Senate Bill No. 1983

CHAPTER 903

An act to amend Sections 24214, 25011, 25018, 26807, and 26906 of, to add Section 22261 to, and to repeal and add Section 24300 of, the Education Code, relating to state teachers' retirement, and making an appropriation therefor.

[Approved by Governor September 25, 2002. Filed with Secretary of State September 26, 2002.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1983, Soto. Teachers' Retirement Law.

(1) Existing law requires the Teachers' Retirement Board to administer and manage the investments of the Teachers' Retirement Fund.

This bill would authorize the board to make investments related to the planning, development, or acquisition of surplus real property owned by an employer, so long as the investment meets certain fiduciary standards.

(2) Existing law authorizes members of the Defined Benefit Program and the Defined Benefit Supplement Program of the State Teachers' Retirement Plan, prior to retirement, to elect various alternative joint and survivor options providing actuarially modified retirement allowances.

This bill would revise the joint and survivor options available to those members under those programs. The bill would allow a member to designate multiple option beneficiaries, prior to the member's effective retirement date under the Defined Benefit Program, as specified. The bill would also require the Teachers' Retirement Board to evaluate on or before January 1, 2004, the existing options and annuities provided by the State Teachers' Retirement System and to adopt, as a plan amendment, appropriate changes to those options, as specified and subject to certain limitations. The bill would also prescribe procedures for designation of a new annuity beneficiary under the Defined Benefit Supplement Program if the designated annuity beneficiary predeceases the member.

(3) Under existing law, a retired member of the Teachers' Retirement Plan may perform specified types of service without reduction in his or her retirement allowance and without reinstatement if the compensation for that service, in any one school year, does not exceed $22,000, adjusted annually by the Teachers' Retirement Board pursuant to the increase in a specified consumer price index.

Under this bill, that compensation limitation for any one school year would be $22,000, adjusted annually by the Teachers' Retirement Board by the percentage increase in the average earnable salary of active members of the Defined Benefit Program, as specified.

(4) The bill would appropriate the sum of $1,800,000 from the Teachers' Retirement Fund to the Teachers' Retirement Board to maintain and enhance customer service by the Teachers' Retirement System.

(5) The bill would also make technical, nonsubstantive changes to the Teachers' Retirement Law.

Appropriation: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 22261 is added to the Education Code, to read:

22261. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the board may make investments related to the planning, development, or acquisition of surplus real property owned by an employer, if the investment satisfies the requirements of Section 22250 and does not constitute a prohibited transaction for purposes of Section 503 of the Internal Revenue Code.

SEC. 2. Section 24214 of the Education Code, as amended by Section 2 of Chapter 896 of the Statutes of 2000, is amended to read:

24214. (a) A member retired for service under this part may perform the activities identified in paragraphs (1) to (9), inclusive, of subdivision (a), or subdivision (b), of Section 22119.5 as an employee of an employer, as an employee of a third party, or as an independent contractor within the California public school system, but the member may not make contributions to the retirement fund or accrue service credit based on compensation earned from that service.

(b) The rate of pay for service performed by a member retired for service under this part as an employee of the employer may not be less than the minimum, nor exceed that paid by the employer to other employees performing comparable duties.

(c) A member retired for service under this part may not be required to reinstate for performing the activities identified in paragraphs (1) to (9), inclusive, of subdivision (a), or subdivision (b), of Section 22119.5, as an employee of an employer, as an employee of a third party, or as an independent contractor within the California public school system.

(d) A member retired for service under this part may earn compensation for performing activities identified in paragraphs (1) to (9), inclusive, of subdivision (a), or subdivision (b), of Section 22119.5 in any one school year up to the limitation specified in subdivision (f)

as an employee of an employer, as an employee of a third party, or an independent contractor, within the California public school system, without a reduction in his or her retirement allowance.

(e) (1) The postretirement compensation limitation provisions set forth in this section are not applicable to compensation earned by a member retired for service under this part who has returned to work after the date of retirement and, for a period of at least 12 consecutive months, has not performed the activities identified in paragraphs (1) to (9), inclusive, of subdivision (a), or subdivision (b), of Section 22119.5 as an employee of an employer, as an employee of a third party, or as an independent contractor within the California public school system.

(2) The postretirement compensation limitation provisions set forth in this section are not applicable to compensation earned for the performance of the activities described in subdivision (a) for which the employer is not eligible to receive state apportionment or to compensation that is not creditable pursuant to Section 22119.2.

