127th G.A.

Sec. 145.49. (A) Notwithstanding section 145.47 of the Revised Code:

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- (1) The public employees retirement system shall be authorized to calculate the employee contribution rates separately for those public employees contributing toward benefits as PERS public safety officers under division (B)(2)(b), (c), or (d) of section 145.33 of the Revised Code.
- (2) Each public employee contributing toward benefits <u>as PERS law enforcement officers</u> under <u>division (B)(2)(a) of section 145.33</u> of the Revised Code shall contribute to the employees' savings fund ten and one-tenth the rate determined under division (A)(1) of this section plus an <u>additional percentage specified by the public employees retirement board, which shall initially be one per cent of the employee's earnable salary <u>and shall not be increased to more than two per cent of the employee's earnable salary.</u></u>
- (B) Notwithstanding section 145.48 of the Revised Code, the public employees retirement system shall be authorized to calculate the employer contribution rates separately for those public employees contributing toward benefits as PERS public safety officers under division (B)(2)(a) of section 145.33 of the Revised Code or as PERS law enforcement officers under division (B)(2)(b), (c), or (d) of that section, except that the employer contribution rate shall not exceed eighteen and one-tenth per cent of the earnable salaries of those employees.

Sec. 145.58. (A) As used in this section, "ineligible individual" means all of the following:

- (1) A former member receiving benefits pursuant to section 145.32, 145.33, 145.331, 145.34, or 145.46 of the Revised Code for whom eligibility is established more than five years after June 13, 1981, and who, at the time of establishing eligibility, has accrued less than ten years' service credit, exclusive of credit obtained pursuant to section 145.297 or 145.298 of the Revised Code, credit obtained after January 29, 1981, pursuant to section 145.293 or 145.301 of the Revised Code, and credit obtained after May 4, 1992, pursuant to section 145.28 of the Revised Code;
 - (2) The spouse of the former member;
- (3) The beneficiary of the former member receiving benefits pursuant to section 145.46 of the Revised Code.
- (B) The public employees retirement board may enter into agreements with insurance companies, health insuring corporations, or government agencies authorized to do business in the state for issuance of a policy or contract of health, medical, hospital, or surgical benefits, or any combination thereof, for those individuals receiving age and service retirement or a disability or survivor benefit subscribing to the plan, or for

PERS retirants employed under section 145.38 of the Revised Code, for coverage of benefits in accordance with division (D)(2) of section 145.38 of the Revised Code. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the policy or contract may also include coverage for any eligible individual's spouse and dependent children and for any of the individual's sponsored dependents as the board determines appropriate. If all or any portion of the policy or contract premium is to be paid by any individual receiving age and service retirement or a disability or survivor benefit, the individual shall, by written authorization, instruct the board to deduct the premium agreed to be paid by the individual to the company, corporation, or agency.

The board may contract for coverage on the basis of part or all of the cost of the coverage to be paid from appropriate funds of the public employees retirement system. The cost paid from the funds of the system shall be included in the employer's contribution rate provided by sections 145.48 and 145.51 of the Revised Code. The board may by rule provide coverage to ineligible individuals if the coverage is provided at no cost to the retirement system. The board shall not pay or reimburse the cost for coverage under this section or section 145.325 of the Revised Code for any ineligible individual.

The board may provide for self-insurance of risk or level of risk as set forth in the contract with the companies, corporations, or agencies, and may provide through the self-insurance method specific benefits as authorized by rules of the board.

(C) The board shall, beginning the month following receipt of satisfactory evidence of the payment for coverage, pay monthly to each recipient of service retirement, or a disability or survivor benefit under the public employees retirement system who is eligible for medical insurance coverage under part B of Title XVIII of "The Social Security Act," 79 Stat. 301 (1965), 42 U.S.C.A. 1395j, as amended, an amount equal to the basic premium determined by the board for such coverage that is not less than ninety-six dollars and forty cents, except that the board shall make no such payment to any ineligible individual or pay an amount that exceeds the amount paid by the recipient for the coverage.

At the request of the board, the recipient shall certify to the retirement system the amount paid by the recipient for coverage described in this division.

(D) The board shall establish by rule requirements for the coordination of any coverage, payment, or benefit provided under this section or section 145.325 of the Revised Code with any similar coverage, payment, or benefit made available to the same individual by the Ohio police and fire pension

fund, state teachers retirement system, school employees retirement system, or state highway patrol retirement system.

(E) The board shall make all other necessary rules pursuant to the purpose and intent of this section.

Sec. 742.45. (A) The board of trustees of the Ohio police and fire pension fund may enter into an agreement with insurance companies, health insuring corporations, or government agencies authorized to do business in the state for issuance of a policy or contract of health, medical, hospital, or surgical benefits, or any combination thereof, for those individuals receiving service or disability pensions or survivor benefits subscribing to the plan. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the policy or contract may also include coverage for any eligible individual's spouse and dependent children and for any of the eligible individual's sponsored dependents as the board considers appropriate.

If all or any portion of the policy or contract premium is to be paid by any individual receiving a service, disability, or survivor pension or benefit, the individual shall, by written authorization, instruct the board to deduct from the individual's benefit the premium agreed to be paid by the individual to the company, corporation, or agency.

The board may contract for coverage on the basis of part or all of the cost of the coverage to be paid from appropriate funds of the Ohio police and fire pension fund. The cost paid from the funds of the Ohio police and fire pension fund shall be included in the employer's contribution rates provided by sections 742.33 and 742.34 of the Revised Code.

The board may provide for self-insurance of risk or level of risk as set forth in the contract with the companies, corporations, or agencies, and may provide through the self-insurance method specific benefits as authorized by the rules of the board.

(B) The Except as otherwise provided in this division, the board shall, beginning the month following receipt of satisfactory evidence of the payment for coverage, pay monthly to each recipient of service, disability, or survivor benefits under the Ohio police and fire pension fund who is eligible for medical insurance coverage under part B of "The Social Security Amendments of 1965," 79 Stat. 301, 42 U.S.C.A. 1395j, as amended, an amount equal to the basic premiums specified by the board or determined pursuant to a formula established by the board that is not less than ninety-six dollars and forty cents, for such coverage, except that the board shall not pay an amount that exceeds the amount paid by the recipient for the coverage.

The board shall pay not more than one monthly premium under this division to an eligible benefit recipient even if the recipient is receiving