Sec. 3307.28 (7896-25). Membership shall cease; indefinite leave of absence; restoration of membership and canceled service credit.

The membership of any person in the state teachers retirement system shall cease if he withdraws his accumulated deductions or if he *** retires on a pension as provided in *** sections 3307.01 to 3307.72, inclusive, of the Revised Code, or if he *** dies, or if in any four-year period after he last became a member, he *** renders less than two years of service as a teacher, unless the state teachers retirement board in accordance with its rules and regulations *** grants a longer period or indefinite leave of absence from active service as a teacher without the loss of his status as a member.

An indefinite leave of absence may be granted under the following conditions:

(A) Any member who withdraws from teaching service but who, before the expiration of his membership, becomes a member of the school *** employees retirement system or the public *** employees retirement system or the public *** employees retirement system established under the laws of Ohio, and who does not withdraw his accumulated contributions in *** the state teachers retirement system, shall be considered as on indefinite leave of absence, so long as he contributes to such other system, until such time as he elects to retire or is forced to retire under the retirement provisions of the *** system under which he is an active member at the time of retirement. A member on such leave of absence shall retain all rights and privileges of membership in the state teachers retirement system.

(B) A year of contributing membership in any state retirement system, established *** for the *** employees of any branch *** of the public service, shall revalidate service in the state teachers retirement system *** which was lost by expiration of membership, provided such member has not retired on superannuation retirement or has not withdrawn his accumulated contributions. Such year of service shall make such person eligible for an indefinite leave of absence from the state teachers retirement system ***.

Effective October 1, 1953

(C) A member or former member of the state teachers retirement system with at least one year of service credit in *** such system, or in the public *** employees retirement system, or in the school *** employees retirement system, who has previously withdrawn his accumulated contributions may restore his membership and *** canceled service credit by redepositing in the *** teachers' savings fund the amount withdrawn with interest at four per *** cent per annum, compounded annually from the first of the month of withdrawal and including the month of redeposit, and by depositing in the *** employers' accumulation fund an amount equal to the amounts of the normal contributions for such member during the service for which future credit is restored with interest at four per *** cent per annum, compounded annually, and including the month such credit is restored. In the event of the death of a member with such restored service credit prior to retirement the amount thus deposited in the employers' accumulation fund, with interest at a rate determined by the state teachers retirement board, shall be transferred from said fund to the *** teachers' savings fund and included with his accumulated contributions to be paid to his beneficiary or estate, or used as the reserve for an annuity as provided in section *** 3307.48 of the Revised Code. No teacher shall take advantage of this provision for the restoration of membership and service credit more than once.