

145.201 to 145.79 of the Revised Code to allow a member participating in the plan to purchase service credit or to be eligible for any of the following:

- (1) Retirement, disability, survivor, or death benefits;
- (2) Health or long-term care insurance or any other type of health care benefit;
- (3) Additional increases under section 145.323 of the Revised Code;
- (4) A refund of contributions made by or on behalf of a member.

With respect to the benefits described in division (C)(1) of this section, the public employees retirement board may establish eligibility requirements and benefit formulas or amounts that differ from those of members participating in the PERS defined benefit plan. With respect to the purchase of service credit by a member participating in a PERS defined contribution plan, the board may reduce the cost of the service credit to reflect the different benefit formula established for the member.

Sec. 145.88. Amounts contributed under sections 145.85 and 145.86 of the Revised Code, and any earnings on those amounts, shall be deposited and credited in accordance with the PERS defined contribution plan that is selected by the member. The plan may include provisions authorizing the public employees retirement system to do either of the following:

(A) Withhold from the amounts contributed under sections 145.85 and 145.86 of the Revised Code a percentage of earnable salary or a fixed dollar amount that is determined by an actuary appointed by the public employees retirement board to be necessary to administer the plan;

(B) Withhold from the amounts contributed under section 145.86 of the Revised Code a percentage of earnable salary for the purpose of funding health care insurance coverage or any other type of health care benefit for a member participating in the plan.

Sec. 145.92. If a member participating in a PERS defined contribution plan is married at the time benefits under the plan are to commence, unless the spouse consents to another plan of payment or the spouse's consent is waived, the member's benefit under the plan shall be paid in a lesser amount payable for life and one-half of that amount continuing after death to the surviving spouse for the life of the spouse.

Consent is valid only if it is evidenced by a written document signed by the spouse and the signature is witnessed by a notary public. A plan may waive the requirement of consent if the spouse is incapacitated or cannot be located or for any other reason specified by the plan or in rules adopted by the public employees retirement board.

A plan shall waive the requirement of consent if a plan of payment that provides for payment in a specified portion of the ~~retirement allowance~~

benefit continuing after the member's death to a former spouse is required by a court order issued under section 3105.171 or 3105.65 of the Revised Code or laws of another state regarding division of marital property prior to the effective date of the member's retirement. If a court order requires this plan of payment, the member shall be required to annuitize the member's accumulated amounts in accordance with the order. If the member is married, the plan of payment selected by the member also shall provide for payment to the member's current spouse, unless the current spouse consents in writing to not being designated a beneficiary under the plan of payment or the current spouse's consent is waived by reason other than the court order.

Consent or waiver is effective only with regard to the spouse who is the subject of the consent or waiver.

Sec. 145.95. (A) Subject to division (B) of this section and sections 145.38, 145.56, 145.57, 145.572, 145.573, and 145.574 of the Revised Code, the right of a member participating in a PERS defined contribution plan to any payment or benefit accruing from contributions made by or on behalf of the member under sections 145.85 and 145.86 of the Revised Code shall vest in accordance with this section.

A member's right to any payment or benefit that is based on the member's contributions is nonforfeitable.

A member's right to any payment or benefit that is based on contributions by the member's employer is nonforfeitable as specified by the plan selected by the member.

(B) This section does not apply to an increase made under section 145.323 of the Revised Code for a recipient whose benefit effective date is on or after the effective date of this amendment January 7, 2013.

Sec. 171.04. The Ohio retirement study council shall:

(A) Make an impartial review from time to time of all laws governing the administration and financing of the pension and retirement funds under Chapters 145., 146., 742., 3307., 3309., and 5505. of the Revised Code and recommend to the general assembly any changes it may find desirable with respect to the allowances and benefits, sound financing of the cost of benefits, the prudent investment of funds, and the improvement of the language, structure, and organization of the laws;

(B) Make an annual report to the governor and to the general assembly covering its evaluation and recommendations with respect to the operations of the state retirement systems and their funds;

(C) Study all changes in the retirement laws proposed to the general assembly and report to the general assembly on their probable costs, actuarial implications, and desirability as a matter of public policy;