

80.8

80.9

80.10

80.11

80.12

80.13

80.14

80.15

80.16

80.17

80.18

80.19

80.20

80.21

80.22

80.23

80.24

80.25

80.26

80.27

80.28

80.29

80.30

80.31

80.32

04/05/24 04:02 pm PENSIONS SL/LD H5040-DE1

the retired employee died. The refund must be paid to the named beneficiary or, if there be none, to the surviving spouse or, if none, to the employee's surviving children in equal shares or, if none, to the employee's surviving parents in equal shares or, if none, to the representative of the estate.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 352.12, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Optional or reversionary** <u>bounce-back</u> annuity. If the last eligible recipient of an optional annuity dies and the total amounts paid under it are less than the accumulated contributions to the credit of the retired employee immediately before retirement, the balance of accumulated contributions must be paid to the person designated by the retired employee in writing to receive payment. If no designation has been made by the retired employee, the remaining balance of accumulated contributions must be paid to the surviving children of the deceased recipient of the optional annuity in equal shares. If there are no surviving children, payment must be made to the deceased recipient's parents or, if none, to the representative of the deceased recipient's estate.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

- Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 352.91, subdivision 3f, is amended to read:
- Subd. 3f. Additional Department of Human Services personnel. (a) "Covered correctional service" means service by a state employee in one of the employment positions specified in paragraph (b) in the state-operated forensic services program or the Minnesota Sex Offender Program if at least 75 percent of the employee's working time is spent in direct contact with patients and the determination of this direct contact is certified to the executive director by the commissioner of human services.
- (b) The employment positions are:
- 81.26 (1) baker;

81.1

81.2

81.3

81.4

81.5

81.6

81.7

81.8

81.9

81.10

81.11

81.12

81.13

81.14

81.15

- 81.27 (1) (2) behavior analyst 2;
- 81.28 (2) (3) behavior analyst 3;
- (3) (4) certified occupational therapy assistant 1;
- 81.30 (4) (5) certified occupational therapy assistant 2;
- 81.31 (5) (6) client advocate;

- 82.1 (6) (7) clinical program therapist 2;
- 82.2 (7) (8) clinical program therapist 3;
- 82.3 (8) (9) clinical program therapist 4;
- 82.4 <u>(10) cook;</u>
- 82.5 (11) culinary supervisor;
- 82.6 (9) (12) customer services specialist principal;
- 82.7 $\frac{(10)}{(13)}$ dental assistant registered;
- 82.8 (11) (14) dental hygienist;
- 82.9 (15) food service worker;
- 82.10 (16) group supervisor;
- 82.11 $\frac{(13)}{(17)}$ group supervisor assistant;
- 82.12 (14) (18) human services support specialist;
- 82.13 (19) food services supervisor;
- 82.14 (15) (20) licensed alcohol and drug counselor;
- 82.15 (16) (21) licensed practical nurse;
- 82.16 (17) (22) management analyst 3;
- 82.17 (23) music therapist;
- 82.18 (18) (24) occupational therapist;
- 82.19 (19) (25) occupational therapist, senior;
- 82.20 $\frac{(20)}{(26)}$ physical therapist;
- 82.21 (21) (27) psychologist 1;
- 82.22 (22) (28) psychologist 2;
- 82.23 (29) psychologist 3;
- 82.24 (24) (30) recreation program assistant;
- 82.25 $\frac{(25)}{(31)}$ recreation therapist lead;
- 82.26 (26) (32) recreation therapist senior;
- 82.27 (27) (33) rehabilitation counselor senior;

- 83.1 (28) (34) residential program lead;
- 83.2 $\frac{(29)}{(35)}$ security supervisor;
- 83.3 (36) skills development specialist;
- 83.4 $\frac{(31)}{(37)}$ social worker senior;
- 83.5 (32) (38) social worker specialist;
- 83.6 (33) (39) social worker specialist, senior;
- 83.7 (34) (40) special education program assistant;
- 83.8 $\frac{(35)}{(41)}$ speech pathology clinician;
- 83.9 (36) (42) substance use disorder counselor senior;
- 83.10 (37) (43) work therapy assistant; and

83.15

83.16

83.17

83.18

83.19

83.20

83.21

83.22

83.23

83.24

83.25

83.26

83.27

83.28

83.29

83.30

- 83.11 (38) (44) work therapy program coordinator.
- 83.12 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective on the first day of the first payroll period occurring after the day of enactment.
- Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 352.95, subdivision 4, is amended to read:
 - Subd. 4. **Medical or psychological evidence.** (a) An applicant shall provide medical, chiropractic, or psychological evidence to support an application for disability benefits. The director shall may have the employee examined by at least one additional licensed physician, APRN, chiropractor, or psychologist who is designated by the medical adviser. The physicians, APRNs, chiropractors, or psychologists with respect to a mental impairment, shall make written reports to the director concerning the question of the employee's disability, including their expert opinions as to whether the employee has an occupational disability within the meaning of section 352.01, subdivision 17a, and whether the employee has a duty disability, physical or psychological, under section 352.01, subdivision 17b, or has a regular disability, physical or psychological, under section 352.01, subdivision 17c. The director shall also obtain written certification from the employer stating whether or not the employee is on sick leave of absence because of a disability that will prevent further service to the employer performing normal duties as defined in section 352.01, subdivision 17d, or performing less frequent duties as defined in section 352.01, subdivision 17e, and as a consequence, the employee is not entitled to compensation from the employer.
 - (b) If, on considering the reports by the physicians, APRNs, chiropractors, or psychologists and any other evidence supplied by the employee or others, the medical

adviser finds that the employee has an occupational disability within the meaning of section 352.01, subdivision 17a, the adviser shall make the appropriate recommendation to the director, in writing, together with the date from which the employee has been disabled. The director shall then determine the propriety of authorizing payment of a duty disability benefit or a regular disability benefit as provided in this section.

(c) Unless the payment of a disability benefit has terminated because the employee no longer has an occupational disability, or because the employee has reached either age 55 or the five-year anniversary of the effective date of the disability benefit, whichever is later, the disability benefit must cease with the last payment which was received by the disabled employee or which had accrued during the employee's lifetime. While disability benefits are paid, the director has the right, at reasonable times, to require the disabled employee to submit proof of the continuance of an occupational disability. If any examination indicates to the medical adviser that the employee no longer has an occupational disability, the disability payment must be discontinued upon the person's reinstatement to state service or within 60 days of the finding, whichever is sooner.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 11. [352B.115] REEMPLOYMENT.

84.1

84.2

84.3

84.4

84.5

84.6

84.7

84.8

84.9

84.10

84.11

84.12

84.13

84.14

84.15

84.16

84.17

84.18

84.19

84.20

84.21

84.22

84.25

84.26

84.27

84.28

84.29

84.30

84.31

84.32

84.33

Subdivision 1. Return to employment. (a) A member of the State Patrol retirement plan who has separated from service and is receiving an annuity under section 352B.08 or has applied to receive an annuity under section 352B.08 may return to employment in the same department and to a position covered by the State Patrol retirement plan as early as:

- (1) the second day after separation from service if the member is at least age 55; or
- 84.23 (2) the 31st day after separation from service if the member is at least age 50 but not yet 84.24 age 55.
 - (b) The executive director must seek repayment of any annuity payments made to a member who returns to employment before the earliest day under paragraph (a), clause (1) or (2), as applicable. The executive director may waive the repayment requirement if the member's failure to comply with paragraph (a), clause (1) or (2), as applicable, was inadvertent or due to no fault of the member.
 - Subd. 2. Effect on annuity. (a) A member's return to employment under subdivision 1 does not impact the member's continued receipt of an annuity or commencement of annuity payments.
 - (b) During the period of reemployment:

