

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 303
102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

0716H.02C

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal sections 86.253, 86.254, 86.280, 86.283, and 86.287, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof five new sections relating to surviving spouse benefits in certain retirement systems.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 86.253, 86.254, 86.280, 86.283, and 86.287, RSMo, are repealed
2 and five new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 86.253, 86.254, 86.280,
3 86.283, and 86.287, to read as follows:

86.253. 1. Upon termination of employment as a police officer and actual retirement
2 for service, a member shall receive a service retirement allowance which shall be an amount
3 equal to two percent of the member's average final compensation multiplied by the number of
4 years of the member's creditable service, up to twenty-five years, plus an amount equal to four
5 percent of the member's average final compensation for each year of creditable service in
6 excess of twenty-five years but not in excess of thirty years; plus an additional five percent of
7 the member's average final compensation for any creditable service in excess of thirty years.
8 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the service retirement allowance of a member who does not
9 earn any creditable service after August 11, 1999, shall not exceed an amount equal to
10 seventy percent of the member's average final compensation, and the service retirement
11 allowance of a member who earns creditable service on or after August 12, 1999, shall not
12 exceed an amount equal to seventy-five percent of the member's average final compensation;
13 provided, however, that the service retirement allowance of a member who is participating in
14 the DROP pursuant to section 86.251 on August 12, 1999, who returns to active participation
15 in the system pursuant to section 86.251, and who terminates employment as a police officer
16 and actually retires for reasons other than death or disability before earning at least two years

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

17 of creditable service after such return shall be the sum of (1) the member's service retirement
18 allowance as of the date the member entered DROP and (2) an additional service retirement
19 allowance based solely on the creditable service earned by the member following the
20 member's return to active participation. The member's total years of creditable service shall
21 be taken into account for the purpose of determining whether the additional allowance
22 attributable to such additional creditable service is two percent, four percent or five percent of
23 the member's average final compensation.

24 2. If, at any time since first becoming a member of the retirement system, the member
25 has served in the Armed Forces of the United States, and has subsequently been reinstated as
26 a policeman within ninety days after the member's discharge, the member shall be granted
27 credit for such service as if the member's service in the police department of such city had not
28 been interrupted by the member's induction into the Armed Forces of the United States. If
29 earnable compensation is needed for such period in computation of benefits it shall be
30 calculated on the basis of the compensation payable to the officers of the member's rank
31 during the period of the member's absence. Notwithstanding any provision of sections 86.200
32 to 86.366 to the contrary, the retirement system governed by sections 86.200 to 86.366 shall
33 be operated and administered in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Uniformed
34 Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994, as amended.

35 3. The service retirement allowance of each present and future retired member who
36 terminated employment as a police officer and actually retired from service after attaining age
37 fifty-five or after completing twenty years of creditable service shall be increased annually at
38 a rate not to exceed three percent as approved by the board of trustees beginning with the first
39 increase in the second October following the member's retirement and subsequent increases in
40 each October thereafter, provided that each increase is subject to a determination by the board
41 of trustees that the consumer price index (United States City Average Index) as published by
42 the United States Department of Labor shows an increase of not less than the approved rate
43 during the latest twelve-month period for which the index is available at the date of
44 determination; and provided further, that if the increase is in excess of the approved rate for
45 any year, such excess shall be accumulated as to any retired member and increases may be
46 granted in subsequent years subject to a maximum of three percent for each full year from
47 October following the member's retirement but not to exceed a total percentage increase of
48 thirty percent. In no event shall the increase described under this subsection be applied to the
49 amount, if any, paid to a member or surviving spouse of a deceased member for services as a
50 special consultant under subsection 5 of this section [~~or, if applicable, subsection 6 of this~~
51 ~~section~~]. If the board of trustees determines that the index has decreased for any year, the
52 benefits of any retired member that have been increased shall be decreased but not below the
53 member's initial benefit. No annual increase shall be made of less than one percent and no

54 decrease of less than three percent except that any decrease may be limited in amount by the
55 initial benefit.

56 4. In addition to any other retirement allowance payable under this section and
57 section 86.250, a member, upon termination of employment as police officer and actual
58 service retirement, may request payment of the total amount of the member's mandatory
59 contributions to the retirement system without interest. Upon receipt of such request, the
60 board shall pay the retired member such total amount of the member's mandatory
61 contributions to the retirement system to be paid pursuant to this subsection within sixty days
62 after such retired member's date of termination of employment as a police officer and actual
63 retirement.

