1	SENATE BILL 774
2	45th legislature - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2001
3	INTRODUCED BY
4	Roman M. Maes III
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10	AN ACT
11	RELATING TO RETIREMENT FOR STATE HAZARDOUS DUTY MEMBERS;
12	CREATING A NEW COVERAGE PLAN FOR STATE HAZARDOUS DUTY MEMBERS;
13	PROVIDING FOR AN ELECTION; AMENDING AND ENACTING SECTIONS OF
14	THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ACT.
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16	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:
17	Section 1. Section 10-11-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1987,
18	Chapter 253, Section 2, as amended) is amended to read:
19	"10-11-2. DEFINITIONSAs used in the Public Employees
20	Retirement Act:
21	A. "accumulated member contributions" means the
22	amounts deducted from the salary of a member and credited to
23	the member's individual account, together with interest, if
24	any, credited to that account;
25	B. "affiliated public employer" means the state
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and any public employer affiliated with the association as provided in the Public Employees Retirement Act, but does not include an employer pursuant to the Magistrate Retirement Act, the Judicial Retirement Act or the Educational Retirement Act;

C. "association" means the public employees retirement association established under the Public Employees Retirement Act;

D. "disability retired member" means a retired member who is receiving a pension pursuant to the disability retirement provisions of the Public Employees Retirement Act;

E. "disability retirement pension" means the pension paid pursuant to the disability retirement provisions of the Public Employees Retirement Act;

F. "educational retirement system" means that retirement system provided for in the Educational Retirement Act;

G. "employee" means any employee of an affiliated public employer;

H. "federal social security program" means that program or those programs created and administered pursuant to the act of congress approved August 14, 1935, Chapter 531, 49 Stat. 620, as that act may be amended;

I. "final average salary" means the final average salary calculated in accordance with the provisions of the applicable coverage plan;

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J. "form of payment" means the applicable form of payment of a pension provided for in Section 10-11-117 NMSA 1978;

K. "former member" means a person who was previously employed by an affiliated public employer, who has terminated that employment and who has received a refund of member contributions;

8 L. "fund" means the funds included under the
9 Public Employees Retirement Act;

M "member" means a currently employed, contributing employee of an affiliated public employer, or a person who has been but is not currently employed by an affiliated public employer, who has not retired and who has not received a refund of member contributions; "member" also includes the following:

(1) "hazardous duty member" means a [state policeman who is a member and who is a juvenile or adult] correctional officer employed by a corrections facility of the corrections department or its successor agency <u>or a county or</u> <u>municipal corrections facility</u>;

(2) "municipal fire member" means any member who is employed as a full-time nonvolunteer firefighter by an affiliated public employer and who has taken the oath prescribed for firefighters;

(3) "municipal police member" means any. 136104.1

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1 member who is employed as a police officer by an affiliated 2 public employer, other than the state, and who has taken the oath prescribed for police officers; and 3 (4) "state police member" means any member 4 5 who is an officer of the New Mexico state police and who has taken the oath prescribed for such officers; 6 7 N. "membership" means membership in the association: 8 9 0. "pension" means a series of monthly payments to 10 a retired member or survivor beneficiary as provided in the 11 Public Employees Retirement Act; 12 P. "public employer" means the state, any 13 municipality, city, county, metropolitan arroyo flood control 14 authority, economic development district, regional housing authority, soil and water conservation district, entity 15 16 created pursuant to a joint powers agreement, council of 17 government, conservancy district, water and sanitation 18 district, water district and metropolitan water board, 19 including the boards, departments, bureaus and agencies of a 20 public employer, so long as these entities fall within the 21 meaning of governmental plan as that term is used in Section 22 414(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended; 23 "refund beneficiary" means a person designated **Q**. 24 by the member, in writing, in the form prescribed by the 25 association, as the person who would be refunded the member's

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accumulated member contributions payable if the member dies
 and no survivor pension is payable or who would receive the
 difference between pension paid and accumulated member
 contributions if the retired member dies before receiving in
 pension payments the amount of the accumulated member
 contributions;

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R. "retire" means to:

8 (1) terminate employment with all employers
9 covered by any state system or the educational retirement
10 system; and

(2) receive a pension from a state system orthe educational retirement system;

S. "retired member" means a person who has met all requirements for retirement and who is receiving a pension from the fund;

T. "retirement board" means the retirement board provided for in the Public Employees Retirement Act;

U. "salary" means the base salary or wages paid a member, including longevity pay, for personal services rendered an affiliated public employer. "Salary" shall not include overtime pay, allowances for housing, clothing, equipment or travel, payments for unused sick leave, unless the unused sick leave payment is made through continuation of the member on the regular payroll for the period represented by that payment, and any other form of remuneration not . 136104.1

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specifically designated by law as included in salary for Public Employees Retirement Act purposes. Salary in excess of the limitations set forth in Section 401(a) (17) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, shall be disregarded. The limitation on compensation for eligible employees shall not be less than the amount that was allowed to be taken into account under the state retirement system acts in effect on July 1, 1993. For purposes of this section, "eligible employee" means an individual who was a member of a state system before the first plan year beginning after December 31, 1995;

V. "state system" means the retirement programs
 provided for in the Public Employees Retirement Act, the
 Magistrate Retirement Act and the Judicial Retirement Act;

W. "state retirement system acts" means collectively the Public Employees Retirement Act, the Magistrate Retirement Act, the Judicial Retirement Act and the Volunteer Firefighters Retirement Act; and

X. "survivor beneficiary" means a person who receives a pension or who has been designated to be paid a pension as a result of the death of a member or retired member."