(f) The limitation that shall apply to the compensation for performance of the activities identified in paragraphs (1) to (9), inclusive, of subdivision (a), or subdivision (b), of Section 22119.5 by a member retired for service under this part either as an employee of an employer, an employee of a third party, or as an independent contractor, shall, in any one school year, be an amount calculated by the board each July 1 equal to twenty-two thousand dollars ($22,000) multiplied by the percentage increase in the average earnable salary of active members of the Defined Benefit Program, as determined by the system, from the 1998–99 fiscal year to the fiscal year ending in the previous calendar year.

(g) If a member retired for service under this part earns compensation for performing activities identified in paragraphs (1) to (9), inclusive, of subdivision (a), or subdivision (b), of Section 22119.5 in excess of the limitation specified in subdivision (f), as an employee of an employer, as an employee of a third party, or as an independent contractor, within the California public school system, and if that compensation is not exempt from that limitation under subdivision (e) or any other provisions of law, the member's retirement allowance shall be reduced by the amount of the excess compensation. The amount of the reduction may be equal to the monthly allowance payable but shall not exceed the amount of the annual allowance payable under this part for the fiscal year in which the excess compensation was earned.

(h) The amendments to this section enacted during the 1995–96 Regular Session shall be deemed to have become operative on July 1, 1996.

(i) This section shall be repealed on January 1, 2008, unless later enacted legislation extends or deletes that date.

SEC. 3. Section 24214 of the Education Code, as added by Section 3 of Chapter 896 of the Statutes of 2000, is amended to read:

24214. (a) A member retired for service under this part may perform the activities identified in paragraphs (1) to (9), inclusive, of subdivision (a), or subdivision (b), of Section 22119.5 as an employee of an employer, as an employee of a third party, or as an independent contractor within the California public school system, but the member may not make contributions to the retirement fund or accrue service credit based on compensation earned from that service.

(b) The rate of pay for service performed by a member retired for service under this part as an employee of the employer may not be less than the minimum, nor exceed that paid by the employer to other employees performing comparable duties.

(c) A member retired for service under this part may not be required to reinstate for performing the activities identified in paragraphs (1) to (9), inclusive, of subdivision (a), or subdivision (b), of Section 22119.5, as an employee of an employer, as an employee of a third party, or as an independent contractor within the California public school system.

(d) A member retired for service under this part may earn compensation for performing activities identified in paragraphs (1) to (9), inclusive, of subdivision (a), or subdivision (b), of Section 22119.5 in any one school year up to the limitation specified in subdivision (f) as an employee of an employer, as an employee of a third party, or an independent contractor, within the California public school system, without a reduction in his or her retirement allowance.

(e) The postretirement compensation limitation provisions set forth in this section are not applicable to compensation earned for the performance of the activities described in subdivision (a) for which the employer is not eligible to receive state apportionment or to compensation that is not creditable pursuant to Section 22119.2.

(f) The limitation that shall apply to the compensation for performance of the activities identified in paragraphs (1) to (9), inclusive, of subdivision (a), or subdivision (b), of Section 22119.5 by a member retired for service under this part either as an employee of an employer, an employee of a third party, or as an independent contractor, shall, in any one school year, be an amount calculated by the board each July 1 equal to twenty-two thousand dollars ($22,000) multiplied by the average earnable salary of active members of the Defined Benefit Program, as determined by the system, from the 1998–99 fiscal year to the fiscal year ending in the previous calendar year.

(g) If a member retired for service under this part earns compensation for performing activities identified in paragraphs (1) to (9), inclusive, of subdivision (a), or subdivision (b), of Section 22119.5 in excess of the limitation specified in subdivision (f), as an employee of an employer, as an employee of a third party, or as an independent contractor, within the California public school system, the member's retirement allowance shall be reduced by the amount of the excess compensation. The amount of the reduction may be equal to the monthly allowance payable but may not exceed the amount of the annual allowance payable under this part for the fiscal year in which the excess compensation was earned.

(h) The language of this section derived from the amendments to the section of this number added by Chapter 394 of the Statutes of 1995, enacted during the 1995–96 Regular Session, shall be deemed to have become operative on July 1, 1996.

(i) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2008.

SEC. 4. Section 24300 of the Education Code is repealed.