35.1	(1) the amount of the annuity must not increase or decrease as a result of the
35.2	reemployment;
35.3	(2) the member must make member contributions as required under section 352B.02,
35.4	subdivisions 1a and 1b, during the period of reemployment; and
35.5	(3) the member's employer must make employer and supplemental contributions as
35.6	required under section 352B.02, subdivision 1c.
35.7	Subd. 3. Separation from service after period of reemployment. The executive director
35.8	must refund the member's contributions made during the period of reemployment, plus
35.9	interest, following the member's separation from service after the period of reemployment.
35.10	Subd. 4. Other law and rules not applicable. (a) Section 352.115, subdivision 10, does
35.11	not apply to a member of the State Patrol retirement plan who returns to employment under
35.12	this section.
35.13	(b) Minnesota rule 6700.0675 does not apply to a member of the State Patrol retirement
35.14	plan who returns to employment under this section.
35.15	(c) Minnesota rule 6700.0670 does not apply to a member of the State Patrol retirement
35.16	plan who returns to employment under this section, except that the member must be
35.17	fingerprinted and the fingerprints must be forwarded by the employer to the Bureau of
35.18	Criminal Apprehension and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.
35.19	Subd. 5. Effect on mandatory retirement age. A member's right to reemployment
35.20	under subdivision 1 does not extend or affect the application of the mandatory retirement
35.21	age under section 43A.34.
35.22	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.
35.23	Sec. 12. Laws 2021, chapter 22, article 2, section 3, is amended to read:
35.24	Sec. 3. MSRS; SERVICE CREDIT PURCHASE PERMITTED FOR PERIOD OF
35.25	EMPLOYMENT AS AN EXCLUDED EMPLOYEE.
35.26	Subdivision 1. Definitions. For purposes of this section, the following definitions shall
35.27	apply, unless the context indicates a different meaning is intended:
35.28	(1) "effective date" means the effective date of section 1;
35.29	(2) (1) "eligible person" means a person state employee or former state employee who:
35.30	(i) is employed in state service on the effective date or terminated employment in state
35.31	service during the lookback period; (ii) was an excluded employee for any period of

04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
V4/V3/Z4 V4.VZ DIII	FENSIONS	3レ/レレ	ロンソケソ・レフじょ

86.1	employment before the effective date; and(iii) before the effective date, became eligible for
86.2	coverage under Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 352.01, subdivision 2b, clause (14), or,
86.3	on the effective date, became a state employee under the amendment made by section 1
86.4	May 26, 2021;
86.5	(3) (2) "excluded employee" means a person who was excluded from coverage under
86.6	Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 352.01, subdivision 2b, clause (14), or its predecessor;
86.7	<u>and</u>
86.8	(4) (3)"executive director" means the executive director of the Minnesota State Retirement
86.9	System; and.
86.10	(5) "lookback period" means the period that begins twelve months before the effective
86.11	date of section 1 and ends on the effective date.
86.12	Subd. 1a. Authorization to purchase service credit. (a) If the employer of an eligible
86.13	person notifies the eligible person that the eligible person is entitled to make the payment
86.14	of missed employee contributions described in subdivision 2, the eligible person may elect
86.15	to purchase service credit for the period of employment or any portion thereof during which
86.16	contributions were not made for or by the eligible person because the eligible person was
86.17	considered an excluded employee.
86.18	(b) If the eligible person elects to purchase service credit under paragraph (a), the eligible
86.19	person must forward the notification from the employer under paragraph (a) to the executive
86.20	director and request that the executive director determine the amount required under
86.21	subdivision 2 to pay the missed employee contributions for the period of time that the eligible
86.22	person did not make employee contributions because the eligible person was considered an
86.23	excluded employee. The executive director must respond to the eligible person's request no
86.24	later than 30 days after receiving the request.
86.25	(c) The eligible person, upon receipt of the amount calculated by the executive director
86.26	under paragraph (b), must follow the procedure under subdivision 2 if the eligible person
86.27	wishes to purchase service credit for a period of employment during which contributions
86.28	were not made for or by the eligible person.
86.29	Subd. 2. Authorizing the purchase of service eredit Payments required. (a)
86.30	Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the executive director must credit a person with
86.31	allowable service credit for any period of employment during which contributions were not
86.32	made for the person because the person was considered an excluded employee, if the person
86.33	is an eligible person and the executive director receives the payment described in paragraph

(b) or (c), as applicable, no later than 90 days after the date of the notification from the eligible person's employer under subdivision 1a, paragraph (a).

- (b) The eligible person or the employer, on behalf of the eligible person, may, no later than August 31, 2021, pay the missed employee contributions for any period of employment during which contributions were not made for the person because the person was considered an excluded employee, by transmitting the amount of the missed employee contributions in a lump sum to the Minnesota State Retirement System amount calculated by the executive director under subdivision 1a, paragraph (b).
- (c) <u>In lieu of the amount under paragraph (a)</u>, the eligible person may elect to pay missed employee contributions for less than the entire period of employment during which contributions were not made. The period of employment elected must be consecutive payroll periods and may be payroll periods during which the eligible person received the lowest salary. Upon payment of the missed employee contributions for the period of employment elected, the executive director must credit the eligible person with a proportionate amount of allowable service credit.
- (d) If the missed employee contributions are paid, the eligible person's employer must, no later than September 30, 2021 60 days after the date the missed employee contributions are paid, pay the missed employer contributions plus interest, compounded annually, at the applicable annual rate or rates specified in Minnesota Statutes, section 356.59, subdivision 2, on both the employee contributions and the employer contributions, from the end of the year in which the contributions would have been made to the date on which the payment is made, by transmitting the amount of the missed employer contributions plus interest in a lump sum to the Minnesota State Retirement System. If the eligible person elects to pay missed employee contributions for less than the entire period of employment as permitted under paragraph (c), the employer must pay the missed employer contributions plus interest on both the employee contributions and the employer contributions for the payroll periods elected by the eligible person.
- (e) The executive director shall <u>must</u> notify the eligible person's employer regarding the amount required under paragraph (d) and the basis for determining the amount. If the employer fails to make all or any portion of the payment required by paragraph (d), the executive director shall follow the procedures in Minnesota Statutes, section 352.04, subdivision 8, paragraph (b), to collect the unpaid amount.
 - Subd. 3. **Expiration.** This section expires June 30, 2027.
- 87.34 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

87.1

87.2

87.3

87.4

87.5

87.6

87.7

87.8

87.9

87.10

87.11

87.12

87.13

87.14

87.15

87.16

87.17

87.18

87.19

87.20

87.21

87.22

87.23

87.24

87.25

87.26

87.27

87.28

87.29

87.30

87.31

87.32

Sec. 13. MUSIC THERAPIST PERMITTED TO TRANSFER PAST SERVICE CREDIT FROM THE MSRS GENERAL PLAN.

For each employee whose employment position is music therapist and who enters the correctional state employees retirement plan on the effective date of section 1, the executive director must consider the employee an eligible employee under Minnesota Statutes, section 352.955, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), for purposes of Minnesota Statutes, section 352.955. The executive director must transfer, from the general state employees retirement plan to the correctional state employees retirement plan, any eligible prior correctional employment as defined under Minnesota Statutes, section 352.955, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), if elected by the eligible employee, subject to all other requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section 352.955, including payment by the eligible employee of the additional member contribution as defined under Minnesota Statutes, section 352.955, subdivision 3, paragraph (a).

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 14. <u>NEW POSITIONS PERMITTED TO TRANSFER PAST SERVICE CREDIT</u> FROM THE MSRS GENERAL PLAN.

For each employee whose employment position is baker, cook, culinary supervisor, or food services supervisor and who enters the correctional state employees retirement plan on the effective date of section 1, the executive director must consider the employee an eligible employee under Minnesota Statutes, section 352.955, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), for purposes of Minnesota Statutes, section 352.955. The executive director must transfer, from the general state employees retirement plan to the correctional state employees retirement plan, any eligible prior correctional employment as defined under Minnesota Statutes, section 352.955, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), if elected by the eligible employee, subject to all other requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section 352.955, including payment by the eligible employee of the additional member contribution as defined under Minnesota Statutes, section 352.955, subdivision 3, paragraph (a).

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 15. WORK GROUP ON MSRS CORRECTIONAL PLAN ELIGIBILITY.

