

97A.8 Method of financing.

All the assets of the system created and established by this chapter shall be credited according to the purpose for which they are held to one of three funds, namely, the pension accumulation fund, the pension reserve fund, and the expense fund.

1. *Pension accumulation fund.* The pension accumulation fund shall be the fund in which shall be accumulated all moneys for the payment of all pensions and other benefits payable from contributions made by the state and from which shall be paid the lump-sum death benefits for all members payable from the said contributions. Contributions to and payments from the pension accumulation fund shall be as follows:

a. On account of each member there shall be paid annually into the pension accumulation fund by the state of Iowa an amount equal to a certain percentage of the earnable compensation of the member to be known as the "normal contribution". The rate percent of such contribution shall be fixed on the basis of the liabilities of the retirement system as shown by annual actuarial valuations.

b. On the basis of the rate of interest and of the mortality, interest, and other tables adopted by the board of trustees, the board of trustees, upon the advice of the actuary hired by the board for that purpose, shall make each valuation required by this chapter and shall immediately after making such valuation, determine the "normal contribution rate". The normal contribution rate shall be the rate percent of the earnable compensation of all members obtained by deducting from the total liabilities of the fund the sum of the amount of the funds in hand to the credit of the fund and dividing the remainder by one percent of the present value of the prospective future compensation of all members as computed on the basis of the rate of interest and of mortality and service tables adopted by the board of trustees, all reduced by the employee contribution made pursuant to this subsection. However, the normal rate of contribution shall not be less than seventeen percent. The normal rate of contribution shall be determined by the board of trustees after each valuation. To assist in determining the normal rate of contribution, the board of trustees may adopt a smoothing method for valuing the assets of the system. The smoothing method is designed to reduce changes in the normal contribution rate which could result from fluctuations in the market value of the assets of the system.

c. The total amount payable in each year to the pension accumulation fund shall not be less than the rate percent known as the normal contribution rate of the total compensation earnable by all members during the year. However, the aggregate payment by the state shall be sufficient when combined with the amount in the fund to provide the pensions and other benefits payable out of the fund during the then current year.

d. All lump-sum death benefits on account of death in active service payable from contributions of the state shall be paid from the pension accumulation fund.

e. Upon the retirement or death of a member an amount equal to the pension reserve on any pension payable to the member or on account of the member's death shall be transferred from the pension accumulation fund to the pension reserve fund.

f. Except as otherwise provided in paragraph "h":

(1) An amount equal to three and one-tenth percent of each member's compensation from the earnable compensation of the member shall be paid to the pension accumulation fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1989.

(2) An amount equal to four and one-tenth percent of each member's compensation from the earnable compensation of the member shall be paid to the pension accumulation fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1990.

(3) An amount equal to five and one-tenth percent of each member's compensation from the earnable

compensation of the member shall be paid to the pension accumulation fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1991.

(4) An amount equal to six and one-tenth percent of each member's compensation from the earnable compensation of the member shall be paid to the pension accumulation fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1992.

(5) An amount equal to seven and one-tenth percent of each member's compensation from the earnable compensation of the member shall be paid to the pension accumulation fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1993.

(6) An amount equal to eight and one-tenth percent of each member's compensation from the earnable compensation of the member shall be paid to the pension accumulation fund for the fiscal period beginning July 1, 1994, through December 31, 1994, and an amount equal to eight and thirty-five hundredths percent of each member's compensation from the earnable compensation of the member shall be paid to the pension accumulation fund for the fiscal period beginning January 1, 1995, through June 30, 1995.

(7) An amount equal to nine and thirty-five hundredths percent of each member's compensation from the earnable compensation of the member shall be paid to the pension accumulation fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1995.

(8) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, beginning July 1, 1996, and each fiscal year thereafter, an amount equal to the member's contribution rate times each member's compensation shall be paid to the pension accumulation fund from the earnable compensation of the member. For the purposes of this subparagraph, the member's contribution rate shall be nine and thirty-five hundredths percent. However, the system shall increase the member's contribution rate as necessary to cover any increase in cost to the system resulting from statutory changes which are enacted by any session of the general assembly meeting after January 1, 1995, if the increase cannot be absorbed within the contribution rates otherwise established pursuant to this paragraph, but subject to a maximum employee contribution rate of eleven and three-tenths percent. After the employee contribution reaches eleven and three-tenths percent, sixty percent of the additional cost of such statutory changes shall be paid by the employer under paragraph "c" and forty percent of the additional cost shall be paid by employees under this paragraph.

g. The board of trustees shall certify to the director of the department of administrative services and the director of the department of administrative services shall cause to be deducted from the earnable compensation of each member the contribution required under this subsection and shall forward the contributions to the board of trustees for recording and for deposit in the pension accumulation fund.

The deductions provided for under this subsection shall be made notwithstanding that the minimum compensation provided by law for any member is reduced. Every member is deemed to consent to the deductions made under this section.

h. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph "f", the following transition percentages apply to members' contributions as specified:

(1) For members who on July 1, 1990, have attained the age of forty-nine years or more, an amount equal to nine and one-tenth percent of each member's compensation from the earnable compensation of the member shall be paid to the pension accumulation fund for the fiscal period beginning July 1, 1990, through October 15, 1992, and commencing October 16, 1992, and for each subsequent fiscal period, the rates specified in paragraph "f", subparagraphs (4) through (8), shall apply.

