Teacher's contributions; expense fund payments; additional payments.

Sec. 3307.51. Each teacher who is a member of the state teachers retirement system shall contribute seven per cent of his compensation to the teachers' savings fund, on and after September 1, 1959. Such contribution shall be deducted by the employer on each payroll in an amount equal to seven per cent of such contributors' earned compensation for such payroll period, or in such other amount as the state teachers retirement board may approve.

On and after September 1, 1959, contributions shall be optional on compensation received in any year in excess of eighteen thousand dollars, and the member may instruct his employer not to make retirement de-

ductions from salary or compensation received in excess of eighteen thousand dollars. At the time of retirement, or upon the member's death prior to retirement, if contributions have been made on or after September 1, 1959, in excess of the contributions normally required to provide the retirement allowance or survivor benefit, such excess contributions shall be refunded to the member, or to his estate, in a lump sum.

Any teacher under contract, who, because of illness, accident, leave granted pursuant to section 3319.131 of the Revised Code, or other reason which may be approved by the board, is prevented from making his contribution to the system for any payroll period may have such deductions made from other payrolls during the year, or may pay such amount to the employer and the employer shall transmit such amount to the system. The deductions shall be made notwithstanding the minimum compensation provided by law for any member shall be reduced thereby. Every member shall be deemed to consent to the deductions made and shall receipt in full for his salary or compensation, and payment less said deductions shall be a complete discharge and acquittance of all claims and demands for the services rendered by such person during the period covered by such payment. Each teacher shall pay with the first payment to the teachers' savings fund each year, and in addition thereto a sum to be determined by the board, which shall not exceed three dollars annually per contributor, which amount shall be credited to the expense fund. Said payments for the expense fund shall be made to the board in the same way as payment to the teachers' savings fund is made.

In addition to the required deposits any member may make additional direct deposits, in multiples of one hundred dollars, which shall be credited to the members' account, and the amount thus accumulated, or any portion thereof, with interest at a rate fixed by the board, may be used at superannuation or commuted superannuation retirement as a deposit in the annuity and pension reserve fund to provide an additional annuity at rates recommended by the actuary and approved by the board ***. Such deposits, together with interest compounded annually, may be refunded to the member at retirement, or to the beneficiary or estate in the event of the death of the member prior to superannuation retirement, under the same conditions and in the same manner as refunds are made under sections 3307.46 and 3307.48 of the Revised Code. Such deposits shall also be refunded in the event of the withdrawal of the accumulated contributions, or upon application of the member, prior to superannuation retirement and the board shall determine whether interest shall be credited to deposits thus refunded.