Subdivision 1. Work group established. The executive director of the Legislative

Commission on Pensions and Retirement (commission executive director) must convene a

work group for the purpose of recommending legislation amending Minnesota Statutes,
sections 352.91, 356.955, and other statutes applicable to eligibility for the Minnesota State

Retirement System correctional state employees retirement plan (correctional plan) that will

88.1

88.2

88.3

88.4

88.5

88.6

88.7

88.8

88.9

88.10

88.11

88.12

88.13

88.14

88.15

88.16

88.17

88.18

88.19

88.20

88.21

88.22

88.23

88.24

88.25

88.26

88.27

88.28

88.29

88.30

88.31

88.32

04/05/24 04:02 pm	DENICIONIC	CI /I D	H5040-DE1
114/115/74 14:07 nm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H 2040-1) H 1

1 <u>c</u>	orrect the deficiencies in the process under current law for adding employees and positions
2 <u>to</u>	o coverage by the correctional plan.
3	Subd. 2. Membership. (a) The members of the work group are the following:
4	(1) the executive director of the Minnesota State Retirement System or the executive
5 <u>d</u>	irector's designee and a second member of the Minnesota State Retirement System staff
6 <u>d</u>	esignated by the executive director of the Minnesota State Retirement System;
,	(2) the commissioner of the department of corrections or the commissioner's designee
<u>a</u> 1	nd a member of the department's human resources staff with knowledge of the department's
<u>p</u> :	rocess for creating and amending position descriptions of positions in the facilities with
e	mployees covered by the correctional plan;
	(3) the commissioner of the department of human services or the commissioner's designee
a	nd a member of the department's human resources staff with knowledge of the department's
<u>p</u> :	rocess for creating and amending position descriptions of positions in the facilities with
e	mployees covered by the correctional plan;
	(4) two representatives from the American Federation of State, County and Municipal
E	mployees (AFSCME);
	(5) two representatives from the Minnesota Association of Professional Employees
<u>(1</u>	MAPE);
	(6) two representatives from the Middle Management Association (MMA); and
	(7) one representative from the Minnesota Nurses Association.
	(b) the commission executive director may invite others, including legislators and
<u>le</u>	egislative staff, to participate in one or more meetings of the work group.
	(c) The organizations specified in paragraph (a) must provide the commission executive
<u>d</u>	irector with the names and contact information for the representatives who will serve on
<u>tł</u>	ne work group by June 14, 2024.
	Subd. 3. Scope. (a) In arriving at the work group's recommendation for legislation or
<u>a</u>	Iternatives for legislation the work group must consider:
	(1) the effectiveness of the current process for certifying that an employee has direct
C	ontact with inmates or patients at least 75% of the employee's working time as required
<u>u</u>	nder Minnesota Statutes, section 352.91, and take into account that an employee's direct
C	ontact may fluctuate from year to year or pay period to pay period and may vary among
<u>fa</u>	acilities;

	04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
--	-------------------	----------	-------	-----------

90.1	(2) whether correctional plan membership should depend on position descriptions that
90.2	are not updated frequently enough or on position titles that may change from time to time
90.3	and whether there are alternatives to conditioning membership on position descriptions or
90.4	titles;
90.5	(3) whether the procedures under Minnesota Statutes, section 352.91, subdivisions 4a
90.6	to 4c, should be reformed to ensure there is an effective procedure that will be followed for
90.7	evaluating positions and employees entitled to membership;
90.8	(4) whether the service credit transfer provisions are effective or should be revised to
90.9	apply whenever an employee transfers coverage from the Minnesota State Retirement
90.10	System general state employees retirement plan to the correctional plan;
90.11	(5) the philosophy behind current law that identifies certain positions as being
90.12	automatically eligible for plan membership and other positions as being eligible for plan
90.13	membership only if the direct contact requirement is met and the factors considered in
90.14	making determinations as to which positions will be automatically eligible; and
90.15	(6) any other topics relevant to the considerations listed above that will reduce the
90.16	frequency with which the commission is requested to review plan membership issues.
90.17	Subd. 4. Due date for submitting recommendation to the commission. The commission
90.18	executive director must submit the recommendation of the work group to the chair of the
90.19	Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement by January 10, 2025.
90.20	Subd. 5. Meetings. (a) The executive director of the commission must convene the first
90.21	meeting of the work group no later than August 1, 2024, and will serve as chair.
90.22	(b) Meetings may be conducted remotely or in person or a combination of remote and
90.23	in person.
90.24	(c) In-person meetings must be held in the offices of the Legislative Coordinating
90.25	Commission or in the Retirement Systems of Minnesota Building in St. Paul.
90.26	Subd. 6. Compensation; lobbying; retaliation. (a) Members of the work group serve
90.27	without compensation.
90.28	(b) Participation in the work group is not lobbying under Minnesota Statutes, chapter
90.29	<u>10A.</u>
90.30	(c) An individual's employer or an association of which an individual is a member must
90.31	not retaliate against the individual because of the individual's participation in the work
90.32	group.

	04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
91.1	Subd. 7. Administrative sup	port. Commission staff mu	ıst provide admi	nistrative support
91.2	for the work group.			
91.3	Subd. 8. Expiration. The wo	ork group expires June 30,	2025.	
91.4	EFFECTIVE DATE. This s	section is effective the day	following final	l enactment.
91.5		ARTICLE 6		
91.6	MINNESOTA SEC	URE CHOICE RETIRE	MENT PROG	RAM
91.7	Section 1. Minnesota Statutes	2023 Supplement, section	187.03, is ame	nded by adding a
91.8	subdivision to read:			
91.9	Subd. 7a. Home and comm	unity-based services emp	oloyee. "Home a	and
91.10	community-based services empl	loyee" means an individua	l employed by	the individual's
91.11	child or spouse to provide:			
91.12	(1) consumer-directed comm	nunity supports services ur	nder chapter 250	6S and sections
91.13	256B.092 and 256B.49 or under	r the alternative care progr	am authorized 1	under section
91.14	256B.0913; or			
91.15	(2) services under the comm	unity first services and sup	pports program	authorized under
91.16	section 256B.85 and Minnesota'	's federally approved waiv	er programs.	
91.17	This definition applies only	to this chapter and does no	ot create any oth	ner legal rights or
91.18	obligations under state or federa	ıl law.		
91.19	EFFECTIVE DATE. This s	section is effective the day	following final	l enactment.
91.20	Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 202	23 Supplement, section 18	7.05, subdivisio	on 7, is amended
91.21	to read:			
91.22	Subd. 7. Individuals not em	nployed by a covered emp	ployer. (a) In ac	ldition to home
91.23	and community-based services e	employees under paragrap	h (b), the board	may allow
91.24	individuals not employed by a c	covered employer to open a	and contribute t	o an account in
91.25	the program, in which case the in	ndividual shall <u>must</u> be co	nsidered a cove	red employee for
91.26	purposes of sections 187.05 to 1	87.11.		

and contribute to an account in the program within six months of the opening of the program 91.28 and must consider a home and community-based services employee a covered employee 91.29 for purposes of sections 187.05 to 187.11. 91.30

(b) The board must allow any home and community-based services employee to open

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

91.27

	04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
--	-------------------	----------	-------	-----------

92.1	Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 187.08, subdivision 1, is amended
92.2	to read:
92.3	Subdivision 1. Membership. The policy-making function of the program is vested in a
92.4	board of directors consisting of seven members as follows:
92.5	(1) the executive director of the Minnesota State Retirement System or the executive
92.6	director's designee;
92.7	(2) the executive director of the State Board of Investment or the executive director's
92.8	designee;
92.9	(3) three members chosen by the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement,
92.10	one from each of the following experience categories:
92.11	(i) executive or operations manager with substantial experience in record keeping 401(k)
92.12	plans;
92.13	(ii) executive or operations manager with substantial experience in individual retirement
92.14	accounts; and
92.15	(iii) executive or other professional with substantial experience in retirement plan
92.16	investments;
92.17	(4) a human resources or retirement benefits executive from a private company with
92.17	substantial experience in administering the company's 401(k) plan, appointed by the governor;
92.19	and
92.20	(5) a small business owner, a small business executive, or a nonprofit executive appointed
92.21	by the governor.
92.22	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.
92.23	Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 187.08, subdivision 7, is amended
92.24	to read:
92.25	Subd. 7. Executive director; staff. (a) The board must appoint an executive director,
92.26	determine the duties of the executive director, and set the compensation of the executive
92.27	director. The board may appoint an interim executive director to serve as executive director
92.28	during any period that the executive director position is vacant.
92.29	(b) The board may also hire staff as necessary to support the board and the executive
92.30	director or interim executive director in performing its their duties or the board may authorize
92.31	the executive director or interim executive director to hire staff.

