

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 413

96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR CROWELL.

Read 1st time March 1, 2011, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

1812S.011

AN ACT

To repeal section 169.020, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to retirement.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 169.020, RSMo, is repealed and one new section
2 enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 169.020, to read as follows:

169.020. 1. For the purpose of providing retirement allowances and other
2 benefits for public school teachers, there is hereby created and established a
3 retirement system which shall be a body corporate, shall be under the
4 management of a board of trustees herein described, and shall be known as "The
5 Public School Retirement System of Missouri". Such system shall, by and in such
6 name, sue and be sued, transact all of its business, invest all of its funds, and
7 hold all of its cash, securities, and other property. The system so created shall
8 include all school districts in this state, except those in cities that had
9 populations of four hundred thousand or more according to the latest United
10 States decennial census, and such others as are or hereafter may be included in
11 a similar system or in similar systems established by law and made operative;
12 provided, that teachers in school districts of more than four hundred thousand
13 inhabitants who are or may become members of a local retirement system may
14 become members of this system with the same legal benefits as accrue to present
15 members of such state system on the terms and under the conditions provided for
16 in section 169.021. The system hereby established shall begin operations on the
17 first day of July next following the date upon which sections 169.010 to 169.130
18 shall take effect.

19 2. The general administration and the responsibility for the proper

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

20 operation of the retirement system and for making effective the provisions of
21 sections 169.010 to 169.141 are hereby vested in a board of trustees of seven
22 persons as follows: four persons to be elected as trustees by the members and
23 retired members of the public school retirement system created by sections
24 169.010 to 169.141 and the public education employee retirement system created
25 by sections 169.600 to 169.715; and three members appointed by the governor
26 with the advice and consent of the senate. The first member appointed by the
27 governor shall replace the commissioner of education for a term beginning August
28 28, 1998. The other two members shall be appointed by the governor at the time
29 each member's, who was appointed by the state board of education, term expires.

30 3. Trustees appointed and elected shall be chosen for terms of four years
31 from the first day of July next following their appointment or election, except that
32 one of the elected trustees shall be a member of the public education employee
33 retirement system and shall be initially elected for a term of three years from
34 July 1, 1991. The initial term of one other elected trustee shall commence on
35 July 1, 1992.

36 4. Trustees appointed by the governor shall be residents of school districts
37 included in the retirement system, but not employees of such districts or a state
38 employee or a state elected official. At least one trustee so appointed shall be a
39 retired member of the public school retirement system or the public education
40 employee retirement system. Three elected trustees shall be members of the
41 public school retirement system and one elected trustee shall be a member of the
42 public education employee retirement system.

43 5. The elections of the trustees shall be arranged for, managed and
44 conducted by the board of trustees of the retirement system.

45 6. If a vacancy occurs in the office of trustee, the vacancy shall be filled
46 for the unexpired term in the same manner as the office was previously filled.

47 7. Trustees of the retirement system shall serve without compensation but
48 they shall be reimbursed for expenses necessarily incurred through service on the
49 board of trustees.

50 8. Each trustee shall be commissioned by the governor, and before
51 entering upon the duties of the trustee's office, shall take and subscribe to an
52 oath or affirmation to support the Constitution of the United States, and of the
53 state of Missouri and to demean himself or herself faithfully in the trustee's
54 office. Such oath as subscribed to shall be filed in the office of secretary of state
55 of this state.

56 9. Each trustee shall be entitled to one vote in the board of trustees. Four
57 votes shall be necessary for a decision by the trustees at any meeting of the board
58 of trustees. Unless otherwise expressly provided herein, a meeting need not be
59 called or held to make any decision on a matter before the board. Each member
60 must be sent by the executive director a copy of the matter to be decided with full
61 information from the files of the board of trustees. The unanimous decision of
62 four trustees may decide the issue by signing a document declaring their decision
63 and sending such written instrument to the executive director of the board,
64 provided that no other member of the board of trustees shall send a dissenting
65 decision to the executive director of the board within fifteen days after such
66 document and information was mailed to the trustee. If any member is not in
67 agreement with four members the matter is to be passed on at a regular board
68 meeting or a special meeting called for the purpose.

69 10. The board of trustees shall elect one of their number as chairman, and
70 shall employ a full-time executive director, not one of their number, who shall be
71 the executive officer of the board. Other employees of the board shall be chosen
72 only upon the recommendation of the executive director.

73 11. The board of trustees shall employ an actuary who shall be its
74 technical advisor on matters regarding the operation of the retirement system,
75 and shall perform such duties as are essential in connection therewith, including
76 the recommendation for adoption by the board of mortality and other necessary
77 tables, and the recommendation of the level rate of contributions required for
78 operation of the system.

