#### **SESSION 1993**

**SENATE BILL 600** 

Short Title: IRC Compliance.

Sponsors: Senator Johnson.

Referred to: Pensions and Retirement.

March 29, 1993

#### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

- AN ACT TO AMEND THE LEGISLATIVE RETIREMENT SYSTEM, THE LOCAL
  GOVERNMENTAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM, THE TEACHERS'
  AND STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM, AND THE
  CONSOLIDATED JUDICIAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM TO COMPLY WITH
- 6 THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE.

7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 120-4.25 reads as rewritten:

9 "§ 120-4.25. Return of accumulated contributions.

10 If a member ceases to be a member of the General Assembly except by death or retirement, he shall, upon submission of an application, be paid not earlier than 60 days 11 following the date of termination of service, the sum of his contributions if he has less 12 than five years of creditable service, or the sum of his accumulated contributions if he 13 has five or more years of creditable service, provided he has not in the meantime 14 15 returned to service. Upon payment of this sum his membership in the System ceases. If he becomes a member afterwards, no credit shall be allowed for any service previously 16 rendered except as provided in G.S. 120-4.14 and the payment shall be in full and 17 18 complete discharge of any rights in or to any benefits otherwise payable under this Article. Upon receipt of proof satisfactory to the Board of Trustees of the death, prior to 19 retirement, of a member or former member, there shall be paid to the person or persons 20 he nominated by written designation duly acknowledged and filed with the Board of 21 22 Trustees, if the person or persons are living at the time of the member's death, otherwise to the member's legal representatives, the amount of his accumulated contributions at 23 the time of his death, unless the beneficiary elects to receive the alternate benefit under 24

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1 the provisions of G.S. 120-4.28. There shall be deducted from any amount otherwise payable

2 any amount due any agency or subdivision of the State by the member by reason of any

3 outstanding overpayment of salary or by any other reason. Even if the member fails to demand

4 the return of his accumulated contributions within 90 days from the day he ceases to be a 5 member of the General Assembly, any amount due the agency or subdivision by reason of any

6 outstanding overpayment of salary or any other reason shall be paid to the agency or

7 subdivision by the Retirement System upon demand. After the agency or subdivision has

8 notified the executive director of any amount due. The Retirement System has no liability for

9 amounts deducted and transmitted to the agency or subdivision nor for any failure by the

10 Retirement System for any reason to make the deductions."

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Sec. 2. G.S. 120-4.31 reads as rewritten:

# 12 "§ 120-4.31. Internal Revenue Code compliance.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law to the contrary, compensation
for any calendar year after 1988 in which employee or employer contributions are made
and for which annual compensation is used for computing any benefit under this Article
shall not exceed the higher of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) or the amount
determined by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue as the limitation for calendar
years after 1989; provided the imposition of the limitation shall not reduce a member's
benefit below the amount determined as of December 31, 1988.

20 Notwithstanding any other provisions of law to the contrary, the annual (b) 21 benefit payable on behalf of a member shall, if necessary, be reduced to the extent 22 required by Section 415(b) and (e) of the Internal Revenue Code, as adjusted by the 23 Secretary of the Treasury or his delegate pursuant to Section 415(d) of the Code. If a member is a participant under any qualified defined contributions plan that is required 24 25 to be taken into account for the purposes of the limitation contained in Section 415 of 26 the Internal Revenue Code, the annual benefit payable under this Article shall be 27 reduced to the extent required by Section 415(e) prior to making any reduction under 28 the defined contribution plan provided by the employer.

(c) On and after January 1, 1989, the retirement allowance of a member who has
terminated employment shall begin no later than the later of April 1 of the calendar year
following the calendar year that the member attains 70 1/2 years of age or April 1 of the
calendar year following the calendar year in which the member terminates employment.

