

12-5005. Retired members and certain active members of local plans made special members of KP&F system; employee contributions; preservation of local plan entitlements for special members, exceptions; exemption from taxes and legal claims and process and nonassignable, exception for decrees for support and maintenance and qualified domestic relations orders and lump-sum death benefit assigned to a funeral establishment; employer pickup of member contributions. (a) Every retired member of a local police or fire pension plan and every active member of the plan who is entitled to make an election to become a member of the Kansas police and firemen's retirement system pursuant to K.S.A. 12-5003 or 74-4955, and amendments thereto, and who does not so elect shall become a special member of the Kansas police and firemen's retirement system on the entry date of the city which is affiliating with the Kansas police and firemen's retirement system with regard to all active members and retired members of the local police or fire pension plan under K.S.A. 74-4954, and amendments thereto.

(b) Beginning with the first payroll for services as a policeman or fireman after an active member of a local police or fire pension plan becomes a special member of the Kansas police and firemen's retirement system under this section, the city shall deduct from the compensation of each special member the greater of 7% or the percentage rate of contribution which the active member was required to contribute to the local police or fire pension plan preceding the entry date of the city, as employee contributions. The deductions shall be remitted quarterly, or as the board of trustees otherwise provides, to the executive secretary of the Kansas public employees retirement system for credit to the Kansas public employees retirement fund. All deductions shall be credited to the special members' individual accounts beginning on July 1 of the year following the entry date of the city for purposes of all active and retired members of the local police and fire pension plan.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in this act, each active member of a local police or fire pension plan who becomes a special member of the Kansas police and firemen's retirement system under this section shall be subject to the provisions of and entitled to pensions and other benefits, rights and privileges to the extent provided under the local police and fire pension plan on the day immediately preceding the entry date of the city which is affiliating with the Kansas police and firemen's retirement system with regard to all active members and retired members of the plan.

(d) Each retired member of a local police or fire pension plan who becomes a special member of the Kansas police and firemen's retirement system under this section shall be entitled to receive from the Kansas police and firemen's retirement system a pension or any other benefit to the same extent and subject to the same conditions as existed under the local police or fire pension plan on the day immediately preceding the entry date of the city which is affiliating with the system with regard to all active members and retired members of the plan under K.S.A. 74-4954, and amendments thereto, except no retired special member shall be appointed in or to a position or office for which compensation is paid for service to the same state agency, or the same police or fire department of a city, township, special district or county or the same sheriff's office of a county. This subsection shall not apply to service rendered by a retiree as a juror, as a witness in any legal proceeding or action, as an election board judge or clerk or in any other office or position of a similar nature. However, all such benefits paid shall be paid in accordance with the applicable requirements under section 401 (a)(9) of the federal internal revenue code of 1986 as applicable to governmental plans, as in effect on July 1, 2008, and the regulations thereto, as in effect on July 1, 2008, and in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 74-49,123, and amendments thereto. Any retiree employed by a participating employer in the Kansas police and firemen's retirement system shall not make contributions or receive additional credit under the system for that service. This subsection, except as it relates to contributions and additional credit, shall not apply to the employment of any retiree by the state of Kansas, or any county, city, township, special district, political subdivision or instrumentality of any one or several of the aforementioned for a period of not exceeding 30 days in any one calendar year.

(e) (1) Every pension or other benefit received by any special member pursuant to subsection (c) or (d) is hereby made and declared exempt from any tax of the state of Kansas or any political subdivision or taxing body of this state; shall not be subject to execution, garnishment, attachment or any other process or claim whatsoever, except such pension or benefit or any accumulated contributions due and owing from the system to such special member are subject to decrees for child support or maintenance, or both, as provided in articles 29, 30 and 31 of chapter 23 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto; and shall be unassignable, except that within 30 days after the death of a retirant the lump-sum death benefit payable to a retirant pursuant to the provisions of K.S.A. 74-4989, and amendments thereto, may be assignable to a funeral establishment providing funeral services to such retirant by the beneficiary of such retirant. The Kansas public employees retirement system shall not be a party to any action under the Kansas family law code, chapter 23 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto, and is subject to orders from such actions issued by the district court of the county where such action was filed. Such orders from such actions shall specify either a specific amount or specific percentage of the amount of the pension or benefit or any accumulated contributions due and owing from the system to be distributed by the system pursuant to this act.

(2) Every pension or other benefit received by any special member pursuant to subsection (c) or (d) is hereby made and declared exempt from any tax of the state of Kansas or any political subdivision or taxing body of this state; shall not be subject to execution, garnishment, attachment or any other process or claim whatsoever, except such pension or benefit or any accumulated contributions due and owing from the system to such special members are subject to claims of an alternate payee under a qualified domestic relations order. As used in this subsection, the terms "alternate payee" and "qualified domestic relations order" shall have the meaning ascribed to them in section 414(p) of the federal internal revenue code of 1986, as in effect on July 1, 2008. The provisions of this subsection shall apply to any qualified domestic relations order which is in effect on or after July 1, 1994.

(f) (1) Subject to the provisions of K.S.A. 74-49,123, and amendments thereto, each participating employer, pursuant to the provisions of section 414(h)(2) of the federal internal revenue code of 1986, as in effect on July 1, 2008, shall pick up and pay the contributions which would otherwise be payable by members as prescribed in subsection (b) commencing with the third quarter of 1984. The contributions so picked up shall be treated as employer contributions for purposes of determining the amounts of federal income taxes to withhold from the member's compensation.

(2) Member contributions picked up by the employer shall be paid from the same source of funds used for the payment of compensation to a member. A deduction shall be made from each member's compensation equal to the amount of the member's contributions picked up by the employer, provided that such deduction shall not reduce the member's compensation for purposes of computing benefits under K.S.A. 12-5001 to 12-5007, inclusive, and amendments thereto.

(3) Member contributions picked up by the employer shall be remitted quarterly, or as the board may otherwise provide, to the executive secretary for credit to the Kansas public employees retirement fund. Such contributions shall be credited to a separate account within the member's individual account so that amounts contributed by the member commencing with the third quarter of 1984 may be distinguished from the member contributions picked up by the employer. Interest shall be added annually to members' individual accounts.

History: L. 1976, ch. 348, § 5; L. 1981, ch. 77, § 1; L. 1982, ch. 152, § 19; L. 1984, ch. 289, § 1; L. 1990, ch. 282, § 1; L. 1991, ch. 238, § 1; L. 1992, ch. 321, § 25; L. 1994, ch. 231, § 2; L. 1998, ch. 64, § 2; L. 2008, ch. 113, § 1; L. 2011, ch. 26, § 37; L. 2012, ch. 162, § 26; May 31.