SEC. 5. Section 24300 is added to the Education Code, to read:

24300. (a) A member may, prior to the effective date of the member's retirement, elect an option pursuant to this part, that would provide an actuarially modified retirement allowance payable throughout the life of the member and the member's option beneficiary, as follows:

(1) Option 2. The modified retirement allowance shall be paid to the retired member. Upon the retired member's death, an allowance equal to the modified amount that the retired member was receiving shall be paid to the option beneficiary.

(2) Option 3. The modified retirement allowance shall be paid to the retired member. Upon the retired member's death, an allowance equal to one-half of the modified amount that the retired member was receiving shall be paid to the option beneficiary.

(3) Option 4. The modified retirement allowance shall be paid to the retired member as long as both the retired member and the option beneficiary are living. Upon the death of either the retired member or the option beneficiary, an allowance equal to two-thirds of the modified amount that the retired member was receiving shall be paid to the surviving retired member or the surviving option beneficiary.

(4) Option 5. The modified retirement allowance shall be paid to the retired member as long as both the retired member and the option beneficiary are living. Upon the death of either the retired member or the option beneficiary, an allowance equal to one-half of the modified amount that the retired member was receiving shall be paid to the surviving retired member or surviving option beneficiary.

(5) Option 6. The modified retirement allowance shall be paid to the retired member and upon the retired member's death, an allowance equal to the modified amount that the retired member was receiving shall be paid to the option beneficiary. However, if the option beneficiary predeceases the retired member, the retirement allowance without modification for the option shall be payable to the retired member. If the option beneficiary predeceases the retired member, the retired member may designate a new option beneficiary. The effective date of the new designation shall be six months following the date notification is received by the board, so long as both the retired member and the designated option beneficiary are then living. Notification shall be on a properly executed form for the new designation. The selection of the new option beneficiary under this subdivision is subject to an actuarial modification of the unmodified retirement allowance. A retired member may not designate any new option beneficiary that would result in any additional liability to the fund.

(6) Option 7. The modified retirement allowance shall be paid to the retired member and upon the retired member's death, an allowance equal to one-half of the modified amount the retired member was receiving shall be paid to the option beneficiary. However, if the option beneficiary predeceases the retired member, the retirement allowance without modification for the option shall be payable to the retired member. If the option beneficiary predeceases the retired member, the retired member may designate a new option beneficiary. The effective date of the new designation shall be six months following the date notification is received by the board, provided both the retired member and the designated option beneficiary are then living. Notification shall be on a properly executed form for the new designation. The selection of the new option beneficiary under this subdivision is subject to an actuarial modification of the unmodified retirement allowance. A retired member may not designate any new option beneficiary that would result in any additional liability to the fund.

(7) Option 8. (A) Any member, prior to the effective date of the member's retirement, may designate multiple option beneficiaries. The member who has designated more than one option beneficiary shall select an option that the member is authorized to elect subject to subdivision (e) for each beneficiary designated that would provide an actuarially modified retirement allowance payable throughout the lives of the member and the member's option beneficiaries.

(B) The modified retirement allowance shall be paid to the retired member as long as the retired member and at least one of the option beneficiaries are living. Upon the retired member's death, an allowance shall be paid to each surviving option beneficiary in accordance with the

option elected respective to that beneficiary. However, if one or more of the option beneficiaries predeceases the retired member, the retired member's allowance shall be adjusted in accordance with the option elected for the deceased beneficiary. The member shall determine the percentage of the unmodified allowance that will be modified by the election of Option 2, Option 3, Option 4, Option 5, Option 6, or Option 7 under this option, the aggregate of which may not exceed 100 percent of the member's unmodified allowance. The election of this option is subject to approval by the board.

(b) For purposes of this section, the member shall designate an option beneficiary on a form prescribed by the system, which shall be duly executed and filed with the system at the time of the member's retirement.

(c) A member may revoke or change an election of an option at any time prior to the effective date of the member's retirement under this part.

(d) On or before July 1, 2004, the board shall evaluate the existing options and annuities provided pursuant to this section, Chapter 38 (commencing with Section 25000) of this part, and Part 14 (commencing with Section 26000) and adopt, as a plan amendment, any appropriate changes to the options and annuities based on the needs of members, participants, and their beneficiaries, including, but not limited to, providing economic security for beneficiaries and reducing complexity in the selection of options and annuities by members and participants. The changes to the options and annuities may have no net actuarial impact on the retirement fund, and the board may establish any eligibility criteria it deems necessary to prevent an adverse actuarial impact to the fund. The board shall designate the effective date of the plan amendment, which shall be at least 18 months after the amendment is adopted by the board, and notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the options and annuities available to members and participants eligible to retire pursuant to this part after the effective date of the plan amendment made pursuant to this subdivision shall reflect the changes adopted as a plan amendment pursuant to this subdivision.