33 This subsection applies to distributions made on or after January 1, 1993. (d)34 Notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan to the contrary that would otherwise limit a distributee's election under this Article, a distributee may elect, at the time and in 35 the manner prescribed by the Plan administrator, to have any portion of an eligible 36 37 rollover distribution paid directly to an eligible retirement plan specified by the distributee in a direct rollover. Provided, an eligible rollover distribution is any 38 39 distribution of all or any portion of the balance to the credit of the distributee, except that an eligible rollover distribution does not include: any distribution that is one of a 40 series of substantially equal periodic payments (not less frequently than annually) made 41 for the life (or life expectancy) of the distributee or the joint lives(or joint life 42 43 expectancies) of the distributee and the distributee's designated beneficiary, or for a specified period of 10 years or more; any distribution to the extent such distribution is 44 45 required under section 401(a)(9) of the Code; and the portion of any distribution that is

not includible in gross income (determined without regard to the exclusion for net 1 realized appreciation with respect to employer securities). Provided, an eligible 2 3 retirement plan is an individual retirement account described in section 408(a) of the Code, an individual retirement annuity described in section 408(b) of the Code, an 4 5 annuity plan described in section 403(a) of the Code, or a qualified trust described in 6 section 401(a) of the Code, that accepts the distributee's eligible rollover distribution. 7 However, in case of an eligible rollover distribution to the surviving spouse, an eligible 8 retirement plan is an individual retirement account or an individual retirement annuity. 9 Provided, a distribute includes an employee or former employee. In addition, the 10 employee's or former employee's surviving spouse and the employee's or former employee's spouse or former spouse who is the alternate payee under a qualified 11 12 domestic relations order, as defined in section 414(p) of the Code, or a court ordered equitable distribution of marital property, as provided under G.S. 50-20, whichever may 13 14 be applicable, are distributees with regard to the interest of the spouse or former spouse. 15 Provided further, a direct rollover is a payment by the Plan to the eligible retirement plan specified by the distributee." 16

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Sec. 3. G.S. 128-27(f) reads as rewritten:

18 "(f) Return of Accumulated Contributions. - Should a member cease to be an 19 employee except by death or retirement under the provisions of this Chapter, he shall 20 upon submission of an application be paid, not earlier than 60 days from the date of 21 termination of service, his contributions and, if he has attained at least five years of 22 membership service or if termination of his membership service is involuntary as 23 certified by the employer, the accumulated regular interest thereon, provided that he has 24 not in the meantime returned to service. Upon payment of such sum his membership in the System shall cease and, if he thereafter again becomes a member, no credit shall be 25 allowed for any service previously rendered except as provided in G.S. 128-26; and 26 27 such payment shall be in full and complete discharge of any rights in or to any benefits 28 otherwise payable hereunder. Upon receipt of proof satisfactory to the Board of 29 Trustees of the death, prior to retirement, of a member or former member there shall be 30 paid to such person or persons as he shall have nominated by written designation duly 31 acknowledged and filed with the Board of Trustees, if such person or persons are living at the time of the member's death, otherwise to the member's legal representatives, the 32 amount of his accumulated contributions at the time of his death, unless the beneficiary 33 34 elects to receive the alternate benefit under the provisions of (m) below. Notwithstanding 35 any other provision of Chapter 128, there shall be deducted from any amount otherwise payable 36 hereunder any amount due any participating employer by the member by reason of any outstanding overpayment of salary or by reason of the embezzlement of fees collected by the 37 38 member for any participating employer; provided that, notwithstanding any other provisions of 39 this Chapter, even if the member fails to demand the return of his accumulated contributions 40 within 90 days from the day he ceases to be an employee, any amount due such participating 41 employer by reason of any outstanding overpayment of salary or embezzlement of fees shall be 42 paid to such participating employer upon demand; provided, further, that such participating 43 employer shall have notified the executive secretary of any amount so due and that the 44 Retirement System shall have no liability for amounts so deducted and transmitted to such 45 participating employer nor for any failure by the Retirement System for any reason to make

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such deductions. An extension service employee who made contributions to the Local 1 2 Governmental Employees' Retirement System and the Teachers' and State Employees' 3 Retirement System as a result of dual employment may not be paid his accumulated 4 contributions unless he is eligible to be paid his accumulated contributions in both 5 systems for the same period of service. 6 Pursuant to the provisions of G.S. 135-56.2, a member who is also a member of the 7 Consolidated Judicial Retirement System may irrevocably elect to transfer any 8 accumulated contributions to the Consolidated Judicial Retirement System or to the 9 Supplemental Retirement Income Plan and forfeit any rights in or to any benefits

10 otherwise payable hereunder."

