board shall credit not more than one year for all service rendered in any year.

If concurrent contributions are made to two or more retirement systems, except in the case of retirement as provided in section 3307.351 of the Revised Code, service credit shall be on the basis of the ratio that contributions to this system bear to the total contributions in all such systems.

The board shall adopt rules for the purpose of determining the number of years or partial years of service credit to be granted to a member under section 3307.88 3307.25 of the Revised Code. The amount of service credit shall be based on the member's length of participation in and contribution to a an STRS defined contribution plan established under section 3307.81 of the Revised Code. The board shall be the final authority in determining the amount of service credit.

Sec. 3307.56. (A)(1) Subject to sections 3307.37 and 3307.561 of the Revised Code and except as provided in division (B)(2) of this section, a member participating in the STRS defined benefit plan described in sections 3307.50 to 3307.79 of the Revised Code who ceases to be a teacher for any cause other than death, retirement, receipt of a disability benefit, or current employment in a position in which the member has elected to participate in an alternative retirement plan under section 3305.05 or 3305.051 of the Revised Code, upon application, shall be paid the accumulated contributions standing to the credit of the member's individual account in the teachers' savings fund plus an amount calculated in accordance with section 3307.563 of the Revised Code. If the member or the member's legal representative cannot be found within ten years after the member ceased making contributions pursuant to section 3307.26 of the Revised Code, the accumulated contributions may be transferred to the guarantee fund and thereafter paid to the member, to the member's beneficiaries, or to the member's estate, upon proper application.

(2) A member described in division (A)(1) of this section who is married at the time of application for payment and is eligible for age and service retirement under section 3307.58 or 3307.59 of the Revised Code or would be eligible for age and service retirement under either of those sections but for a forfeiture ordered under division (A) or (B) of section 2929.192 of the Revised Code shall submit with the application a written statement by the member's spouse attesting that the spouse consents to the payment of the member's accumulated contributions. Consent shall be valid only if it is signed and witnessed by a notary public. If the statement is not submitted under this division, the application shall be considered an

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application for service retirement and shall be subject to division (G)(1) of section 3307.60 of the Revised Code.

The state teachers retirement board may waive the requirement of consent if the spouse is incapacitated or cannot be located, or for any other reason specified by the board. Consent or waiver is effective only with regard to the spouse who is the subject of the consent or waiver.

(B) This division applies to any member who is employed in a position in which the member has elected under section 3305.05 or 3305.051 of the Revised Code to participate in an alternative retirement plan and due to the election ceases to be a teacher for the purposes of that position.

Subject to sections 3307.37 and 3307.561 of the Revised Code, the state teachers retirement system shall do the following:

- (1) On receipt of a certified copy of an election under section 3305.05 or 3305.051 of the Revised Code, pay, in accordance with section 3305.052 of the Revised Code, the amount described in that section to the appropriate provider;
- (2) If a member has accumulated contributions, in addition to those subject to division (B)(1) of this section, standing to the credit of a member's individual account and is not otherwise in a position in which the member is considered a teacher for the purposes of that position, pay, to the provider the member selected pursuant to section 3305.05 or 3305.051 of the Revised Code, the accumulated contributions standing to the credit of the member's individual account in the teachers' saving fund plus an amount calculated in accordance with section 3307.80 3307.563 of the Revised Code. The payment shall be made on the member's application.
- (C) Payment of a member's accumulated contributions under division (B) of this section cancels the member's total service credit in the state teachers retirement system. A member whose accumulated contributions are paid to a provider pursuant to division (B) of this section is forever barred from claiming or purchasing service credit under the state teachers retirement system for the period of employment attributable to those contributions.
- Sec. 3307.561. (A) Except as provided in division (B) of this section, a member of the state teachers retirement system participating in the <u>STRS</u> defined benefit plan described in sections 3307.50 to 3307.79 of the Revised Code who has ceased to be a teacher, and who is also a member of either the public employees retirement system or school employees retirement system, or both, may not withdraw the member's accumulated contributions.
- (B) On application, the state teachers retirement board shall pay a member described in division (A) of this section the member's accumulated