(e) Any member or participant who retired and elected an option or a joint and survivor annuity, or who filed a preretirement election of an option prior to the effective date of the plan amendment made pursuant to subdivision (d), may elect to change to a different option or joint and survivor annuity, as modified by the board as a plan amendment pursuant to subdivision (d), if the member or participant meets all the criteria established by the board to prevent a change in an option or joint and survivor annuity from having an adverse actuarial impact on the retirement fund, including, but not limited to, the effective date of a new

designation or limitations on any changes if a member or participant, as the case may be, or beneficiary, or both, is currently not living or afflicted with a known terminal illness. The member or participant shall designate the change during the six-month period that begins with the effective date of the plan amendment, on a form prescribed by the system. Any member changing an option election pursuant to this subdivision is not subject to the allowance reduction prescribed in Section 24309 or 24310 as a result of the election. If a member or participant elects to change his or her option or joint and survivor annuity under this subdivision, the member or participant shall retain the same option beneficiary or beneficiaries as named in the prior designation.

(f) The Legislature reserves the right to modify this section prior to the effective date of the plan amendment made pursuant to subdivision (d) to prevent any actuarial impact to the fund.

SEC. 6. Section 25011 of the Education Code is amended to read:

25011. (a) A member or nonmember spouse may elect to receive the retirement benefit as an annuity payable in monthly installments, provided the balance of credits in the member's or nonmember spouse's respective Defined Benefit Supplement account on the date the retirement benefit becomes payable equals at least three thousand five hundred dollars ($3,500) after any lump-sum payments have been made from the account.

(b) If the member elects to receive the retirement benefit as an annuity, the member shall elect one of the following forms of payment:

(1) A single life annuity without a cash refund feature. This form of payment is the actuarial equivalent of the amount that would be payable to the member if the member elected to receive the retirement benefit in a lump-sum payment. Upon the death of the member, no other benefit shall be payable to the member's beneficiary under the Defined Benefit Supplement Program.

(2) A single life annuity with a cash refund feature. This form of payment is the actuarial equivalent of the amount that would be payable to the member if the member elected to receive the retirement benefit in a lump-sum payment. Upon the death of the member, an amount equal to the remaining balance, if any, of credits transferred from the member's Defined Benefit Supplement account to the Annuitant Reserve shall be returned in a lump-sum payment to the member's beneficiary.

(3) A 100-percent joint and survivor annuity with a ''pop-up'' feature. This form of payment is the actuarial equivalent of the lump-sum payment modified to be payable over the combined lives of the member and the member's annuity beneficiary. Upon the death of the member, the same monthly amount that was payable to the member shall be paid monthly to the member's surviving annuity beneficiary.

However, if the annuity beneficiary predeceases the member, the annuity payable to the member shall be the single life annuity with a cash refund feature that would have been payable had the member selected that form of payment at the commencement of the benefit. That single life annuity shall be payable as of the day following the date of the annuity beneficiary's death upon receipt by the system of proof of the annuity beneficiary's death. If the annuity beneficiary predeceases the member, the member may designate a new annuity beneficiary. The effective date of the new designation shall be six months following the date notification, on a properly executed form, is received by the board, provided both the member and the new designated annuity beneficiary are then living. The selection of the new annuity beneficiary under this paragraph is subject to an actuarial modification of the single life annuity with a cash refund feature. A member may not designate a new annuity beneficiary if that designation would result in any additional liability to the fund.

(4) A 50-percent joint and survivor annuity with a ''pop-up'' feature. This form of payment is the actuarial equivalent of the lump-sum payment modified to be payable over the combined lives of the member and the member's annuity beneficiary. Upon the death of the member, one-half of the monthly amount that was payable to the member shall be paid monthly to the member's surviving annuity beneficiary. However, if the annuity beneficiary predeceases the member, the annuity payable to the member shall be the single life annuity with a cash refund feature that would have been payable had the member selected that form of payment at the commencement of the benefit. That single life annuity shall be payable as of the day following the date of the annuity beneficiary's death upon receipt by the system of proof of the annuity beneficiary's death. If the annuity beneficiary predeceases the member, the member may designate a new annuity beneficiary. The effective date of the new designation shall be six months following the date notification, on a properly executed form, is received by the board, provided both the member and the new designated annuity beneficiary are then living. The selection of the new annuity beneficiary under this paragraph is subject to an actuarial modification of the single life annuity with a cash refund feature. A member may not designate a new annuity beneficiary if that designation would result in any additional liability to the fund.