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Sec. 4. G.S. 128-38.2 reads as rewritten:

#### 12 "§ 128-38.2. Internal Revenue Code compliance.

13 Notwithstanding any other provisions of law to the contrary, compensation (a) 14 for any calendar year after 1988 in which employee or employer contributions are made 15 and for which annual compensation is used for computing any benefit under this Article 16 shall not exceed the higher of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) or the amount 17 determined by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue as the limitation for calendar 18 years after 1989; provided the imposition of the limitation shall not reduce a member's 19 benefit below the amount determined as of December 31, 1988.

20 (b) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law to the contrary, the annual 21 benefit payable on behalf of a member shall, if necessary, be reduced to the extent 22 required by Section 415(b) and (e) of the Internal Revenue Code, as adjusted by the 23 Secretary of the Treasury or his delegate pursuant to Section 415(d) of the Code. If a 24 member is a participant under any qualified defined contributions plan that is required 25 to be taken into account for the purposes of the limitation contained in Section 415 of the Internal Revenue Code, the annual benefit payable under this Article shall be 26 27 reduced to the extent required by Section 415(e) prior to making any reduction under 28 the defined contribution plan provided by the employer.

29 On and after January 1, 1989, the retirement allowance of a member who has (c)30 terminated employment shall begin no later than the later of April 1 of the calendar year 31 following the calendar year that the member attains 70 1/2 years of age or April 1 of the 32 calendar year following the calendar year in which the member terminates employment. This subsection applies to distributions made on or after January 1, 1993. 33 (d)Notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan to the contrary that would otherwise 34 35 limit a distributee's election under this Article, a distributee may elect, at the time and in the manner prescribed by the Plan administrator, to have any portion of an eligible 36 rollover distribution paid directly to an eligible retirement plan specified by the 37 38 distributee in a direct rollover. Provided, an eligible rollover distribution is any 39 distribution of all or any portion of the balance to the credit of the distributee, except that an eligible rollover distribution does not include: any distribution that is one of a 40 series of substantially equal periodic payments (not less frequently than annually) made 41 42 for the life (or life expectancy) of the distributee or the joint lives(or joint life expectancies) of the distributee and the distributee's designated beneficiary, or for a 43 44

required under section 401(a)(9) of the Code; and the portion of any distribution that is 1 not includible in gross income (determined without regard to the exclusion for net 2 3 realized appreciation with respect to employer securities). Provided, an eligible retirement plan is an individual retirement account described in section 408(a) of the 4 5 Code, an individual retirement annuity described in section 408(b) of the Code, an 6 annuity plan described in section 403(a) of the Code, or a qualified trust described in 7 section 401(a) of the Code, that accepts the distributee's eligible rollover distribution. 8 However, in case of an eligible rollover distribution to the surviving spouse, an eligible 9 retirement plan is an individual retirement account or an individual retirement annuity. 10 Provided, a distribute includes an employee or former employee. In addition, the employee's or former employee's surviving spouse and the employee's or former 11 12 employee's spouse or former spouse who is the alternate pavee under a qualified domestic relations order, as defined in section 414(p) of the Code, or a court ordered 13 14 equitable distribution of marital property, as provided under G.S. 50-20, whichever may 15 be applicable, are distributees with regard to the interest of the spouse or former spouse. Provided further, a direct rollover is a payment by the Plan to the eligible retirement 16 17 plan specified by the distributee." 18 Sec. 5. G.S. 135-5(f) reads as rewritten:

