

employers on behalf of members, and persons receiving benefits under this chapter are permitted to participate in contracts for long-term health care insurance. Participation may include dependents and family members. If a participant in a contract for long-term care insurance leaves employment, the participant and the participant's dependents and family members may, at their election, continue to participate in a program established under this section in the same manner as if the participant had not left employment, except that no part of the cost of the insurance shall be paid by the participant's former employer.

Such program may be established independently or jointly with one or more of the other retirement systems. For purposes of this section, "retirement systems" has the same meaning as in division (A) of section 145.581 of the Revised Code.

The board may enter into an agreement with insurance companies, health insuring corporations, or government agencies authorized to do business in the state for issuance of a long-term care insurance policy or contract. However, prior to entering into such an agreement with an insurance company or health insuring corporation, the board shall request the superintendent of insurance to certify the financial condition of the company or corporation. The board shall not enter into the agreement if, according to that certification, the company or corporation is insolvent, is determined by the superintendent to be potentially unable to fulfill its contractual obligations, or is placed under an order of rehabilitation or conservation by a court of competent jurisdiction or under an order of supervision by the superintendent.

The board ~~shall~~ may adopt rules in accordance with section 111.15 of the Revised Code governing the program. ~~The~~ Any rules adopted by the board shall establish methods of payment for participation under this section, which may include establishment of a payroll deduction plan under section ~~3307.70~~ 3307.701 of the Revised Code, deduction of the full premium charged from a person's benefit, or any other method of payment considered appropriate by the board. If the program is established jointly with one or more of the other retirement systems, the rules also shall establish the terms and conditions of such joint participation.

Sec. 3307.42. (A) Except as provided in section 3307.373 of the Revised Code, the granting to any person of an allowance, annuity, pension, or other benefit under the STRS defined benefit plan ~~described in sections 3307.50 to 3307.79 of the Revised Code~~, or the granting of a benefit under a an STRS defined contribution plan established under section 3307.81 of the Revised Code, pursuant to an action of the state teachers' retirement board

vests a right in such person, so long as the person remains the beneficiary of any of the funds established by section 3307.14 of the Revised Code, to receive the allowance, annuity, pension, or benefit at the rate fixed at the time of granting the allowance, annuity, pension, or benefit. Such right shall also be vested with equal effect in the beneficiary of a grant heretofore made from any of the funds named in section 3307.14 of the Revised Code.

(B)(1) The state teachers retirement system may suspend the benefit of a person receiving a benefit under section 3307.58 or 3307.59 of the Revised Code, a disability benefit under section 3307.63 or 3307.631 of the Revised Code, a survivor benefit under section 3307.66 of the Revised Code, any payment under section 3307.352 of the Revised Code, a benefit under section 3307.60 of the Revised Code as a beneficiary, or a benefit under an STRS defined contribution plan under either of the following circumstances:

(a) The retirement system has good cause to believe that the person receiving benefits is incapacitated and no other person has authority to act or receive benefits on the person's behalf.

(b) The retirement system learns that the person receiving benefits is missing, and no person provides evidence satisfactory to the system that the person is alive and is entitled to receive benefits.

(2) Benefits shall resume on presentation of evidence satisfactory to the board that the person is no longer incapacitated or is alive and entitled to receive benefits. Any missed payments shall be paid in a single lump sum payment.

(3) A benefit suspended under division (B)(1)(b) of this section shall be terminated on presentation to the board of a decree of presumed death. Notwithstanding section 2121.04 of the Revised Code, the termination shall be retroactive to the date the benefit was suspended.

Sec. 3307.46. Whenever the limits established by section 415 of the "Internal Revenue Code of 1986," 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C.A. 415, as amended, are raised, the state teachers retirement board may increase the amount of the pension, benefit, or allowance of any person whose pension, benefit, or allowance payable under section 3307.58, 3307.59, 3307.63, 3307.631, or 3307.67 of the Revised Code or ~~a an STRS defined contribution plan established under section 3307.81 of the Revised Code~~ was limited by the application of section 415. The amount of the increased pension, benefit, or allowance shall not exceed the lesser of the amount the person would have received if the limits established by section 415 had not been applied or the amount the person is eligible to receive subject to the new limits established by section 415.

Sec. 3307.47. (A) If a person is paid any benefit or payment by the state