64 5. Any person who is receiving retirement benefits from the retirement system, upon
65 application to the board of trustees, shall be made, constituted, appointed and employed by
66 the board of trustees as a special consultant on the problems of retirement, aging and other
67 matters, for the remainder of the person's life or, in the case of a deceased member's surviving
68 spouse, until ~~[the earlier of]~~ the person's death ~~[or remarriage]~~, and upon request of the board
69 of trustees shall give opinions and be available to give opinions in writing or orally, in
70 response to such requests, as may be required. For such services the special consultant shall
71 be compensated monthly, in an amount which, when added to any monthly retirement
72 benefits being received from the retirement system, including any cost-of-living increases
73 under subsection 3 of this section, shall total six hundred fifty dollars a month. This
74 employment shall in no way affect any person's eligibility for retirement benefits under this
75 chapter, or in any way have the effect of reducing retirement benefits, notwithstanding any
76 provisions of law to the contrary.

86.254. 1. Beginning July 1, 1994, in addition to any other annuity, benefits, or
2 retirement allowance provided pursuant to sections 86.200 to 86.366, each present and future
3 retired member after attaining the age of sixty years shall, upon application to the board of
4 trustees, be made, constituted, appointed and employed by the board of trustees as an advisor
5 on the problems of retirement, aging and other matters, for the remainder of the retired
6 member's life, and upon request of the board of trustees shall give opinions in writing or
7 orally in response to such requests as may be required.

8 2. For the performance of duties required in subsection 1 of this section, each retired
9 member employed as an advisor by the board of trustees shall be compensated monthly in an
10 amount of ten dollars per month multiplied by the number of years the retired member is past
11 the age of sixty years. The compensation provided by this subsection shall be adjusted
12 annually. No funding shall be required prior to the effective date of this benefit.

13 3. Beginning October 1, 1999, in addition to any other benefit provided to any
14 surviving spouse pursuant to sections 86.200 to 86.366, each present and future surviving

15 spouse of a member after attaining the age of sixty years shall upon application to the board
16 of trustees, be made, constituted, appointed and employed by the board of trustees as an
17 advisor on the problems of retirement, aging and other matters for the remainder of the
18 surviving spouse's life [~~or until the surviving spouse remarries, whichever is earlier~~], and
19 upon request of the board of trustees shall give opinions in writing or orally in response to
20 such requests as may be required.

21 4. For the performance of duties required in subsection 3 of this section, each
22 surviving spouse of a member employed as an advisor by the board of trustees shall be
23 compensated monthly in an amount of ten dollars per month multiplied by the number of
24 years the surviving spouse is past the age of sixty years. The compensation provided by this
25 subsection shall be adjusted annually.

86.280. Upon the receipt of proper proofs of the death of a member in service and
2 provided no other benefits are payable under the retirement system, there shall be paid the
3 following benefits:

4 (1) Effective October 1, 1999, a pension to the surviving spouse until the surviving
5 spouse dies [~~or remarries, whichever is earlier~~], of forty percent of the deceased member's
6 average final compensation plus fifteen percent of such compensation to, or for the benefit of,
7 each unmarried dependent child of the deceased member, who is either under the age of
8 eighteen, or who, regardless of age, is totally and permanently mentally or physically disabled
9 and incapacitated from engaging in gainful occupation sufficient to support himself or herself;

10 (2) Any surviving spouse or unmarried dependent child receiving benefits pursuant to
11 the provisions of this section immediately prior to October 1, 1999, shall, upon application to
12 the board of trustees, be made, constituted, appointed and employed by the board of trustees
13 as a special consultant on the problems of retirement, aging and other matters while the
14 surviving spouse or unmarried dependent child is receiving such benefits, and upon request of
15 the board of trustees shall give opinions in writing or orally in response to such requests as
16 may be required. Beginning October 1, 1999, for such services as may be required, the
17 surviving spouse shall receive additional monthly compensation in an amount equal to fifteen
18 percent of the deceased member's average final compensation, and there shall be payable an
19 additional monthly compensation of one hundred dollars or five percent of the member's
20 average final compensation, whichever is greater, for each unmarried dependent child of the
21 member. The additional monthly compensation payable to a surviving spouse pursuant to this
22 subdivision shall be adjusted for any cost-of-living increases that apply, pursuant to
23 subdivision (8) of this section, to the benefit the surviving spouse was receiving prior to
24 October 1, 1999;