Section 2. A new section of the Public Employees Retirement Act is enacted to read:

"[<u>NEW MATERIAL</u>] STATE HAZARDOUS DUTY MEMBER COVERAGE PLAN . 136104. 1

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3- - APPLI CABI LI TY. - -

2 A. State hazardous duty member coverage plan 3 is applicable to hazardous duty members in the first full pay 3 period after July 1, 2002 if the retirement board certifies to 4 the secretary of state that, of those members to be covered 5 under state hazardous duty member coverage plan 3, a majority 6 7 of the members voting has voted to approve adoption of this 8 plan at an election conducted pursuant to Section 9 of this 9 act. The credited service of a hazardous duty member who has 10 held the permanent rank of corrections officer and does not hold an exempt rank shall have actual credited service 11 12 increased by twenty percent for the purposes of state 13 hazardous duty member coverage plan 3.

B. State hazardous duty member coverage plan 3 may be applicable to a designated group of municipal or county hazardous duty members. A designated group may be all members or municipal or county hazardous duty members who opt in to the designated group, employed by the affiliated public employer, an organizational group whose compensation is established by negotiated contract or all members employed by the affiliated public employer, whose compensation is not established by negotiated contract. "

Section 3. A new section of the Public Employees Retirement Act is enacted to read:

"[<u>NEW MATERIAL</u>] STATE HAZARDOUS DUTY MEMBER COVERAGE PLAN . 136104. 1 - 7 -

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1 3--AGE AND SERVICE CREDIT REQUIREMENTS FOR NORMAL 2 RETIREMENT. -- Under state hazardous duty member coverage plan 3, the age and service credit requirements for normal 3 4 retirement are: age sixty-five years or older and five or more 5 A. years of credited service; 6 7 **B**. age sixty-four years and eight or more years of 8 credited service: 9 С. age sixty-three years and eleven or more years 10 of credited service: age sixty-two years and fourteen or more years 11 D. 12 of credited service: age sixty-one years and seventeen or more years 13 Е. 14 of credited service: or any age and twenty or more years of credited 15 F. 16 service." 17 Section 4. A new section of the Public Employees 18 Retirement Act is enacted to read: 19 "[NEW MATERIAL] STATE HAZARDOUS DUTY MEMBER COVERAGE PLAN 20 3--AMOUNT OF PENSION--FORM OF PAYMENT A.--Under state 21 hazardous duty member coverage plan 3, the amount of pension 22 under form of payment A is equal to three and one-half percent 23 of final average salary multiplied by service credit. The 24 amount shall not exceed eighty percent of the final average 25 salary." . 136104. 1

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Section 5. A new section of the Public Employees Retirement Act is enacted to read:

"[<u>NEW MATERIAL</u>] STATE HAZARDOUS DUTY MEMBER COVERAGE PLAN 3--FINAL AVERAGE SALARY.--Under state hazardous duty member coverage plan 3, the final average salary is one thirty-sixth of the greatest aggregate amount of salary paid a member for thirty-six consecutive but not necessarily continuous months of service credit. Under state hazardous duty member coverage plan 3, if a member has less than thirty-six months of service credit, the final average salary is the aggregate amount of salary paid a member for the member's period of service credit divided by the member's service credit."

Section 6. A new section of the Public Employees Retirement Act is enacted to read:

"[<u>NEW MATERIAL</u>] STATE HAZARDOUS DUTY MEMBER COVERAGE PLAN 3--MEMBER CONTRIBUTION RATE.--A member under state hazardous duty member coverage plan 3 shall contribute four and seventyeight hundredths percent of salary starting with the first full pay period that ends within the calendar month in which state hazardous duty member coverage plan 3 becomes applicable to the member."

Section 7. A new section of the Public Employees Retirement Act is enacted to read:

"[<u>NEW MATERIAL</u>] STATE HAZARDOUS DUTY MEMBER COVERAGE PLAN 3--STATE CONTRIBUTION RATE.--The state shall contribute .136104.1 - 9 -

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thirty-eight and two hundredths percent of the salary of each member covered by state hazardous duty member coverage plan 3 starting with the first full pay period that ends within the calendar month in which state hazardous duty member coverage plan 3 becomes applicable to the member."

Section 8. A new section of the Public Employees Retirement Act is enacted to read:

"[<u>NEW MATERIAL</u>] STATE HAZARDOUS DUTY MEMBER COVERAGE PLAN 3--SERVICE CREDIT UNDER THIS PLAN REQUIRED.--Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 2 of this act, to qualify for payment under state hazardous duty member coverage plan 3, a member shall have three years of service credit earned under the state hazardous duty member coverage plan 3 subsequent to July 1, 2002."

Section 9. A new section of the Public Employees Retirement Act is enacted to read:

"[<u>NEW MATERIAL</u>] STATE HAZARDOUS DUTY MEMBER COVERAGE PLAN 3--ELECTION.--On or before October 1, 2001, the retirement board shall conduct an election to submit to members currently contributing under state hazardous duty member coverage plan 2 the question of adopting a state hazardous duty coverage plan 3. The election shall be conducted in accordance with procedures adopted by the retirement board, and the retirement board shall certify the results of the election to the secretary of state on or before November 1, 2001."

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		1	Section 10. EFFECTIVE DATEThe effective date of the
		2	provisions of this act is July 1, 2001.
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