(5) A period certain annuity. This form of payment is an annuity equal to the actuarial equivalent of the balance of credits in the member's Defined Benefit Supplement account on the date the retirement benefit becomes payable. The annuity shall be payable in whole year increments over a period of years specified by the member, from a minimum of three

years to a maximum of 10 years. However, the annuity period may not exceed the life expectancy of the member, or the life expectancy of the member and the member's annuity beneficiary. If the member's death occurs prior to the end of the period certain, the remaining balance of payments shall be paid to the member's annuity beneficiary pursuant to Section 25022.

(c) If a nonmember spouse elects to receive the retirement benefit as an annuity, the nonmember spouse shall elect the form of payment specified in paragraph (1), (2), or (5) of subdivision (b) and, in those paragraphs, references to a ''member'' shall apply to the nonmember spouse.

SEC. 7. Section 25018 of the Education Code is amended to read:

25018. (a) A member may elect to receive the disability benefit as an annuity, payable in monthly installments, provided the balance of credits in the member's Defined Benefit Supplement account on the date the disability benefit becomes payable equals at least three thousand five hundred dollars ($3,500) after any lump-sum payment has been made from this account.

(b) If the member elects to receive the disability benefit as an annuity, the member shall elect one of the following forms of payment:

(1) A single life annuity without a cash refund feature. This form of payment is the actuarial equivalent of the amount that would be payable to the member if the member elected to receive the disability benefit in a lump-sum payment. Upon the death of the member, no other benefit shall be payable to the member's beneficiary under the Defined Benefit Supplement Program.

(2) A single life annuity with a cash refund feature. This form of payment is the actuarial equivalent of the amount that would be payable to the member if the member elected to receive the disability benefit in a lump-sum payment. Upon the death of the member, an amount equal to the remaining balance of credits, if any, transferred from the member's Defined Benefit Supplement account to the Annuitant Reserve shall be returned in a lump-sum payment to the member's beneficiary.

(3) For a member receiving an allowance pursuant to Chapter 26 (commencing with Section 24100), a 100-percent joint and survivor annuity with a ''pop-up'' feature. This form of payment is the actuarial equivalent of the lump-sum payment modified to be payable over the combined lives of the member and the member's annuity beneficiary. Upon the death of the member, the same monthly amount that was payable to the member shall be paid monthly to the member's surviving annuity beneficiary. However, if the annuity beneficiary predeceases the member, the annuity payable to the member shall be the single life annuity with a cash refund feature that would have been payable had the

member selected that form of payment at the commencement of the benefit. That single life annuity shall be payable as of the day following the date of the annuity beneficiary's death upon receipt by the system of proof of the annuity beneficiary's death. If the annuity beneficiary predeceases the member, the member may designate a new annuity beneficiary. The effective date of the new designation shall be six months following the date notification, on a properly executed form, is received by the board, provided both the member and the new designated annuity beneficiary are then living. The selection of the new annuity beneficiary under this paragraph shall be subject to an actuarial modification of the single life annuity with a cash refund feature. A member may not designate a new annuity beneficiary if that designation would result in any additional liability to the fund.

(4) For a member receiving an allowance pursuant to Chapter 26 (commencing with Section 24100), a 50-percent joint and survivor annuity with a ''pop-up'' feature. This form of payment is the actuarial equivalent of the lump-sum payment modified to be payable over the combined lives of the member and the member's annuity beneficiary. Upon the death of the member, one-half of the monthly amount that was payable to the member shall be paid monthly to the member's surviving annuity beneficiary. However, if the annuity beneficiary predeceases the member, the annuity payable to the member shall be the single life annuity with a cash refund feature that would have been payable had the member selected that form of payment at the commencement of the benefit. That single life annuity shall be payable as of the day following the date of the annuity beneficiary's death upon receipt by the system of proof of the annuity beneficiary's death. If the annuity beneficiary predeceases the member, the member may designate a new annuity beneficiary. The effective date of the new designation shall be six months following the date notification, on a properly executed form, is received by the board, provided both the member and the new designated annuity beneficiary are then living. The selection of the new annuity beneficiary under this paragraph shall be subject to an actuarial modification of the single life annuity with a cash refund feature. A member may not designate a new annuity beneficiary if that designation would result in any additional liability to the fund.

