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By: Senator Kasemeyer (Chairman, Joint Committee on Pensions) Introduced and read first time: January 22, 1999 Assigned to: Budget and Taxation
Committee Report: Favorable with amendments Senate action: Adopted Read second time: March 2, 1999
CHAPTER
1 AN ACT concerning
State Retirement and Pension Systems - Limitations on Benefits and Contributions
FOR the purpose of prohibiting the Board of Trustees for the State Retirement and Pension System from paying an allowance that exceeds a certain limit under the Internal Revenue Code; requiring the State Retirement Agency to reduce an allowance and certain contributions under certain circumstances; requiring the State Retirement Agency to pay a participant certain postretirement adjustments under certain circumstances; requiring that certain other retirement or pension systems make certain reductions before any reduction is made by the Board of Trustees; prohibiting the State Retirement Agency from allowing a member of a State retirement or pension system to purchase prior service credit under certain circumstances; and generally relating to certain limitations on benefits and contributions for participants in the State retirement and pension systems.
16 BY adding to 17 Article - State Personnel and Pensions 18 Section 20-208 19 Annotated Code of Maryland 20 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement) 21 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
22 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

1

Article - State Personnel and Pensions

- 2 20-208.
- 3 (A) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, THE BOARD OF
- 4 TRUSTEES MAY NOT PAY AN ALLOWANCE THAT EXCEEDS THE LIMIT ON BENEFIT
- 5 ACCRUALS ESTABLISHED FROM TIME TO TIME UNDER § 415 OF THE INTERNAL
- 6 REVENUE CODE.
- 7 (B) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTIONS (C) AND (D) OF THIS SECTION, THE AGENCY 8 SHALL REDUCE:
- 9 (1) AN ALLOWANCE TO THE EXTENT THAT IT EXCEEDS THE DOLLAR
- 10 LIMIT ON AN ANNUAL BENEFIT ESTABLISHED FROM TIME TO TIME UNDER § 415(B)
- 11 OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE AND THE REGULATIONS ADOPTED THEREUNDER;
- 12 AND
- 13 (2) THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND OTHER ADDITIONS TO ANY DEFINED
- 14 CONTRIBUTION PLAN MAINTAINED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO THE EXTENT
- 15 THAT THEY EXCEED THE LIMIT ON ANNUAL ADDITIONS ESTABLISHED FROM TIME
- 16 TO TIME UNDER § 415(C) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE AND THE REGULATIONS
- 17 ADOPTED THEREUNDER.
- 18 (C) (1) THE DOLLAR LIMIT ON AN ANNUAL BENEFIT IS THE AMOUNT SET
- 19 FORTH IN § 415(B) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE, AS ADJUSTED BY THE
- 20 COMMISSIONER OF INTERNAL REVENUE UNDER § 415(D) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE
- 21 CODE AS OF JANUARY 1 OF EACH CALENDAR YEAR.
- 22 (2) THE DOLLAR LIMIT FOR A CALENDAR YEAR APPLIES TO A STATE
- 23 SYSTEM'S FISCAL YEAR ENDING WITHIN THAT CALENDAR YEAR.
- 24 (D) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE
- 25 AGENCY SHALL PAY A PARTICIPANT WHOSE ALLOWANCE WAS REDUCED UNDER
- 26 SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION ANY POSTRETIREMENT ADJUSTMENT IF PAYMENT
- 27 OF THE POSTRETIREMENT ADJUSTMENT DOES NOT EXCEED THE DOLLAR LIMIT ON
- 28 BENEFITS.
- 29 (2) THE POSTRETIREMENT ADJUSTMENT MAY NOT EXCEED A
- 30 PARTICIPANT'S BASIC ALLOWANCE AS INCREASED BY ANY POSTRETIREMENT
- 31 ADJUSTMENTS ALLOWABLE UNDER THE APPLICABLE STATE SYSTEM.
- 32 (E) IF AN INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPATES IN ANY OTHER RETIREMENT OR
- 33 PENSION SYSTEM THAT MUST BE AGGREGATED WITH THE STATE SYSTEM
- 34 ADMINISTERED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, THE INDIVIDUAL'S ANNUAL BENEFIT
- 35 ACCRUAL OR ANNUAL ADDITION SHALL FIRST BE REDUCED BY THE OTHER
- 36 RETIREMENT OR PENSION SYSTEM TO THE EXTENT NECESSARY TO COMPLY WITH
- 37 THE REQUIREMENTS OF § 415 OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE AND THE
- 38 REGULATIONS ADOPTED THEREUNDER BEFORE ANY REDUCTION IS MADE BY THE
- 39 BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

- 1 (E) (I) THIS SUBSECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS 2 A MEMBER OF A STATE SYSTEM ON OR BEFORE JUNE 30, 1999.
- 3 (2) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, THE AGENCY
- 4 MAY NOT ALLOW A MEMBER TO PURCHASE PRIOR SERVICE CREDIT OTHER THAN IN
- 5 ACCORDANCE WITH THE LIMITATIONS AND CONDITIONS SET FORTH IN § 415(N) OF
- 6 THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE.
- 7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 8 July 1, 1999.