93.1	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective retroactively from January 1, 2024.
93.2	Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 187.08, subdivision 8, is amended
93.3	to read:
93.4	Subd. 8. Duties. In addition to the duties set forth elsewhere in this chapter, the board
93.5	has the following duties:
93.6	(1) to establish secure processes for enrolling covered employees in the program and
93.7	for transmitting employee and employer contributions to accounts in the trust;
93.8	(2) to prepare a budget and establish procedures for the payment of costs of administering
93.9	and operating the program;
93.10	(3) to lease or otherwise procure equipment necessary to administer the program;
93.11	(4) to procure insurance in connection with the property of the program and the activities
93.12	of the board, executive director, and other staff;
93.13	(5) to determine the following:
93.14	(i) any criteria for a covered employee other than employment with a covered employer
93.15	under section 187.03, subdivision 5;
93.16	(ii) contribution rates and an escalation schedule under section 187.05, subdivision 4;
93.17	(iii) withdrawal and distribution options under section 187.05, subdivision 6; and
93.18	(iv) the default investment fund under section 187.06, subdivision 5;
93.19	(6) to keep annual administrative fees, costs, and expenses as low as possible:
93.20	(i) except that any administrative fee assessed against the accounts of covered employees
93.21	may not exceed a reasonable amount relative to the fees charged by auto-IRA or defined
93.22	contribution programs of similar size in the state of Minnesota or another state; and
93.23	(ii) the fee may be asset-based, flat fee, or a hybrid combination of asset-based and flat
93.24	fee;
93.25	(7) to determine the eligibility of an employer, employee, or other individual to participate
93.26	in the program and review and decide claims for benefits and make factual determinations;
93.27	(8) to prepare information regarding the program that is clear and concise for
93.28	dissemination to all covered employees and includes the following:

93.29

(i) the benefits and risks associated with participating in the program;

(ii) procedures for enrolling in the program and opting out of the program, electing a different or zero percent employee contribution rate, making investment elections, applying for a distribution of employee accounts, and making a claim for benefits;

- (iii) the federal and state income tax consequences of participating in the program, which may consist of or include the disclosure statement required to be distributed by retirement plan trustees or custodians under the Internal Revenue Code and the Treasury Regulations thereunder;
 - (iv) how to obtain additional information on the program; and
- 94.9 (v) disclaimers of covered employer and state responsibility, including the following statements:
- 94.11 (A) covered employees seeking financial, investment, or tax advice should contact their own advisors;
 - (B) neither a covered employer nor the state of Minnesota are liable for decisions covered employees make regarding their account in the program;
 - (C) neither a covered employer nor the state of Minnesota guarantees the accounts in the program or any particular investment rate of return; and
 - (D) neither a covered employer nor the state of Minnesota monitors or has an obligation to monitor any covered employee's eligibility under the Internal Revenue Code to make contributions to an account in the program, or whether the covered employee's contributions to an account in the program exceed the maximum permissible contribution under the Internal Revenue Code;
 - (9) to publish an annual financial report, prepared according to generally accepted accounting principles, on the operations of the program, which must include but not be limited to costs attributable to the use of outside consultants, independent contractors, and other persons who are not state employees and deliver the report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over jobs and economic development and state government finance, the executive directors of the State Board of Investment and the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement, and the Legislative Reference Library;
 - (10) to publish an annual report regarding plan outcomes, progress toward savings goals established by the board, statistics on the number of participants, participating employers, and covered employees who have opted out of participation, plan expenses, estimated impact of the program on social safety net programs, and penalties and violations, and disciplinary

94.1

94.2

94.3

94.4

94.5

94.6

94.7

94.8

94.13

94.14

94.15

94.16

94.17

94.18

94.19

94.20

94.21

94.22

94.23

94.24

94.25

94.26

94.27

94.28

94.29

94.30

94.31

94.32

actions for enforcement, and deliver the report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over jobs and economic development and state government finance, the executive directors of the State Board of Investment and the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement, and the Legislative Reference Library;

- (11) to file all reports required under the Internal Revenue Code or chapter 290;
- (12) to, at the board's discretion, seek and accept gifts, grants, and donations to be used for the program, unless such gifts, grants, or donations would result in a conflict of interest relating to the solicitation of service provider for program administration, and deposit such gifts, grants, or donations in the Secure Choice administrative fund;
- (13) to, at the board's discretion, seek and accept appropriations from the state or loans from the state or any agency of the state;
- (14) to assess the feasibility of partnering with another state or a governmental subdivision of another state to administer the program through shared administrative resources and, if determined beneficial, enter into contracts, agreements, memoranda of understanding, or other arrangements with any other state or an agency or a subdivision of any other state to administer, operate, or manage any part of the program, which may include combining resources, investments, or administrative functions;
- (15) to hire, retain, and terminate third-party service providers as the board deems necessary or desirable for the program, including but not limited to the trustees, consultants, investment managers or advisors, custodians, insurance companies, recordkeepers, administrators, consultants, actuaries, legal counsel, auditors, and other professionals, provided that each service provider is authorized to do business in the state;
- (16) to interpret the program's governing documents and this chapter and make all other decisions necessary to administer the program;
- (17) to conduct comprehensive employer and worker education and outreach regarding the program that reflect the cultures and languages of the state's diverse workforce population, which may, in the board's discretion, include collaboration with state and local government agencies, community-based and nonprofit organizations, foundations, vendors, and other entities deemed appropriate to develop and secure ongoing resources; and
- (18) to prepare notices for delivery to covered employees regarding the escalation schedule and to each covered employee before the covered employee is subject to an automatic contribution increase.
 - **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

95.1

95.2

95.3

95.4

95.5

95.6

95.7

95.8

95.9

95.10

95.11

95.12

95.13

95.14

95.15

95.16

95.17

95.18

95.19

95.20

95.21

95.22

95.23

95.24

95.25

95.26

95.27

95.28

95.29

95.30

95.31

95.32

	04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
--	-------------------	----------	-------	-----------

Sec. 6. Laws 2023, chapter 46, section 11, is amended to read:

96.1

96.2

96.3

96.4

96.5

96.6

96.7

96.8

96.9

96.10

96.11

96.23

Coo 11 DOADD CHDDODT HNTH	APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Sec II BUARDSHPPURI IIIN III.	APPUJINI IVIPINI UJE E APA IJ I I VE IJIREA I UJE

With the assistance of the Legislative Coordinating Commission, the executive director of the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement must:

- (1) provide notice to members of the board regarding the first meeting of the board and work with the member designated under section 10, subdivision 2, to determine the agenda and provide meeting support; and
- (2) serve as the interim executive director to assist the board until the board appoints an interim executive director or completes the search, recruitment, and interview process and appoints the executive director under Minnesota Statutes, section 187.08, subdivision 8.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective retroactively from January 1, 2024.