Return of Accumulated Contributions. - Should a member cease to be a 19 "(f) 20 teacher or State employee except by death or retirement under the provisions of this 21 Chapter, he shall upon submission of an application be paid, not earlier than 60 days 22 from the date of termination of service, his contributions, and if he has attained at least five years of membership service or if termination of his membership service is 23 24 involuntary as certified by the employer, the accumulated regular interest thereon, 25 provided that he has not in the meantime returned to service. Upon payment of such sum his membership in the System shall cease and, if he thereafter again becomes a 26 27 member, no credit shall be allowed for any service previously rendered except as 28 provided in G.S. 135-4, and such payment shall be in full and complete discharge of any 29 rights in or to any benefits otherwise payable hereunder. Upon receipt of proof 30 satisfactory to the Board of Trustees of the death, prior to retirement, of a member or 31 former member there shall be paid to such person or persons as he shall have nominated by written designation duly acknowledged and filed with the Board of Trustees, if such 32 person or persons are living at the time of the member's death, otherwise to the 33 member's legal representatives, the amount of his accumulated contributions at the time 34 35 of his death, unless the beneficiary elects to receive the alternate benefit under the provisions of (m) below. Notwithstanding any other provision of Chapter 135, there shall be 36 37 deducted from any amount otherwise payable hereunder any amount due any agency or 38 subdivision of the State by the member by reason of any outstanding overpayment of salary or 39 by reason of the embezzlement of fees collected by the member for any agency or subdivision of the State; Provided that, notwithstanding any other provisions of this Chapter, even if the 40 member fails to demand the return of his accumulated contributions within 90 days from the 41 42 day he ceases to be a teacher or State employee, any amount due such agency or subdivision by 43 reason of any outstanding overpayment of salary or embezzlement of fees shall be paid to such 44 agency or subdivision by the Retirement System upon demand; Provided, further, that such 45 agency or subdivision shall have notified the executive director of any amount so due and that

1 the Retirement System shall have no liability for amounts so deducted and transmitted to such 2

agency or subdivision nor for any failure by the Retirement System for any reason to make such deductions. An extension service employee who made contributions to the Local 3

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Governmental Employees' Retirement System and the Teachers' and State Employees' 5 Retirement System as a result of dual employment may not be paid his accumulated contributions unless he is eligible to be paid his accumulated contributions in both 6 7 systems for the same period of service.

Pursuant to the provisions of G.S. 135-56.2, a member who is also a member of the 8 9 Consolidated Judicial Retirement System may irrevocably elect to transfer any accumulated contributions to the Consolidated Judicial Retirement System or to the 10 Supplemental Retirement Income Plan and forfeit any rights in or to any benefits 11 12 otherwise payable hereunder.

13 A member who is a participant or beneficiary of the Disability Income Plan of North Carolina as is provided in Article 6 of this Chapter shall not be paid a return of 14 15 accumulated contributions, notwithstanding the member's status as an employee or 16 teacher. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a member who is a 17 beneficiary of the Disability Income Plan of North Carolina as provided in Article 6 of 18 this Chapter and who is receiving disability benefits under the transition provisions as 19 provided in G.S. 135-112, shall not be prohibited from receiving a return of 20 accumulated contributions as provided in this subsection."

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Sec. 6. G.S. 135-18.7 reads as rewritten:

#### 22 "§ 135-18.7. Internal Revenue Code compliance.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of law to the contrary, compensation 23 (a) 24 for any calendar year after 1988 in which employee or employer contributions are made 25 and for which annual compensation is used for computing any benefit under this Article 26 shall not exceed the higher of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) or the amount determined by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue as the limitation for calendar 27 years after 1989; provided the imposition of the limitation shall not reduce a member's 28 29 benefit below the amount determined as of December 31, 1988.