25 (3) If no surviving spouse benefits are payable pursuant to subdivisions (1) and (2) of
26 this section, such total pension as would have been paid pursuant to subdivisions (1) and (2)

27 of this section had there been a surviving spouse shall be divided among the unmarried
28 dependent children under age eighteen and such unmarried dependent children, regardless of
29 age, who are totally and permanently mentally or physically disabled and incapacitated from
30 engaging in a gainful occupation sufficient to support themselves. The benefit shall be
31 divided equally among the eligible dependent children, and the share of a child who is no
32 longer eligible shall be divided equally among the remaining eligible dependent children;
33 provided that not more than one-half of the surviving spouse's benefit shall be paid for one
34 child;

35 (4) If there is no surviving spouse or dependent children, the return of accumulated
36 contributions to the designated beneficiary as set forth in section 86.293;

37 (5) No benefits pursuant to this section shall be paid to a child over eighteen years of
38 age who is totally and permanently disabled if such child is a patient or resident of a public-
39 supported institution, nor shall such benefits be paid unless such disability occurred prior to
40 such child reaching the age of eighteen;

41 (6) Wherever any dependent child designated by the board of trustees to receive
42 benefits pursuant to this section is in the care of the surviving spouse of the deceased member,
43 such benefits may be paid to such surviving spouse for the child;

44 (7) Any benefit payable to, or for the benefit of, a child or children under the age of
45 eighteen years pursuant to subdivisions (1) to (3) of this section shall continue to be paid
46 beyond the age of eighteen years through the age of twenty-two years if the child is a full-
47 time student at a regularly accredited college, business school, nursing school, school for
48 technical or vocational training, or university, but such extended benefit shall cease whenever
49 the child ceases to be a student. A college or university shall be deemed to be regularly
50 accredited which maintains membership in good standing in a national or regional accrediting
51 agency recognized by any state college or university;

52 (8) The benefits payable pursuant to this section to the surviving spouse of a member
53 who died in service after attaining the age of fifty-five or completing twenty years of
54 creditable service shall be increased in the same percentages and pursuant to the same method
55 as is provided in section 86.253 for adjustments in the service retirement allowance of a
56 retired member;

57 **(9) In the event a surviving spouse receiving death benefits as a result of a prior**
58 **marriage to a deceased member subsequently remarries another member who also**
59 **predeceases the surviving spouse, the surviving spouse shall receive a single death**
60 **benefit pension, which, upon application to the board of trustees, shall be computed**
61 **under subdivision (1) of this section using the highest of the average final compensations**
62 **of the deceased members to which the surviving spouse was previously married;**

63 **(10) Beginning on August 28, 2023, any surviving spouse that had, prior to**
64 **August 28, 2023, become ineligible for benefits under subdivisions (1) and (2) of this**
65 **section as a result of remarrying shall, upon application to the board of trustees, have**
66 **reinstated all future benefits under subdivisions (1) and (2) of this section. Any such**
67 **reinstatement shall be as to future benefits only and shall not be retroactive prior to**
68 **August 28, 2023.**

 86.283. Upon receipt of proper proofs of the death of a retired member who retired
2 while in service, including retirement for service, ordinary disability or accidental disability,
3 and provided no other benefits are payable from the retirement system, there shall be paid the
4 following benefits:

5 (1) Effective October 1, 1999, a pension to the surviving spouse until the surviving
6 spouse dies [~~or remarries, whichever is earlier~~], of forty percent of the deceased member's
7 average final compensation plus fifteen percent of such compensation to, or for the benefit of,
8 each unmarried dependent child of the deceased member, who is either under the age of
9 eighteen, or who, regardless of age, is totally and permanently mentally or physically disabled
10 and incapacitated from engaging in a gainful occupation sufficient to support himself or
11 herself;