96.12 **ARTICLE 7**

96.13 SUPPLEMENTAL PLANS

- 96.14 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 356.24, subdivision 1, is amended to read:
- Subdivision 1. **Restriction; exceptions.** It is unlawful for a school district or other governmental subdivision or state agency to levy taxes for or to contribute public funds to a supplemental pension or deferred compensation plan that is established, maintained, and operated in addition to a primary pension program for the benefit of the governmental subdivision employees other than:
- 96.21 (1) to a supplemental pension plan that was established, maintained, and operated before 96.22 May 6, 1971;
 - (2) to a plan that provides solely for group health, hospital, disability, or death benefits;
- 96.24 (3) to the individual retirement account plan established by chapter 354B;
- 96.25 (4) to a plan that provides solely for severance pay under section 465.72 to a retiring or terminating employee;
- 96.27 (5) to a deferred compensation plan defined in subdivision 3;
- 96.28 (6) for personnel employed by the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges 96.29 and Universities and not covered by clause (5), to the supplemental retirement plan under 96.30 chapter 354C, if the supplemental plan coverage is provided for in a personnel policy or in

the collective bargaining agreement of the public employer with the exclusive representative of the covered employees in an appropriate unit, in an amount matching employee contributions on a dollar for dollar basis, but not to exceed an employer contribution of \$2,700 a year for each employee;

- (7) to a supplemental plan or to a governmental trust to save for postretirement health care expenses qualified for tax-preferred treatment under the Internal Revenue Code, if the supplemental plan coverage is provided for in a personnel policy or in the collective bargaining agreement of a public employer with the exclusive representative of the covered employees in an appropriate unit;
- (8) to the laborers national industrial pension fund or to a laborers local pension fund for the employees of a governmental subdivision who are covered by a collective bargaining agreement that provides for coverage by that fund and that sets forth a fund contribution rate, but not to exceed an employer contribution of \$10,000 per year per employee;
- (9) to the plumbers and pipefitters national pension fund or to a plumbers and pipefitters local pension fund for the employees of a governmental subdivision who are covered by a collective bargaining agreement that provides for coverage by that fund and that sets forth a fund contribution rate, but not to exceed an employer contribution of \$5,000 per year per employee;
- (10) to the international union of operating engineers pension fund for the employees of a governmental subdivision who are covered by a collective bargaining agreement that provides for coverage by that fund and that sets forth a fund contribution rate, but not to exceed an employer contribution of \$10,000 per year per employee;
- (11) to the International Association of Machinists national pension fund for the employees of a governmental subdivision who are covered by a collective bargaining agreement that provides for coverage by that fund and that sets forth a fund contribution rate, but not to exceed an employer contribution of \$5,000 per year per employee;
- (12) for employees of United Hospital District, Blue Earth, to the state of Minnesota deferred compensation program, if the employee makes a contribution, in an amount that does not exceed the total percentage of covered salary under section 353.27, subdivisions 3 and 3a;
- 97.31 (13) to the alternative retirement plans established by the Hennepin County Medical
 97.32 Center under section 383B.914, subdivision 5; or

97.1

97.2

97.3

97.4

97.5

97.6

97.7

97.8

97.9

97.10

97.11

97.12

97.13

97.14

97.15

97.16

97.17

97.18

97.19

97.20

97.21

97.22

97.23

97.24

97.25

97.26

97.27

97.28

97.29

04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1

(14) to the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Central States pension plan for 98.1 fixed-route bus drivers employed by the St. Cloud Metropolitan Transit Commission who 98.2 are members of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 638 by virtue of that 98.3 employment-; or 98.4 (15) to a supplemental plan organized and operated under the federal Internal Revenue 98.5 Code, as amended, that is wholly and solely funded by the employee's accumulated sick 98.6 leave, accumulated vacation leave, and accumulated severance pay. 98.7 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment. 98.8 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 356.24, subdivision 3, is amended to read: 98.9 Subd. 3. **Deferred compensation plan.** (a) As used in this section: 98.10 (1) "deferred compensation plan" means a plan that satisfies the requirements of this 98.11 subdivision; 98.12 (2) "plan administrator" means the individual or entity defined as the plan administrator 98.13 in the plan document for the Minnesota deferred compensation plan under section 352.965 98.14 or a deferred compensation plan under section 457(b) of the Internal Revenue Code; and 98.15 (3) "vendor" means the provider of an annuity contract, custodial account, or retirement 98.16 income account under a tax-sheltered annuity plan under section 403(b) of the Internal 98.17 Revenue Code. 98.18 (b) The plan is: 98.19 (1) the Minnesota deferred compensation plan under section 352.965; 98.20 (2) a tax-sheltered annuity plan under section 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code; or 98.21 (3) a deferred compensation plan under section 457(b) of the Internal Revenue Code. 98.22 (c) For each investment fund available to participants under the plan, other than in a 98.23 self-directed brokerage account or fixed annuity contract, the plan administrator or vendor 98.24 discloses at least annually to participants a statement that sets forth (1) all fees, including 98.25 administrative, maintenance, and investment fees, that impact the rate of return on each 98.26 investment fund available under the plan, and (2) the rates of return for the prior one-, three-, 98.27 98.28 five-, and ten-year periods or for the life of the fund, if shorter, in an easily understandable document. The plan administrator or vendor must file a copy of this statement annually with 98.29 the executive director of the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement-within 98.30 30 days of the end of each fiscal year of the plan. 98.31

04/05/24 04:02 p	om PENSION	NS SL/LD	H5040-DE1

(d) Enrollment in the plan is provided for in:

99.1

99.2

99.3

99.4

99.5

99.6

99.7

99.8

99.9

99.10

99.11

99.12

99.13

99.14

99.15

99.16

99.17

99.18

99.19

99.20

99.21

99.22

99.23

99.24

99.25

99.26

99.27

99.28

99.29

99.30

99.31

99.32

99.33

- (1) a personnel policy of the public employer;
- (2) a collective bargaining agreement between the public employer and the exclusive representative of public employees in an appropriate unit; or
- (3) an individual employment contract (i) between a city and a city manager or other management employee, or (ii) between a school district and a superintendent or other management employee.
- (e) The plan covers employees of a school district, state agency, or other governmental subdivision. The plan may cover city managers covered by an alternative retirement arrangement under section 353.028, subdivision 3, paragraph (a) or (b), but must not cover employees of the Board of Trustees of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities who are covered by the Higher Education Supplemental Retirement Plan under chapter 354C.
- (f) Except as permitted under paragraph (g), public funds are contributed to the plan only in an amount that matches If the public employer makes matching contributions to the plan, the matching contributions must match, on a dollar for dollar basis, employee elective deferral contributions on a dollar for dollar basis, but not to exceed the lesser of (1) the maximum authorized under the policy described in paragraph (d) that provides for enrollment in the plan or program, or (2) one-half of the annual limit on elective deferrals under section 402(g) of the Internal Revenue Code. In lieu of or in addition to matching an employee's elective deferral contributions, the public employer may make employer matching contributions on behalf of an employee on account of qualified student loan payments, as defined in the Secure 2.0 Act of 2022, Public Law 117-328 (December 29, 2022), Division T, section 110, paragraph (b), and any regulations adopted thereunder. The employer matching contributions on account of an employee's qualified student loan payments plus any employer matching contributions that match an employee's elective deferral contributions must not exceed, for the year, the lesser of (1) the maximum authorized under the policy described in paragraph (d) that provides for enrollment in the plan or program, (2) one-half of the annual limit on elective deferrals under section 402(g) of the Internal Revenue Code, or (3) the employee's compensation for the year.
- (g) Contributions to the plan may include contributions deducted from an employee's sick leave, accumulated vacation leave, or accumulated severance pay, whether characterized as employee contributions or nonelective employer contributions, up to applicable limits under the Internal Revenue Code. Such contributions are not subject to the match requirement and limit in paragraph (f).

