

May 24, 2000

**H 1677. PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT. TO PROVIDE FOR PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS' BENEFITS IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM.** Amends GS 143-166.50 to add "professional firefighters" to employees covered by article. Defines term as a person (i) who is a full-time paid employee of an employer maintaining a fire department certified by the North Carolina Dep't of Insurance and (ii) who is actively serving in a position with assigned primary duties and responsibilities for the prevention, detection, and suppression of fire. Provides that as of July 1, 2000, all professional firefighters employed by a local government employer are participating members of the Supplemental Retirement Income Plan as provided by GS 135, Art. 5. Firefighters may make voluntary contributions up to ten percent to the Plan. Local government employers are required to contribute an amount equal to five percent of participating firefighters' monthly compensation to the Plan. Additional contributions shall also be made to the individual accounts of all law enforcement officers in the Plan, except for Sheriffs, on a per capita equal-share basis from the sum of \$1.25 for each cost of court collected under GS 7A-304. Makes conforming changes to GS 128-21, GS 128-24(5). Adds GS 128-27(b18) to provide service retirement allowance for all members retiring on or after July 1, 2000 with multiplier of 1.77%. Makes conforming change to GS 128-27(m) concerning Survivor's Alternate Benefit. Effective July 1, 2000.

**Intro. by Arnold.**

Ref. to Pensions	GS 143, 128
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