30 Notwithstanding any other provisions of law to the contrary, the annual (b)benefit payable on behalf of a member shall, if necessary, be reduced to the extent 31 32 required by Section 415(b) and (e) of the Internal Revenue Code, as adjusted by the 33 Secretary of the Treasury or his delegate pursuant to Section 415(d) of the Code. If a member is a participant under any qualified defined contributions plan that is required 34 35 to be taken into account for the purposes of the limitation contained in Section 415 of 36 the Internal Revenue Code, the annual benefit payable under this Article shall be 37 reduced to the extent required by Section 415(e) prior to making any reduction under 38 the defined contribution plan provided by the employer.

On and after January 1, 1989, the retirement allowance of a member who has 39 (c)40 terminated employment shall begin no later than the later of April 1 of the calendar year 41 following the calendar year that the member attains 70 1/2 years of age or April 1 of the 42 calendar year following the calendar year in which the member terminates employment. 43 This subsection applies to distributions made on or after January 1, 1993. (d)44 Notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan to the contrary that would otherwise

limit a distributee's election under this Article, a distributee may elect, at the time and in 1 2 the manner prescribed by the Plan administrator, to have any portion of an eligible 3 rollover distribution paid directly to an eligible retirement plan specified by the distributee in a direct rollover. Provided, an eligible rollover distribution is any 4 5 distribution of all or any portion of the balance to the credit of the distributee, except 6 that an eligible rollover distribution does not include: any distribution that is one of a 7 series of substantially equal periodic payments (not less frequently than annually) made 8 for the life (or life expectancy) of the distributee or the joint lives(or joint life 9 expectancies) of the distributee and the distributee's designated beneficiary, or for a 10 specified period of 10 years or more; any distribution to the extent such distribution is required under section 401(a)(9) of the Code; and the portion of any distribution that is 11 12 not includible in gross income (determined without regard to the exclusion for net realized appreciation with respect to employer securities). Provided, an eligible 13 14 retirement plan is an individual retirement account described in section 408(a) of the 15 Code, an individual retirement annuity described in section 408(b) of the Code, an annuity plan described in section 403(a) of the Code, or a qualified trust described in 16 17 section 401(a) of the Code, that accepts the distributee's eligible rollover distribution. 18 However, in case of an eligible rollover distribution to the surviving spouse, an eligible retirement plan is an individual retirement account or an individual retirement annuity. 19 20 Provided, a distribute includes an employee or former employee. In addition, the 21 employee's or former employee's surviving spouse and the employee's or former employee's spouse or former spouse who is the alternate payee under a qualified 22 23 domestic relations order, as defined in section 414(p) of the Code, or a court ordered 24 equitable distribution of marital property, as provided under G.S. 50-20, whichever may be applicable, are distributees with regard to the interest of the spouse or former spouse. 25 Provided further, a direct rollover is a payment by the Plan to the eligible retirement 26 plan specified by the distributee." 27

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Sec. 7. G.S. 135-62 reads as rewritten:

29 "§ 135-62. Return of accumulated contributions.

30 Should a member cease membership service otherwise than by death or (a) retirement under the provisions of this Article, he shall, upon submission of an 31 application, be paid, not earlier than 60 days from the date of termination of service, his 32 33 contributions and, if he has attained at least five years of membership service or if 34 termination of his membership service is involuntary as certified by the employer, the 35 accumulated regular interest thereon, provided that he has not in the meantime returned 36 to service as a judge. Upon payment of such accumulated contributions his membership in the Retirement System shall cease and, if he thereafter again becomes a member, no 37 38 credit shall be allowed for any service previously rendered, except as otherwise 39 provided in G.S. 135-56(b). Any such payment of a member's accumulated contributions shall be in full and complete discharge of any rights in or to any benefits 40 41 otherwise payable under this Article.

