

MARYLAND, That Section 3(5) of Article 73B - Pensions, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1970 Replacement Volume and 1974 Supplement) be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

Article 73B - Pensions

3.

(5) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this article, membership in the retirement system shall be optional with any class of officials elected or appointed; or with any employees of the Governor's office, or with any desk officer or employee of either house of the General Assembly who receives an annual salary as his compensation for such employment, who shall be deemed to be an appointed official within the application of this subsection. All officials elected or appointed on or after July 1, 1957, may become members of the system upon making application therefor at any time after their elections or appointment and before the expiration of their respective terms. All such officials shall be entitled to credit for previous service rendered by them to the State, or a participating municipal corporation, including service rendered prior to the establishment of the Employees' Retirement System. Upon receiving a claim for such service credit from the official, the board of trustees of the retirement system shall verify the fact of such previous employment and the creditable service to which the member is entitled, compute the amount due from such political subdivision for which credit is claimed, and submit a statement to the participating municipal corporation for such amount, such computation to be based upon the compensation actually received by the official from the municipal corporation during the period for which service is to be credited. The participating municipal corporation is authorized and directed forthwith to pay the said amount to the retirement system or to place it in the next ensuing budget for prompt payment when that budget becomes effective. The board of trustees is authorized and directed to include any amount due from the State in the appropriation allowed by the next ensuing State budget.

Any such official who receives membership service credit for service rendered to the State or to a participating municipal corporation under the provisions of this subsection shall pay to the retirement system by single payment, within such period of time as may be determined by the board of trustees, the contributions, with interest, which he would have paid had he been a member of the retirement system but withdrew. Provided, however, that any such member may waive the payment of