



1 resign, take a leave or otherwise be absent from work due to  
2 pregnancy prior to the time it was medically necessary, may  
3 purchase service credit for the period of such resignation, leave  
4 or absence during which she did not make contributions to the  
5 Teachers Retirement System if she meets all the following  
6 conditions:

7 (1) She was a member on the date she was required to leave  
8 employment;

9 (2) She has earned a minimum of one year of service credit  
10 subsequent to the date of her return to employment as a contributor  
11 to the Teachers Retirement System; and

12 (3) She is presently a member of the Teachers Retirement  
13 System or a retiree receiving benefits under that system.

14 (b) Service credit purchased by persons meeting the criteria  
15 in subsection (a) of this section may not exceed the lesser of one  
16 year or an amount equal to the period from the effective date of  
17 her absence due to pregnancy to the date of return to employment as  
18 a contributing member. Service credit may be purchased for more  
19 than one period of required absence due to pregnancy but the total  
20 service credit may not exceed five years. The Consolidated Public  
21 Retirement Board shall create a form for application for service  
22 credit pursuant to this service. An applicant must submit evidence  
23 satisfactory to the retirement board that she meets the  
24 requirements of this section. A sworn and notarized statement that

1 she was required by school policy, practice or administrators to be  
2 absent from work due to pregnancy prior to the time it was  
3 medically necessary, will constitute satisfactory evidence.

4 (c) For each year of service credit purchased under this  
5 section:

6 (1) The applicant shall pay the retirement system an amount  
7 equal to the contributions she would have paid for the period had  
8 she not been absent as a contributor.

9 (2) An applicant may purchase all or any portion of the  
10 service credit to which she is entitled under this section and once  
11 the service is purchased it may be used to meet the retirement  
12 eligibility requirement for the teacher retirement plan.

13 (d) The annuity paid to any person entitled to service credit  
14 under this section who is presently retired shall be recalculated  
15 to include the service credit purchased pursuant to this section.  
16 Additionally, the retirement system shall pay to the retiree in a  
17 single payment the difference between the amount of annuity she has  
18 already received and the amount she would have received had she  
19 received the additional service credit at the time of her initial  
20 retirement.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to allow a public school employee or retiree who was forced to miss work as a result of a pregnancy to purchase up to one year of service credit in the Teachers Retirement System.

§18-7A-14c is new; therefore, it has been completely underscored.