(2) For members who on July 1, 1990, have attained the age of forty-eight years but have not attained the age of forty-nine years, an amount equal to eight and one-tenth percent shall be paid for the fiscal year beginning

July 1, 1990, and an amount equal to nine and one-tenth percent shall be paid for the fiscal period beginning July 1, 1991, through October 15, 1992, and commencing October 16, 1992, and for each subsequent fiscal period, the rates specified in paragraph "f", subparagraphs (4) through (8), shall apply.

(3) For members who on July 1, 1990, have attained the age of forty-seven years but have not attained the age of forty-eight years, an amount equal to seven and one-tenth percent shall be paid for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1990, an amount equal to eight and one-tenth percent shall be paid for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1991, and an amount equal to nine and one-tenth percent shall be paid for the fiscal period beginning July 1, 1992, through October 15, 1992, and commencing October 16, 1992, and for each subsequent fiscal period, the rates specified in paragraph "f", subparagraphs (4) through (8), shall apply.

(4) For members who on July 1, 1990, have attained the age of forty-six years but have not attained the age of forty-seven years, an amount equal to six and one-tenth percent shall be paid for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1990, an amount equal to seven and one-tenth percent shall be paid for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1991, an amount equal to eight and one-tenth percent shall be paid for the fiscal period beginning July 1, 1992, through October 15, 1992, and commencing October 16, 1992, and for each subsequent fiscal period, the rates specified in paragraph "f", subparagraphs (4) through (8), shall apply.

(5) For members who on July 1, 1990, have attained the age of forty-five years but have not attained the age of forty-six years, an amount equal to five and one-tenth percent shall be paid for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1990, an amount equal to six and one-tenth percent shall be paid for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1991, and an amount equal to seven and one-tenth percent shall be paid for the fiscal period beginning July 1, 1992, through October 15, 1992. Commencing October 16, 1992, and for each subsequent fiscal period, the rates specified in paragraph "f", subparagraphs (4) through (8), shall apply.

i. (1) Notwithstanding paragraph "g" or other provisions of this chapter, beginning January 1, 1995, for federal income tax purposes, and beginning January 1, 1999, for state income tax purposes, member contributions required under paragraph "f" or "h" which are picked up by the department shall be considered employer contributions for federal and state income tax purposes, and the department shall pick up the member contributions to be made under paragraph "f" or "h" by its employees. The department shall pick up these contributions by reducing the salary of each of its employees covered by this chapter by the amount which each employee is required to contribute under paragraph "f" or "h" and shall certify the amount picked up in lieu of the member contributions to the department of administrative services. The department of administrative services shall forward the amount of the contributions picked up to the board of trustees for recording and deposit in the pension accumulation fund.

(2) Member contributions picked up by the department under subparagraph (1) shall be treated as employer contributions for federal and state income tax purposes only and for all other purposes of this chapter shall be treated as employee contributions and deemed part of the employee's earnable compensation or salary.

2. *Pension reserve fund.* The pension reserve fund shall be the fund in which shall be held the reserves on all pensions granted to members or to their beneficiaries and from which such pensions and benefits in lieu thereof shall be paid. Should a beneficiary retired on account of disability be restored to active service and again become a member of the system, the member's pension reserve shall be transferred from the pension reserve fund to the pension accumulation fund. Should the pension of a disability beneficiary be reduced as a result of an increase in the beneficiary's amount earned, the amount of the annual reduction in the beneficiary's pension shall be paid annually into the pension accumulation fund during the period of such reduction.

3. *Expense fund.* The expense fund shall be the fund to which shall be credited all money provided by the state of Iowa to pay the administration expenses of the system and from which shall be paid all the expenses necessary in connection with the administration and operation of the system. Biennially the board of trustees shall estimate the amount of money necessary to be paid into the expense fund during the ensuing biennium

to provide for the expense of operation of the system. Investment management expenses shall be charged to the investment income of the system and there is appropriated from the system an amount required for the investment management expenses. The board of trustees shall report the investment management expenses for the fiscal year as a percent of the market value of the system.

For purposes of this subsection, investment management expenses are limited to the following:

- a.* Fees for investment advisors, consultants, and investment management and benefit consultant firms hired by the board of trustees in administering this chapter.
- b.* Fees and costs for safekeeping fund assets.
- c.* Costs for performance and compliance monitoring, and accounting for fund investments.
- d.* Any other costs necessary to prudently invest or protect the assets of the fund.

[C50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, § 97A.8; 82 Acts, ch 1261, § 9]

84 Acts, ch 1180, § 8; 90 Acts, ch 1240, § 11, 12; 94 Acts, ch 1183, §1012; 96 Acts, ch 1187, § 9396; 98 Acts, ch 1174, §1, 6; 2000 Acts, ch 1077, §7, 8; 2003 Acts, ch 145, §286; 2004 Acts, ch 1101, §15