42 (b) Any other provision of this Article to the contrary notwithstanding, there shall
 43 be deducted from any amount otherwise payable hereunder any amount due any agency
 44 or subdivision of the State by the member by reason of any outstanding overpayment of

salary or by reason of the embezzlement of fees collected by the member for any agency 1 2 or subdivision of the State; provided that, notwithstanding any other provisions of this 3 Article, even if the member fails to demand the return of his accumulated contributions within 90 days from the day he ceases membership service, any amount due such 4 5 agency or subdivision by reason of any outstanding overpayment of salary or 6 embezzlement of fees shall be paid to such agency or subdivision by the Retirement 7 System upon demand; and provided further, that such agency or subdivision shall have 8 notified the director of any amount so due and that the Retirement System shall have no 9 liability for amounts so deducted and transmitted to such agency or subdivision nor for 10 any failure by the Retirement System for any reason to make such deductions." Sec. 8. G.S. 135-74 reads as rewritten: 11

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## "§ 135-74. Internal Revenue Code compliance.

13 Notwithstanding any other provisions of law to the contrary, compensation (a) 14 for any calendar year after 1988 in which employee or employer contributions are made 15 and for which annual compensation is used for computing any benefit under this Article 16 shall not exceed the higher of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) or the amount 17 determined by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue as the limitation for calendar 18 years after 1989; provided the imposition of the limitation shall not reduce a member's 19 benefit below the amount determined as of December 31, 1988.

20 (b) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law to the contrary, the annual 21 benefit payable on behalf of a member shall, if necessary, be reduced to the extent 22 required by Section 415(b) and (e) of the Internal Revenue Code, as adjusted by the 23 Secretary of the Treasury or his delegate pursuant to Section 415(d) of the Code. If a 24 member is a participant under any qualified defined contributions plan that is required 25 to be taken into account for the purposes of the limitation contained in Section 415 of 26 the Internal Revenue Code, the annual benefit payable under this Article shall be 27 reduced to the extent required by Section 415(e) prior to making any reduction under 28 the defined contribution plan provided by the employer.

29 On and after January 1, 1989, the retirement allowance of a member who has (c)30 terminated employment shall begin no later than the later of April 1 of the calendar year 31 following the calendar year that the member attains 70 1/2 years of age or April 1 of the 32 calendar year following the calendar year in which the member terminates employment. 33 This subsection applies to distributions made on or after January 1, 1993. (d)34 Notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan to the contrary that would otherwise 35 limit a distributee's election under this Article, a distributee may elect, at the time and in the manner prescribed by the Plan administrator, to have any portion of an eligible 36 rollover distribution paid directly to an eligible retirement plan specified by the 37 38 distributee in a direct rollover. Provided, an eligible rollover distribution is any 39 distribution of all or any portion of the balance to the credit of the distributee, except that an eligible rollover distribution does not include: any distribution that is one of a 40 series of substantially equal periodic payments (not less frequently than annually) made 41 42 for the life (or life expectancy) of the distributee or the joint lives(or joint life expectancies) of the distributee and the distributee's designated beneficiary, or for a 43 44 specified period of 10 years or more; any distribution to the extent such distribution is

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required under section 401(a)(9) of the Code; and the portion of any distribution that is 1 2 not includible in gross income (determined without regard to the exclusion for net 3 realized appreciation with respect to employer securities). Provided, an eligible retirement plan is an individual retirement account described in section 408(a) of the 4 5 Code, an individual retirement annuity described in section 408(b) of the Code, an 6 annuity plan described in section 403(a) of the Code, or a qualified trust described in 7 section 401(a) of the Code, that accepts the distributee's eligible rollover distribution. 8 However, in case of an eligible rollover distribution to the surviving spouse, an eligible 9 retirement plan is an individual retirement account or an individual retirement annuity. 10 Provided, a distribute includes an employee or former employee. In addition, the employee's or former employee's surviving spouse and the employee's or former 11 12 employee's spouse or former spouse who is the alternate payee under a qualified domestic relations order, as defined in section 414(p) of the Code, or a court ordered 13 14 equitable distribution of marital property, as provided under G.S. 50-20, whichever may 15 be applicable, are distributees with regard to the interest of the spouse or former spouse. Provided further, a direct rollover is a payment by the Plan to the eligible retirement 16 17 plan specified by the distributee." 18 Sec. 9. Sections 1, 3, 5, and 7 of this act are effective upon ratification. The

19 remainder of this act becomes effective January 1, 1993.