(2) An amount of service credit equal to one-fifth of the total service credited to the participant under this chapter, exclusive of service credit purchased under this section.

For each year of service credit purchased under this section, the employing unit shall pay an amount equal to the additional liability resulting from the purchase of that year of service credit, as determined by an actuary employed by the public employees retirement board.

(E) Upon the election by an eligible employee to participate in the retirement incentive plan, the employee and the employing unit shall agree upon a date for payment or contracting for payment in installments to the public employees retirement system of the cost of the service credit to be purchased. The employing unit shall submit to the public employees retirement system a written request for a determination of the cost of the service credit, and within forty-five days after receiving the request, the board shall give the employing unit written notice of the cost.

The employing unit shall pay or contract to pay in installments the cost of the service credit to be purchased to the public employees retirement system on the date agreed to by the employee and the employing unit. The payment shall be made in accordance with rules adopted by the public employees retirement board. The rules may provide for payment in installments and for crediting the purchased credit to the employee's account upon the employer's contracting to pay the cost in installments. The board shall notify the member when the member is credited with service purchased under this section. If the employee does not retire within ninety days after receiving notice that the employee has been credited with the purchased service credit, the system shall refund to the employing unit the amount paid for the service credit.

No payment made to the public employees retirement system under this section shall affect any payment required by section 145.48 of the Revised Code.

(F) For the purpose of determining whether the cost of a retirement incentive plan established by a county or county agency under this section is an allowable cost for the purpose of federal funding for any year, the cost shall be considered abnormal or mass severance pay only if fifteen per cent or more of the county or county agency's employees participate in the plan in that year.

Nothing in this division shall relieve a county or county agency from seeking federal approval for any early retirement incentive plan that uses federal dollars in accordance with federal law.

Sec. 145.298. (A) As used in this section:

Sub. S. B. No. 343 129th G.A.

- (1) "State employing unit" means an employing unit described in division (A)(2) of section 145.297 of the Revised Code, except that it does not mean an employing unit with fifty or fewer employees.
- (2) "State institution" means a state correctional facility, a state institution for the mentally ill, or a state institution for the care, treatment, and training of the mentally retarded.
- (B)(1) Prior to the effective date of this amendment July 17, 2009, in the event of a proposal to close a state institution or lay off, within a six-month period, a number of persons employed at an institution that equals or exceeds the lesser of fifty or ten per cent of the persons employed at the institution, the employing unit responsible for the institution's operation shall establish a retirement incentive plan for persons employed at the institution.
- (2) On and after the effective date of this amendment July 17, 2009, in the event of a proposal to close a state institution or lay off, within a six-month period, a number of persons employed at an institution that equals or exceeds the lesser of three hundred fifty or forty per cent of the persons employed at the institution, the employing unit responsible for the institution's operation shall establish a retirement incentive plan for persons employed at the institution.
- (C)(1) Prior to the effective date of this amendment July 17, 2009, in the event of a proposal, other than the proposals described in division (B) of this section, to lay off, within a six-month period, a number of employees of a state employing unit that equals or exceeds the lesser of fifty or ten per cent of the employing unit's employees, the employing unit shall establish a retirement incentive plan for employees of the employing unit.
- (2) On and after the effective date of this amendment July 17, 2009, in the event of a proposal, other than the proposals described in division (B) of this section, to lay off, within a six-month period, a number of employees of a state employing unit that equals or exceeds the lesser of three hundred fifty or forty per cent of the employing unit's employees, the employing unit shall establish a retirement incentive plan for employees of the employing unit.
- (D)(1) A retirement incentive plan established under this section shall be consistent with the requirements of section 145.297 of the Revised Code, except as provided in division (D)(2) of this section and except that the plan shall go into effect at the time the layoffs or proposed closings are announced and shall remain in effect until the date of the layoffs or closings.
- (2) A retirement incentive plan established under this section due to the proposed closing of a state institution by the department of mental health prior to July 1, 1997, shall be consistent with the requirements of section

Sub. S. B. No. 343 129th G.A.

145.297 of the Revised Code, except as follows:

- (a) The employing unit shall purchase at least three years of service eredit for each participating employee, except that it shall not purchase more service credit than the amount allowed by division (D) of section 145.297 of the Revised Code;
- (b) The plan shall go into effect at the time the proposed closing is announced and shall remain in effect at least until the date of the closing.
- (3) If the employing unit already has a retirement incentive plan in effect, the plan shall remain in effect at least until the date of the layoffs or closings. The employing unit may revise the existing plan to provide greater benefits, but if it revises the plan, it shall give written notice of the changes to all employees who have elected to participate in the original plan, and it shall provide the greater benefits to all employees who participate in the plan, whether their elections to participate were made before or after the date of the revision.
- Sec. 145.299. (A) As used in this section, "school board member" means a member of a city, local, exempted village, or joint vocational school district board of education and "governing board member" means a member of an educational service center governing board.
- (B) A member of the public employees retirement system may purchase credit for service as a school board member if all of the following conditions are met:
- (1) The member is eligible to retire under this chapter or will become eligible to retire as a result of purchasing the credit.
- (2) The member agrees to retire within ninety days after receiving notice of the additional liability under division (C) of this section 145.29 of the Revised Code.
- (3) The retirement system receives certification of the member's service and compensation as a school board or governing board member from the board of education or governing board of the district or educational service center in which the member served or, if that district or educational service center no longer exists, the board or governing board that controls the territory, or the largest part of the territory, of the district or educational service center in which the member served.
- (C) Credit shall be purchased under this section in accordance with section 145.29 of the Revised Code, except that payment for the credit or portion of credit shall be paid in full at the time of purchase.
- (D) The retirement system shall calculate the amount of credit the member is eligible to purchase by dividing the compensation received pursuant to section 3313.12 of the Revised Code for each month served as a