(5) A period certain annuity. This form of payment is an annuity equal to the actuarial equivalent of the balance of credits in the member's Defined Benefit Supplement account on the date the disability benefit becomes payable. The annuity shall be payable in whole year increments over a period of years specified by the member, from a minimum of three years to a maximum of 10 years. However, the annuity period may not exceed the life expectancy of the member, or the life expectancy of the

member and the member's annuity beneficiary. If the member's death occurs prior to the end of the period certain, the remaining balance of payments shall be paid to the member's annuity beneficiary pursuant to Section 25022.

SEC. 8. Section 26807 of the Education Code is amended to read:

26807. (a) Upon application for a retirement benefit under this part, the participant may elect to receive the retirement benefit in the form of an annuity, provided the sum of the employee account and employer account equals or exceeds three thousand five hundred dollars ($3,500).

(b) If the participant elects to receive the retirement benefit as an annuity, the participant shall elect one of the following forms of payment:

(1) A single life annuity without a cash refund feature. This form of payment is the actuarial equivalent of the amount that would be payable to the participant if the participant elected to receive the retirement benefit in a lump-sum payment. This benefit shall be payable for the life of the participant. Upon the death of the participant, no other benefit shall be payable to any beneficiary under this part.

(2) A single life annuity with a cash refund feature. This form of payment is the actuarial equivalent of the amount that would be payable to the participant if the participant elected to receive the retirement benefit in a lump-sum payment. This benefit shall be payable for the life of the participant and any balance remaining upon the death of the participant shall be payable in a lump sum to the participant's beneficiary.

(3) A 100-percent joint and survivor annuity with a ''pop-up'' feature. This form of payment is the actuarial equivalent of the amount that would be payable to the participant if the participant elected to receive the retirement benefit in a lump-sum payment, modified to be payable over the combined lives of the participant and the participant's annuity beneficiary. Upon the death of the participant, the monthly amount that was payable to the participant shall be paid monthly to the participant's annuity beneficiary. However, if the annuity beneficiary predeceases the participant, the annuity payable to the participant shall be the single life annuity with a cash refund feature that would have been payable had the participant selected that form of payment at the commencement of the benefit. That single life annuity shall be payable as of the day following the date of the annuity beneficiary's death upon receipt by the system of proof of the annuity beneficiary's death. If the annuity beneficiary predeceases the participant, the participant may designate a new annuity beneficiary. The effective date of the new designation shall be six months following the date notification, on a properly executed form, is received by the board, provided both the

participant and the new designated annuity beneficiary are then living. The selection of the new annuity beneficiary under this paragraph shall be subject to an actuarial modification of the single life annuity with a cash refund feature. A participant may not designate a new annuity beneficiary if that designation would result in any additional liability to the fund.

(4) A 50-percent joint and survivor annuity with a ''pop-up'' feature. This form of payment is the actuarial equivalent of the amount that would be payable to the participant if the participant elected to receive the retirement benefit in a lump-sum payment, modified to be payable over the combined lives of the participant and the participant's annuity beneficiary. Upon the death of the participant, one-half of the monthly amount that was payable to the participant shall be paid monthly to the participant's annuity beneficiary. However, if the annuity beneficiary predeceases the participant, the annuity payable to the participant shall be the single life annuity with a cash refund feature that would have been payable had the participant selected that form of payment at the commencement of the benefit. That single life annuity shall be payable as of the day following the date of the annuity beneficiary's death upon receipt by the system of proof of the annuity beneficiary's death. If the annuity beneficiary predeceases the participant, the participant may designate a new annuity beneficiary. The effective date of the new designation shall be six months following the date notification, on a properly executed form, is received by the board, provided both the participant and the new designated annuity beneficiary are then living. The selection of the new annuity beneficiary under this paragraph shall be subject to an actuarial modification of the single life annuity with a cash refund feature. A participant may not designate a new annuity beneficiary if that designation would result in any additional liability to the fund.

(5) A period certain annuity. This form of payment is an annuity equal to the actuarial equivalent of the sum of the balance of the employee account and the employer account on the date the retirement benefit becomes payable. The annuity shall be payable in whole year increments over a period of years specified by the participant, from a minimum of three years to a maximum of 10 years. However, the annuity period may not exceed the life expectancy of the participant or of the participant and the participant's annuity beneficiary. If the participant's death occurs prior to the end of the period certain, the remaining balance of payments shall be paid to the participant's annuity beneficiary pursuant to Section 27007.