12 (2) Any surviving spouse or unmarried dependent child receiving benefits pursuant to
13 this section immediately prior to October 1, 1999, shall upon application to the board of
14 trustees be made, constituted, appointed and employed by the board of trustees as a special
15 consultant on the problems of retirement, aging and other matters while the surviving spouse
16 or unmarried dependent child is receiving such benefits, and upon request of the board of
17 trustees shall give opinions in writing or orally in response to such requests as may be
18 required. Beginning October 1, 1999, for such services as may be required, a surviving
19 spouse shall receive additional monthly compensation equal to the amount which when added
20 to the benefits the surviving spouse was receiving pursuant to this section prior to October 1,
21 1999, determined without regard to any increase applied to such benefits prior to October 1,
22 1999, pursuant to subdivision (8) of this section, will increase the surviving spouse's total
23 monthly payment pursuant to this section to forty percent of the deceased member's average
24 final compensation, and there shall be payable an additional monthly compensation of one
25 hundred dollars or five percent of the member's average final compensation, whichever is
26 greater, for each unmarried dependent child of the member. The additional monthly
27 compensation payable to a surviving spouse pursuant to this subdivision shall be adjusted for
28 any cost-of-living increases that apply to the benefit the surviving spouse was receiving prior
29 to October 1, 1999;

30 (3) If no surviving spouse benefits are payable pursuant to subdivisions (1) and (2) of
31 this section, such total pension as would have been paid pursuant to subdivisions (1) and (2)

32 of this section had there been a surviving spouse, determined without regard to any increase
33 which would have applied to the surviving spouse's benefits pursuant to subdivision (8) of
34 this section, shall be divided among the unmarried dependent children under age eighteen and
35 unmarried dependent children, regardless of age, who are totally and permanently mentally or
36 physically disabled and incapacitated from engaging in a gainful occupation sufficient to
37 support themselves. The benefit shall be divided equally among the eligible dependent
38 children, and the share of a child who is no longer eligible shall be divided equally among the
39 remaining eligible dependent children; provided that not more than one-half of the surviving
40 spouse's benefits shall be paid for one child;

41 (4) No benefits pursuant to this section shall be paid to a child over eighteen years of
42 age who is totally and permanently disabled if such child is a patient or resident of a public-
43 supported institution, nor shall such benefits be paid unless such disability occurred prior to
44 such child reaching the age of eighteen;

45 (5) Whenever any dependent child designated by the board of trustees to receive
46 benefits pursuant to this section is in the care of the surviving spouse of the deceased member,
47 such benefits may be paid to such surviving spouse for the child;

48 (6) In the event of the death of a retired member receiving accidental disability
49 benefits before such benefits have been paid for five years, the member's surviving spouse
50 until the surviving spouse dies [~~or remarries, whichever is earlier~~], shall receive an additional
51 pension of ten percent of the deceased member's final average compensation;

52 (7) Any benefit payable to, or for the benefit of, a child or children under the age of
53 eighteen years pursuant to subdivisions (1) to (3) of this section shall continue to be paid
54 beyond the age of eighteen years through the age of twenty-two years if the child is a full-
55 time student at a regularly accredited college, business school, nursing school, school for
56 technical or vocational training, or university, but such extended benefit shall cease whenever
57 the child ceases to be a student. A college or university shall be deemed to be regularly
58 accredited which maintains membership in good standing in a national or regional accrediting
59 agency recognized by any state college or university;

60 (8) The benefits payable pursuant to this section to the surviving spouse of a retired
61 member who received or was entitled to receive a service retirement allowance shall be
62 increased in the same percentages and pursuant to the same method as is provided in section
63 86.253 for adjustments in the service retirement allowance of a retired member;

64 **(9) In the event a surviving spouse receiving death benefits as a result of a prior**
65 **marriage to a deceased member subsequently remarries another member who also**
66 **predeceases the surviving spouse, the surviving spouse shall receive a single death**
67 **benefit pension, which, upon application to the board of trustees, shall be computed**

68 **under subdivision (1) of this section using the highest of the average final compensations**
69 **of the deceased members to which the surviving spouse was previously married;**

70 **(10) Beginning on August 28, 2023, any surviving spouse that had, prior to**
71 **August 28, 2023, become ineligible for benefits under subdivisions (1), (2), and (6) of this**
72 **section as a result of remarrying shall, upon application to the board of trustees, have**
73 **reinstated all future benefits under subdivisions (1), (2), and (6) of this section. Any**
74 **such reinstatement shall be as to future benefits only and shall not be retroactive prior**
75 **to August 28, 2023.**

86.287. Upon the receipt by the board of trustees of evidence and proof that the death
2 of a member was the natural and proximate result of an accident occurring at some definite
3 time and place while the member was in the actual performance of duty and not caused by
4 negligence on the part of the member, there shall be paid in lieu of the benefits pursuant to
5 sections 86.280 to 86.283:

6 (1) Effective October 1, 1999, a pension to the surviving spouse until the surviving
7 spouse dies [~~or remarries, whichever is earlier~~], of seventy-five percent of the deceased
8 member's average final compensation plus fifteen percent of such compensation to, or for the
9 benefit of, each unmarried dependent child of the deceased member, who is either under the
10 age of eighteen, or who, regardless of age, is totally and permanently disabled and
11 incapacitated from engaging in a gainful occupation sufficient to support himself or herself;

12 (2) Any surviving spouse or unmarried dependent child receiving benefits pursuant to
13 this section immediately prior to October 1, 1999, shall upon application to the board of
14 trustees be made, constituted, appointed and employed by the board of trustees as a special
15 consultant on the problems of retirement, aging and other matters while the surviving spouse
16 or unmarried dependent child is receiving such benefits, and upon request of the board of
17 trustees shall give opinions in writing or orally in response to such requests as may be
18 required. Beginning October 1, 1999, for such services as may be required, a surviving
19 spouse shall receive additional monthly compensation equal to the amount which when added
20 to the benefits the surviving spouse was receiving pursuant to this section prior to October 1,
21 1999, will increase the surviving spouse's total monthly benefit payment pursuant to this
22 section to seventy-five percent of the deceased member's average final compensation, and
23 there shall be payable an additional monthly compensation of one hundred dollars or five
24 percent of the member's average final compensation, whichever is greater, for each unmarried
25 dependent child of the member;

26 (3) If no surviving spouse benefits are payable pursuant to subdivisions (1) and (2) of
27 this section, such total pension as would have been paid pursuant to subdivisions (1) and (2)
28 of this section had there been a surviving spouse shall be divided among the unmarried
29 dependent children under age eighteen and such unmarried dependent children, regardless of

30 age, who are totally and permanently disabled and incapacitated from engaging in a gainful
31 occupation sufficient to support themselves. The benefit shall be divided equally among the
32 eligible dependent children, and the share of a child who is no longer eligible shall be divided
33 equally among the remaining eligible dependent children; provided that not more than one-
34 half of the surviving spouse's benefit shall be paid for one child;

35 (4) If there is no surviving spouse or unmarried dependent children of either class
36 mentioned in subdivision (3) of this section, then an amount equal to the surviving spouse's
37 benefit shall be paid to the member's dependent father or dependent mother to continue until
38 remarriage or death;

39 (5) No benefits pursuant to this section shall be paid to a child over eighteen years of
40 age who is totally and permanently disabled if such child is a patient or resident of a public-
41 supported institution, nor shall such benefits be paid unless such disability occurred prior to
42 such child reaching the age of eighteen;

43 (6) Wherever any dependent child designated by the board of trustees to receive
44 benefits pursuant to this section is in the care of the surviving spouse of the deceased member,
45 such benefits may be paid to such surviving spouse for the child;

46 (7) Any benefit payable to, or for the benefit of, a child or children under the age of
47 eighteen years pursuant to subdivisions (1) to (3) of this section shall continue to be paid
48 beyond the age of eighteen years through the age of twenty-two years in those cases where the
49 child is a full-time student at a regularly accredited college, business school, nursing school,
50 school for technical or vocational training, or university, but such extended benefit shall cease
51 whenever the child ceases to be a student. A college or university shall be deemed to be
52 regularly accredited which maintains membership in good standing in a national or regional
53 accrediting agency recognized by any state college or university;

54 **(8) In the event a surviving spouse receiving death benefits as a result of a prior**
55 **marriage to a deceased member subsequently remarries another member who also**
56 **predeceases the surviving spouse, the surviving spouse shall receive a single death**
57 **benefit pension, which, upon application to the board of trustees, shall be computed**
58 **under subdivision (1) of this section using the highest of the average final compensations**
59 **of the deceased members to which the surviving spouse was previously married;**

60 **(9) Beginning on August 28, 2023, any surviving spouse that had, prior to August**
61 **28, 2023, become ineligible for benefits under subdivisions (1) and (2) of this section as a**
62 **result of remarrying shall, upon application to the board of trustees, have reinstated all**
63 **future benefits under subdivisions (1) and (2) of this section. Any such reinstatement**
64 **shall be as to future benefits only and shall not be retroactive prior to August 28, 2023.**