04/05/24 04:02 pm PENSIONS SL/LD H5040-DE1

100.1 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

100.2	ARTICLE 8
100.3	APPLICABLE TO ALL PLANS
100.4	Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 353.65, subdivision 3b, is amended to read:
100.5	Subd. 3b. Direct state aid. (a) The state shall must pay \$4,500,000 on October 1, 2018
100.6	and October 1, 2019, to the public employees police and fire retirement plan. By October
100.7	1 of each year after 2019, the state shall must pay \$9,000,000 to the public employees police
100.8	and fire retirement plan. The commissioner of management and budget shall <u>must</u> pay the
100.9	aid specified in this subdivision. The amount required is annually appropriated from the
100.10	general fund to the commissioner of management and budget.
100.11	(b) The aid under paragraph (a) continues until the earlier of:
100.12	(1) the first day of the fiscal year following the three consecutive fiscal year years in
100.13	which, for each fiscal year, the actuarial value of assets of the fund equals or exceeds 100
100.14	percent of the actuarial accrued liabilities as reported by the actuary retained under section
100.15	356.214 in the annual actuarial valuation prepared under section 356.215; or
100.16	(2) July 1, 2048.
100.17	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.
100.18	Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 354.435, subdivision 4, is amended to read:
100.19	Subd. 4. Aid expiration. The aid amounts specified in this section shall must continue
100.20	until the earlier of:
100.21	(1) the first day of the fiscal year following the three consecutive fiscal year years in
100.22	which, for each fiscal year, the actuarial value of assets of the fund equals or exceeds 100
100.23	percent of the actuarial accrued liabilities as reported by the actuary retained under section
100.24	356.214 in the annual actuarial valuation prepared under section 356.215; or
100.25	(2) July 1, 2048.
100.26	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.
100.27	Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 354.436, subdivision 3, is amended to read:
100.28	Subd. 3. Aid expiration. The aid amounts specified in this section continue until the
100.29	earlier of:

04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1

101.1 (1) the first day of the fiscal year following the three consecutive fiscal year years in which, for each fiscal year, the actuarial value of assets of the fund equals or exceeds 100 101.2 percent of the actuarial accrued liabilities as reported by the actuary retained under section 101.3 356.214 in the annual actuarial valuation prepared under section 356.215; or 101.4 (2) July 1, 2048. 101.5 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment. 101.6 101.7 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 354A.12, subdivision 3a, is amended to read: Subd. 3a. Direct state aid to first class city teachers retirement fund associations 101.8 101.9 St. Paul Teachers Retirement Fund Association. (a) The state shall must pay \$2,827,000 to the St. Paul Teachers Retirement Fund Association. 101.10 (b) In addition to other amounts specified in this subdivision, the state shall must pay 101.11 \$7,000,000 as state aid to the St. Paul Teachers Retirement Fund Association. 101.12 (c) In addition to the amounts specified in paragraphs (a) and (b), the state shall must 101.13 pay \$5,000,000 as state aid to the St. Paul Teachers Retirement Fund Association. 101.14 (d) The aid under this subdivision is payable October 1 annually. The commissioner of 101.15 management and budget shall must pay the aid specified in this subdivision. The amount 101.16 required is appropriated annually from the general fund to the commissioner of management 101.17 and budget. 101.18 101.19 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment. Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 354A.12, subdivision 3c, is amended to read: 101.20 Subd. 3c. Termination of supplemental contributions and direct matching and state 101.21 aid. (a) The supplemental contributions payable to the St. Paul Teachers Retirement Fund 101.22 101.23 Association by Independent School District No. 625 under section 423A.02, subdivision 3, and the aid under subdivision 3a, paragraphs (a) and (b), to (c), continue until the earlier 101.24 101.25 of: (1) the first day of the fiscal year following the year three consecutive fiscal years in 101.26 which, for each fiscal year, the actuarial value of assets of the fund equals or exceeds 100 101.27 percent of the actuarial accrued liability as reported by the actuary retained under section 101.28 356.214 in the most recent annual actuarial valuation prepared under section 356.215; or 101.29 101.30 (2) July 1, 2048. (b) The aid under subdivision 3a, paragraph (c), continues until the earlier of: 101.31

04/05/24 04:02 pm PENSIONS SL/LD H5040-DE1

(1) the first day of the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which the actuarial value of assets of the fund equals or exceeds 100 percent of the actuarial accrued liabilities as reported by the actuary retained under section 356.214 in the annual actuarial valuation prepared under section 356.215; or

(2) July 1, 2048.

102.1

102.2

102.3

102.4

102.5

102.6

102.7

102.8

102.9

102.10

102.11

102.12

102.13

102.16

102.17

102.18

102.19

102.20

102.21

102.22

102.23

102.24

102.25

102.26

102.27

102.28

102.29

102.30

102.31

102.32

102.33

102.34

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 356.215, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

Subd. 11. Amortization contributions. (a) In addition to the exhibit indicating the level normal cost, the actuarial valuation of the retirement plan must contain an exhibit for financial reporting purposes indicating the additional annual contribution sufficient to amortize the unfunded actuarial accrued liability and must contain an exhibit indicating the additional contribution sufficient to amortize the unfunded actuarial accrued liability. For the retirement plans listed in subdivision 8, paragraph (a), but excluding the legislators retirement plan, the Bloomington Fire Department Relief Association, and the local monthly benefit volunteer firefighter relief associations, the additional contribution must be calculated on a level percentage of covered payroll basis by the established date for full funding in effect when the valuation is prepared, assuming annual payroll growth at the applicable percentage rate set forth in the appendix described in subdivision 8, paragraph (c). For the legislators retirement plan, the additional annual contribution must be calculated on a level annual dollar amount basis.

(b) For any retirement plan other than a retirement plan governed by paragraph (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), or (j), if there has not been a change in the actuarial assumptions used for calculating the actuarial accrued liability of the fund, a change in the benefit plan governing annuities and benefits payable from the fund, a change in the actuarial cost method used in calculating the actuarial accrued liability of all or a portion of the fund, or a combination of the three, which change or changes by itself or by themselves without inclusion of any other items of increase or decrease produce a net increase in the unfunded actuarial accrued liability of the fund, the established date for full funding is the first actuarial valuation date occurring after June 1, 2020.

(e) (b) This paragraph applies only if the calculation under this paragraph for a retirement plan results in an established date for full funding that is earlier than the established date for full funding applicable to the retirement plan under paragraph (c). For any retirement plan, if there has been a change in any or all of the actuarial assumptions used for calculating

the actuarial accrued liability of the fund, a change in the benefit plan governing annuities and benefits payable from the fund, a change in the actuarial cost method used in calculating the actuarial accrued liability of all or a portion of the fund, or a combination of the three, and the change or changes, by itself or by themselves and without inclusion of any other items of increase or decrease, produce a net increase in the unfunded actuarial accrued liability in the fund, the established date for full funding must be determined using the following procedure:

- (i) the unfunded actuarial accrued liability of the fund must be determined in accordance with the plan provisions governing annuities and retirement benefits and the actuarial assumptions in effect before an applicable change;
- (ii) the level annual dollar contribution or level percentage, whichever is applicable, needed to amortize the unfunded actuarial accrued liability amount determined under item (i) by the established date for full funding in effect before the change must be calculated using the investment return assumption specified in subdivision 8 in effect before the change;
- (iii) the unfunded actuarial accrued liability of the fund must be determined in accordance with any new plan provisions governing annuities and benefits payable from the fund and any new actuarial assumptions and the remaining plan provisions governing annuities and benefits payable from the fund and actuarial assumptions in effect before the change;
- (iv) the level annual dollar contribution or level percentage, whichever is applicable, needed to amortize the difference between the unfunded actuarial accrued liability amount calculated under item (i) and the unfunded actuarial accrued liability amount calculated under item (iii) over a period of 30 years from the end of the plan year in which the applicable change is effective must be calculated using the applicable investment return assumption specified in subdivision 8 in effect after any applicable change;
- (v) the level annual dollar or level percentage amortization contribution under item (iv) must be added to the level annual dollar amortization contribution or level percentage calculated under item (ii);
- (vi) the period in which the unfunded actuarial accrued liability amount determined in item (iii) is amortized by the total level annual dollar or level percentage amortization contribution computed under item (v) must be calculated using the investment return assumption specified in subdivision 8 in effect after any applicable change, rounded to the nearest integral number of years, but not to exceed 30 years from the end of the plan year in which the determination of the established date for full funding using the procedure set forth in this clause is made and not to be less than the period of years beginning in the plan