SEC. 9. Section 26906 of the Education Code is amended to read:

26906. (a) Upon application for a disability benefit under this part, the participant may elect to receive the disability benefit in the form of an annuity provided the sum of the employee account and employer account equals or exceeds three thousand five hundred dollars ($3,500).

(b) If the participant elects to receive the disability benefit as an annuity, the participant shall elect one of the following forms of payment:

(1) A single life annuity without a cash refund feature. This form of payment is the actuarial equivalent of the amount that would be payable to the participant if the participant elected to receive the disability benefit in a lump-sum payment. This benefit shall be payable for the life of the participant. Upon the death of the participant, no other benefit shall be payable to any beneficiary under this part.

(2) A single life annuity with a cash refund feature. This form of payment is the actuarial equivalent of the amount that would be payable to the participant if the participant elected to receive the disability benefit in a lump-sum payment. This benefit shall be payable for the life of the participant and any balance remaining upon the death of the participant shall be payable in a lump sum to the participant's beneficiary.

(3) A 100-percent joint and survivor annuity with a ''pop-up'' feature. This form of payment is the actuarial equivalent of the amount that would be payable to the participant if the participant elected to receive the disability benefit in a lump-sum payment, modified to be payable over the combined lives of the participant and the participant's annuity beneficiary. Upon the death of the participant, the monthly amount that was payable to the participant shall be paid monthly to the participant's annuity beneficiary. However, if the annuity beneficiary predeceases the participant, the annuity payable to the participant shall be the single life annuity with a cash refund feature that would have been payable had the participant selected that form of payment at the commencement of the benefit. That single life annuity shall be payable as of the day following the date of the annuity beneficiary's death upon receipt by the system of proof of the annuity beneficiary's death. If the annuity beneficiary predeceases the participant, the participant may designate a new annuity beneficiary. The effective date of the new designation shall be six months following the date notification, on a properly executed form, is received by the board, provided both the participant and the new designated annuity beneficiary are then living. The selection of the new annuity beneficiary under this paragraph shall be subject to an actuarial modification of the single life annuity with a cash refund feature. A participant may not designate a new annuity beneficiary if that designation would result in any additional liability to the fund.

(4) A 50-percent joint and survivor annuity with a ‘‘pop-up’’ feature. This form of payment is the actuarial equivalent of the amount that would be payable to the participant if the participant elected to receive the disability benefit in a lump-sum payment, modified to be payable over the combined lives of the participant and the participant’s annuity beneficiary. Upon the death of the participant, one-half of the monthly amount that was payable to the participant shall be paid monthly to the participant’s annuity beneficiary. However, if the annuity beneficiary predeceases the participant, the annuity payable to the participant shall be the single life annuity with a cash refund feature that would have been payable had the participant selected that form of payment at the commencement of the benefit. That single life annuity shall be payable as of the day following the date of the annuity beneficiary’s death upon receipt by the system of proof of the annuity beneficiary’s death. If the annuity beneficiary predeceases the participant, the participant may designate a new annuity beneficiary. The effective date of the new designation shall be six months following the date notification, on a properly executed form, is received by the board, provided both the participant and the new designated annuity beneficiary are then living. The selection of the new annuity beneficiary under this paragraph shall be subject to an actuarial modification of the single life annuity with a cash refund feature. A participant may not designate a new annuity beneficiary if that designation would result in any additional liability to the fund.

(5) A period certain annuity. This form of payment is an annuity equal to the actuarial equivalent of the sum of balance of the employee account and the employer account on the date the disability benefit becomes payable. The annuity shall be payable in whole year increments over a period of years specified by the participant, from a minimum of three years to a maximum of 10 years. However, the annuity period may not exceed the life expectancy of the participant or of the participant and the participant’s annuity beneficiary. If the participant’s death occurs prior to the end of the period certain, the remaining balance of payments shall be paid to the participant’s annuity beneficiary pursuant to Section 27007.

SEC. 10. The sum of one million eight hundred thousand dollars ($1,800,000) is hereby appropriated from the Teachers’ Retirement Fund to the Teachers’ Retirement Board to maintain and enhance the level of customer service provided by the State Teachers’ Retirement System.

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