79 12. As soon as practicable after the establishment of the retirement
80 system, and annually thereafter, the actuary shall make a valuation of the
81 system's assets and liabilities on the basis of such tables as have been adopted.

82 13. At least once in the three-year period following the establishment of
83 the retirement system, and in each five-year period thereafter, the board of
84 trustees shall cause to be made an actuarial investigation into the mortality,
85 service, and compensation experience of the members and beneficiaries of the
86 system, and shall make any changes in the mortality, service, and other tables
87 then in use which the results of the investigation show to be necessary.

88 14. Subject to the limitations of sections 169.010 to 169.141 and 169.600
89 to 169.715, the board of trustees shall formulate and adopt rules and regulations
90 for the government of its own proceedings and for the administration of the
91 retirement system.

92 15. The board of trustees shall determine and decide all questions of
93 doubt as to what constitutes employment within the meaning of sections 169.010
94 to 169.141 and 169.600 to 169.715, the amount of benefits to be paid to members,
95 retired members, beneficiaries and survivors and the amount of contributions to
96 be paid by employer and employee. The executive director shall notify by
97 certified mail both employer and member, retired member, beneficiary or survivor
98 interested in such determination. Any member, retired member, beneficiary or
99 survivor, district or employer adversely affected by such determination, at any
100 time within thirty days after being notified of such determination, may appeal to
101 the circuit court of Cole County. Such appeal shall be tried and determined anew
102 in the circuit court and such court shall hear and consider any and all competent
103 testimony relative to the issues in the case, which may be offered by either party
104 thereto. The circuit court shall determine the rights of the parties under sections
105 169.010 to 169.141 and 169.600 to 169.715 using the same standard provided in
106 section 536.150, and the judgment or order of such circuit court shall be binding
107 upon the parties and the board shall carry out such judgment or order unless an
108 appeal is taken from such decision of the circuit court. Appeals may be had from
109 the circuit court by the employer, member, retired member, beneficiary, survivor
110 or the board, in the manner provided by the civil code.

111 16. The board of trustees shall keep a record of all its proceedings, which
112 shall be open to public inspection. It shall prepare annually a comprehensive
113 annual financial report, the financial section of which shall be prepared in
114 accordance with applicable accounting standards and shall include the
115 independent auditor's opinion letter. The report shall also include information
116 on the actuarial status and the investments of the system. The reports shall be
117 preserved by the executive director and made available for public inspection.

118 17. The board of trustees shall provide for the maintenance of an
119 individual account with each member, setting forth such data as may be
120 necessary for a ready determination of the member's earnings, contributions, and
121 interest accumulations. It shall also collect and keep in convenient form such
122 data as shall be necessary for the preparation of the required mortality and
123 service tables and for the compilation of such other information as shall be
124 required for the valuation of the system's assets and liabilities. All individually
125 identifiable information pertaining to members, retirees, beneficiaries and
126 survivors shall be confidential.

127 18. The board of trustees shall meet regularly at least twice each year,

128 with the dates of such meetings to be designated in the rules and regulations
129 adopted by the board. Such other meetings as are deemed necessary may be
130 called by the chairman of the board or by any four members acting jointly.

131 19. The headquarters of the retirement system shall be in Jefferson City,
132 where suitable office space, utilities and other services and equipment necessary
133 for the operation of the system shall be provided by the board of trustees and all
134 costs shall be paid from funds of the system. All suits or proceedings directly or
135 indirectly against the board of trustees, the board's members or employees or the
136 retirement system established by sections 169.010 to 169.141 or 169.600 to
137 169.715 shall be brought in Cole County.

138 20. The board may appoint an attorney or firm of attorneys to be the legal
139 advisor to the board and to represent the board in legal proceedings, however, if
140 the board does not make such an appointment, the attorney general shall be the
141 legal advisor of the board of trustees, and shall represent the board in all legal
142 proceedings.

143 21. The board of trustees shall arrange for adequate surety bonds covering
144 the executive director. When approved by the board, such bonds shall be
145 deposited in the office of the secretary of state of this state.

146 22. The board shall arrange for annual audits of the records and accounts
147 of the system by a firm of certified public accountants[.]. The state auditor [shall
148 review the audit of the records and accounts of] **may audit** the system at least
149 once every three years and shall report the results to the board of trustees and
150 the governor.

151 23. The board by its rules may establish an interest charge to be paid by
152 the employer on any payments of contributions which are delinquent. The rate
153 charged shall not exceed the actuarially assumed rate of return on invested funds
154 of the pertinent system.

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