103.1

103.2

103.3

103.4

103.5

103.6

103.7

103.8

103.9

103.10

103.11

103.12

103.13

103.14

103.15

103.16

103.17

103.18

103.19

103.20

103.21

103.22

103.23

103.24

103.25

103.26

103.27

103.28

103.29

103.30

103.31

103.32

103.33

104.1	year in which the determination of the established date for full funding using the procedure
104.2	set forth in this clause is made and ending by the date for full funding in effect before the
104.3	change; and
104.4	(vii) the period determined under item (vi) must be added to the date as of which the
104.5	actuarial valuation was prepared and the date obtained is the new established date for full
104.6	funding.
104.7	(c) The established date for full funding is the date provided for each of the following
104.8	plans:
104.9	(d) (i) for the general employees retirement plan of the Public Employees Retirement
104.10	Association, the established date for full funding is June 30, 2048-;
104.11	(e) (ii) for the Teachers Retirement Association, the established date for full funding is
104.12	June 30, 2048, through June 30, 2025. Beginning July 1, 2025, the established date for full
104.13	funding is June 30, 2053-;
104.14	(f) (iii) for the correctional state employees retirement plan and the State Patrol retirement
104.15	plan of the Minnesota State Retirement System, the established date for full funding is June
104.16	30, 2048 - ;
104.17	(g) (iv) for the judges retirement plan, the established date for full funding is June 30,
104.18	2048- <u>;</u>
104.19	(h) (v) for the local government correctional service retirement plan and the public
104.20	employees police and fire retirement plan, the established date for full funding is June 30,
104.21	2048- <u>;</u>
104.22	(i) (vi) for the St. Paul Teachers Retirement Fund Association, the established date for
104.23	full funding is June 30, 2048-; and
104.24	(j) (vii) for the general state employees retirement plan of the Minnesota State Retirement
104.25	System, the established date for full funding is June 30, 2048.
104.26	(k) (d) For the retirement plans for which the annual actuarial valuation indicates an
104.27	excess of valuation assets over the actuarial accrued liability, the valuation assets in excess
104.28	of the actuarial accrued liability must be recognized as a reduction in the current contribution
104.29	requirements by an amount equal to the amortization of the excess expressed as a level
104.30	percentage of pay over a 30-year period beginning anew with each annual actuarial valuation
104.31	of the plan.

104.32

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective June 30, 2024.

	04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
--	-------------------	----------	-------	-----------

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 423A.02, subdivision 5, is amended to read: 105.1 Subd. 5. **Termination of state aid programs.** The amortization state aid and additional 105.2 amortization state aid programs continue until the earlier of: 105.3 (1) the December 31 following the end of the three consecutive fiscal year years in 105.4 which, for each fiscal year, the actuarial value of assets of the St. Paul Teachers Retirement 105.5 Fund Association or the Teachers Retirement Association equals or exceeds 100 percent of 105.6 the actuarial accrued liabilities as reported by the actuary retained under section 356.214 105.7 in the annual actuarial valuation report prepared under section 356.215; or 105.8 (2) July 1, 2048. 105.9 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment. 105.10 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 423A.022, subdivision 5, is amended to read: 105.11 Subd. 5. Aid termination. (a) The aid under subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clauses (1) 105.12 and (3), continues until the earlier of: 105.13 (1) the December 1 following the end of the three consecutive fiscal year years in which, 105.14 for each fiscal year, the actuarial value of assets of both the State Patrol retirement plan and 105.15 the public employees police and fire retirement plan equals or exceeds 90 percent of the 105.16 actuarial accrued liabilities as reported by the actuary retained under section 356.214 in the 105.17 annual actuarial valuation prepared under section 356.215; or 105.18 (2) July 1, 2048. 105.19 (b) The aid under subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (2), does not terminate. 105.20 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment. 105.21 Sec. 9. WORK GROUP ON AMORTIZATION. 105.22 Subdivision 1. Work group established. The executive director of the Legislative 105.23 Commission on Pensions and Retirement (commission executive director) must convene a 105.24 105.25 work group for the purpose of recommending legislation amending Minnesota Statutes, section 356.215, subdivision 11, that will update the statute to conform to current actuarial 105.26

Subd. 2. **Membership.** (a) The members of the work group are the following:

105.27

105.28

best practices for amortizing liabilities.

106.1	(1) the executive director of the Minnesota State Retirement System or the executive
106.2	director's designee and a second member of the Minnesota State Retirement System staff
106.3	designated by the executive director;
106.4	(2) the executive director of the Public Employees Retirement Association or the
106.5	executive director's designee and a second member of the Public Employees Retirement
106.6	Association staff designated by the executive director;
106.7	(3) the executive director of the Teachers Retirement Association or the executive
106.8	director's designee and a second member of the Teachers Retirement Association staff
106.9	designated by the executive director; and
106.10	(4) the executive director of the St. Paul Teachers Retirement Fund Association,
106.11	designated by the executive director of the St. Paul Teachers Retirement Fund Association
106.12	or the executive director's designee.
106.13	(b) The commission executive director may invite others, including the commission's
106.14	actuary, to participate in one or more meetings of the work group.
106.15	(c) The organizations specified in paragraph (a) must provide the commission executive
106.16	director with the names and contact information for the representatives who will serve on
106.17	the work group by June 14, 2024.
106.18	Subd. 3. Scope. (a) In arriving at the work group's recommendation for legislation or
106.19	alternatives for legislation the work group must consider:
106.20	(1) layered amortization;
106.21	(2) whether amortization policy should be regulated by statute, addressed in an appendix
106.22	to the commission's standards for actuarial work, or documented elsewhere;
106.23	(3) whether all pension plans must employ the same approach to amortization;
106.24	(4) whether the proposed legislation will result in any cost to the pension funds and, if
106.25	so, estimates of the cost; and
106.26	(5) whether changes to amortization will require the approval of the Legislative
106.27	Commission on Pensions and Retirement.
106.28	Subd. 4. Due date for submitting recommendation to the commission. The commission
106.29	executive director must submit the recommendation of the work group to the chair of the
106.30	Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement by January 10, 2025.
106.31	Subd. 5. Meetings. (a) The commission executive director must convene the first meeting
106.32	of the work group no later than August 1, 2024, and will serve as chair.

	04/05/24 04:02 pm	PENSIONS	SL/LD	H5040-DE1
107.1	(b) Meetings may be conducted re	emotely or in person	or a combination of	of remote and
107.2	in person.			
107.3	(c) In-person meetings must be he	eld in the offices of t	he Legislative Coo	rdinating
107.4	Commission or in the Retirement Sys			
107.5	Subd. 6. Compensation; lobbying	ng: retaliation. (a) M	Members of the wor	k group serve
107.6	without compensation.	<u>(</u>)		- 5 1
107.7	(b) Participation in the work grou	ın is not lohbying un	der Minnesota Stat	utes chanter
107.8	10A.	ip is not loodying un	dei iviimiesota Stat	ates, enapter
		a accapiation of which	h on individual is a	mambar must
107.9107.10	(c) An individual's employer or ar not retaliate against the individual be			
107.11	group.	cause of the marvior		i the work
		Commission atoffus		tuatiana annua aut
107.12107.13	Subd. 7. Administrative supports for the work group.	. Commission stall m	ust provide adminis	trative support
107.14	Subd. 8. Expiration. The work g	roup expires June 30	<u>), 2025.</u>	
107.15	EFFECTIVE DATE. This section	on is effective the day	y following final er	nactment.
107.16		ARTICLE 9		
107.17	STATE A	AID CLARIFICAT	TION	
107.18	Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2023 S	Sunnlement section 4	77R 02 subdivision	3 is amended
107.19	to read:	прристен, эссион т	7 7 D. 02, 3d0d1 v13101.	1 5, 13 amenaea
		(a) The fine demonstrate	ent envict hove a comp	mata aubaidiam
107.20 107.21	Subd. 3. Benefits requirements. incorporated firefighters':	(a) The me departine	in musi nave a sepa	rate substatary
107.21	· <u>-</u>			
107.22	(1) be associated with a volunteer	<u>firefighter</u> relief ass	sociation that provi	des retirement
107.23	benefits or must;			
107.24	(2) participate in the statewide vo	lunteer firefighter pl	an; or if the munici	pality solely
107.25	employs			
107.26	(3) have retirement coverage under	er the public employe	ees police and fire re	etirement plan
107.27	for the department's full-time firefigh	nters, as defined in se	ection 299N.03, sub	odivision 5,
107.28	retirement coverage must be provide	d by the public empl	oyees police and fi	re retirement
107.29	plan or the fire department's part-tim	e firefighters, or the	fire department's fu	ıll-time
107.30	firefighters and part-time firefighters	; or		

107.31

(4) satisfy either clauses (1) and (3) or clauses (2) and (3).

