

1 State of Arkansas

# A Bill

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3 Regular Session, 2025

HOUSE BILL 1158

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5 By: Representative Perry

6 By: Senator F. Love

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## For An Act To Be Entitled

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AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE ELECTION OF A  
DISTRIBUTION OPTION UNDER THE TEACHER DEFERRED  
RETIREMENT OPTION PLAN; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND  
FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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## Subtitle

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TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE ELECTION  
OF A DISTRIBUTION OPTION UNDER THE  
TEACHER DEFERRED RETIREMENT OPTION PLAN;  
AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 24-7-1308(b), concerning distribution  
options under the Teacher Deferred Retirement Option, is amended to add an  
additional subdivision to read as follows:

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(3) A member may cancel his or her original election and elect  
another distribution option under subdivision (b)(1) of this section if the  
member:

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(A) Did not elect to receive all or a part of the balance  
in the plan account as a lump sum payable through an Internal Revenue Code  
eligible rollover transaction;

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(B) Has not previously changed his or her election;

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(C) Cancels his or her election before the end of the  
second full calendar month immediately following his or her effective  
retirement date;

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(D) Files with the system a new distribution election form



1 approved by the system; and

2 (E) Repays the system any amount that he or she is no  
3 longer entitled to have received as a result of changing his or her election.

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5 SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
6 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the operations of a state  
7 public retirement system are complex; that the Arkansas Teacher Retirement  
8 System must be able to meet the needs of its members as anticipated by the  
9 General Assembly; that certain provisions of the Arkansas Teacher Retirement  
10 System Act, § 24-7-201 et seq., need immediate revision and updating to  
11 address administrative complexities caused by these provisions and to bring  
12 these provisions into conformance with sound public pension policy and  
13 actuarial requirements; that the revisions and updates are of great  
14 importance to members of the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System and to other  
15 citizens of the State of Arkansas; that as the Arkansas Teacher Retirement  
16 System operates on a fiscal year of July 1 to June 30, an effective date of  
17 July 1, 2025, is necessary in order to allow the provisions within this act  
18 to begin on the first day of the fiscal year and to allow for a structured  
19 and proper administration of the procedures referenced in this act; that the  
20 updates and revisions to the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System Act are of  
21 great importance and necessary for protecting member benefits and clarifying  
22 the reporting and contribution requirements of employers participating in the  
23 Arkansas Teacher Retirement System; and that this act is necessary in order  
24 to maintain an orderly system of benefits for the members of the Arkansas  
25 Teacher Retirement System. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and  
26 this act being necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health,  
27 and safety, shall become effective on July 1, 2025.

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30 **APPROVED: 2/27/25**