108.1	(b) For purposes of retirement benefits, a fire department may be associated with only
108.2	one volunteer firefighters' firefighter relief association or one account in the voluntary
108.3	statewide volunteer firefighter retirement plan at one time.
100.5	state wide volunteer intelliginer rethement plan at one time.
108.4	(b) (c) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), a municipality without a relief association as
108.5	described under section 424A.08, paragraph (a), may still qualify to receive fire state aid if
108.6	all other requirements of this section are met.
108.7	ARTICLE 10
108.8	APPROPRIATIONS AND FUND TRANSFERS
108.9	Section 1. TRANSFER TO THE IRAP TO TRA TRANSFER ACCOUNT;
108.10	APPROPRIATION.
108.11	(a) \$1,458,000 in fiscal year 2025 is transferred from the general fund to the IRAP to
108.12	TRA transfer account established under Minnesota Statutes, section 354B.215, subdivision
108.13	<u>11.</u>
108.14	(b) Money in the IRAP to TRA transfer account is appropriated to Minnesota State to
108.15	reduce the cost of service credit purchases by eligible persons who transfer coverage from
108.16	the individual retirement account plan to the Teachers Retirement Association under
108.17	Minnesota Statutes, section 354B.215.
108.18	Sec. 2. ONETIME DIRECT STATE AIDS.
108.19	(a) \$28,462,200 in fiscal year 2025 is transferred from the general fund to the Teachers
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
108.20	Retirement Association. This transfer must be made no later than October 1, 2024. This is
108.21	a onetime transfer.
108.22	(b) \$1,537,800 in fiscal year 2025 is appropriated from the general fund to the
108.23	commissioner of management and budget to pay, no later than October 1, 2024, onetime
108.24	state aid to the St. Paul Teachers Retirement Fund Association. This is a onetime
108.25	appropriation."
108.26	Delete the title and insert:
108.27	"A bill for an act
108.28	relating to retirement; extending the suspension of earnings limitation for retired
108.29	teachers who return to teaching; authorizing eligible employees of Minnesota State
108.30	Colleges and Universities who are members of the higher education individual
108.31	retirement account plan to elect coverage by the Teachers Retirement Association
108.32	and purchase past service credit; implementing the recommendations of the State
108.33	Auditor's volunteer firefighter working group; adding a defined contribution plan
108.34	and making other changes to the statewide volunteer firefighter plan; modifying
108.35	requirements for electing to participate in the public employees defined contribution

PENSIONS

SL/LD

H5040-DE1

04/05/24 04:02 pm

04/05/24 04:02 pm PENSIONS SL/LD H5040-DE1

plan; increasing the multiplier in the benefit formula for prospective service and 109.1 109.2 increasing employee and employer contribution rates for the local government correctional service retirement plan; eliminating the workers' compensation offset 109.3 for the Public Employees Retirement Association general and correctional plans; 109.4 clarifying eligibility for firefighters in the public employees police and fire plan; 109.5 making changes of an administrative nature for plans administered by the Minnesota 109.6 State Retirement System; authorizing employees on a H-1B, H-1B1, or E3 visa to 109.7 purchase service credit for a prior period of employment when excluded from the 109.8 general state employees retirement plan; codifying the right to return to employment 109.9 and continue receiving an annuity from the State Patrol plan; adding additional 109.10 positions to the list of positions eligible for the correctional state employees 109.11 retirement plan coverage and permitting the purchase of past service credit; 109.12 establishing a work group on correctional state employees plan eligibility; amending 109.13 the Minnesota Secure Choice retirement program to permit home and 109.14 community-based services employees to participate and modifying board of 109.15 directors requirements; allowing employer matching contributions on an employee's 109.16 qualified student loan payments under Secure 2.0 and modifying other provisions 109.17 for supplemental deferred compensation plans; resolving a conflict in the statute 109.18 setting the plans' established date for full funding and establishing an amortization 109.19 work group; changing the expiration date for state aids by requiring three years at 109.20 100 percent funded rather than one year before the state aid expires; making other 109.21 administrative and conforming changes; appropriating money to the IRAP to TRA 109.22 transfer account, the Teachers Retirement Association, and St. Paul Teachers 109.23 Retirement Association; amending Minnesota Statutes 2022, sections 352.01, 109.24 subdivision 13; 352.03, subdivision 5; 352.113, subdivision 1; 352.1155, 109.25 subdivision 3; 352.12, subdivisions 1, 2, 2b, 7, 8; 352.95, subdivision 4; 353.028, 109.26 subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5; 353.33, subdivisions 7, 7a; 353.64, subdivisions 1, 2, 4, 109.27 5a; 353.65, subdivision 3b; 353D.02, as amended; 353E.03; 353E.04, subdivision 109.28 3; 353E.06, subdivision 6; 353G.01, subdivisions 9, 9a, 11, by adding subdivisions; 109.29 353G.05, as amended; 353G.08, subdivision 2; 354.435, subdivision 4; 354.436, 109.30 subdivision 3; 354A.12, subdivisions 3a, 3c; 354B.20, subdivision 18, by adding 109.31 subdivisions; 356.24, subdivision 3; 423A.02, subdivision 5; 423A.022, subdivision 109.32 5; 424A.001, subdivisions 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, by adding subdivisions; 424A.003; 109.33 424A.01, subdivisions 1, 2, 5; 424A.015, subdivisions 1, 5, 7; 424A.016, 109.34 subdivisions 2, 6; 424A.02, subdivisions 1, 3, 7, 9; 424A.021; 424A.092, 109.35 subdivision 6; 424A.093, subdivision 6; 424A.094, subdivision 1; 424A.095, 109.36 subdivision 2; 424A.10; 424B.22, subdivisions 2, 10; Minnesota Statutes 2023 109.37 Supplement, sections 187.03, by adding a subdivision; 187.05, subdivision 7; 109.38 187.08, subdivisions 1, 7, 8; 352.91, subdivision 3f; 353.335, subdivision 1; 109.39 353D.01, subdivision 2; 353G.01, subdivisions 7b, 8b, 12, 12a, 14a, 15; 353G.02, 109.40 subdivisions 1, 3, 4; 353G.03, subdivision 3; 353G.07; 353G.08, subdivision 1; 109.41 353G.09, subdivisions 1, 1a, 2; 353G.10; 353G.11, subdivision 2, by adding a 109.42 subdivision; 353G.115; 353G.12, subdivision 2, by adding a subdivision; 353G.14; 109.43 354.05, subdivision 38; 354A.12, subdivision 1; 356.215, subdivision 11; 356.24, 109.44 subdivision 1; 477B.02, subdivision 3; Laws 2021, chapter 22, article 2, section 109.45 3; Laws 2022, chapter 65, article 3, section 1, subdivisions 2, 3; Laws 2023, chapter 109.46 46, section 11; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 352B; 109.47 353G; 354B; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2022, sections 353.33, subdivision 5; 109.48 353D.071; 353G.01, subdivision 10; 424A.01, subdivision 5a; Minnesota Statutes 109.49 2023 Supplement, sections 353.335, subdivision 2; 353G.01, subdivisions 7a, 8a; 109.50 353G.02, subdivision 6; 353G.08, subdivision 3; 353G.11, subdivisions 1, 1a, 3, 109.51 4; 353G.112; 353G.121." 109.52