Sub. S. B. No. 340

129th G.A.

(C)(3) or (5) of former section 742.37 of the Revised Code on or after July 24, 1986, or persons who may make application for benefits as provided in section 742.26 of the Revised Code, no person receiving a pension or benefit under this section or division (C) of former section 742.37 of the Revised Code may apply for any new, changed, or different benefit.

Sec. 742.39. (A) A member of the Ohio police and fire pension fund determined to be eligible for a disability benefit under division (D)(1) of section 742.38 of the Revised Code shall be paid annual disability benefits, payable in twelve monthly installments, in an amount equal to seventy-two per cent of the member's average annual salary. If, as of July 2, 2013, the member had fifteen or more years of service credit, the average annual salary shall be determined using three years of service credit, the average annual salary shall be determined using five years of service credit, the average annual salary shall be determined using five years of contributions.

(B) A member of the fund determined to be eligible for a disability benefit under division (D)(2) of section 742.38 of the Revised Code shall be paid annual disability benefits, payable in twelve monthly installments. If the member has fewer than twenty-five years of active service in a police or fire department credit, the benefit shall be in an amount fixed by the board of trustees of the Ohio police and fire pension fund. The board may increase or decrease the benefit whenever the board determines that the impairment of the member's earning capacity warrants an increase or decrease based on the standards adopted under division (C) of section 742.38 of the Revised Code applicable to the determination, but in no event shall the benefit exceed sixty per cent of the member's average annual salary.

A member who has completed twenty-five or more years of active service in the department credit shall receive annual disability benefits, payable in twelve monthly installments, in an amount equal to a percentage of the member's average annual salary. The percentage shall be the sum of two and one-half per cent for each of the first twenty years the member was in the active of service of the department credit, plus two per cent for each of the twenty-first to twenty-fifth years the member was in the active of service of the department credit, plus one and one-half per cent for each year in excess of twenty-five years the member was in the active of service of the department credit. The annual disability benefit shall not exceed seventy-two per cent of the member's average annual salary.

In calculating a benefit under this division, a member's average annual salary shall be determined using three years of contributions if, as of July 2, 2013, the member had fifteen or more years of service credit. If, as of that date, the member had less than fifteen years of service credit, the average

annual salary shall be determined using five years of contributions.

(C) A member of the fund determined to be eligible for a disability benefit under division (D)(4) of section 742.38 of the Revised Code shall be paid annual disability benefits, payable in twelve monthly installments, in an amount to be fixed by the board. The board may increase or decrease the benefits whenever the board determines that the impairment of the member's earning capacity warrants an increase or decrease based on the standards adopted under division (C) of section 742.38 of the Revised Code applicable to the determination, but in no event shall a benefit paid to the member exceed sixty per cent of the member's average annual salary.

(D) Each of the following persons who on July 1, 1999, is receiving annual benefits of less than six thousand six hundred dollars shall have the benefits increased to that amount effective July 1, 1999:

(1) A person receiving annual benefits described in division (A) of this section;

(2) A person receiving annual benefits described in division (C) of this section based on an award made prior to September 16, 1998.

(E) Benefits payable under this section continue until death unless adjusted under division (D)(5) of section 742.38 of the Revised Code or adjusted or terminated under division (C)(3) of section 742.40 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 742.44. Except as provided in section 742.14 of the Revised Code, at any time prior to filing an application for retirement under division (C)(1) of section 742.37 of the Revised Code, a member who has attained the requisite age and is eligible to retire under that division may elect to participate in the deferred retirement option plan established under section 742.43 of the Revised Code.

To make an election, an eligible member shall complete and submit to the Ohio police and fire pension fund a form prescribed by the fund. At this time the member may, but is not required to, elect under section 742.3711 of the Revised Code to have the member's monthly pension calculated as a retirement allowance payable throughout the member's life or a retirement allowance under option 2 in division (A) of section 742.3711 of the Revised Code. Unless rescinded during a period specified in rules adopted under section 742.43 of the Revised Code, the election is irrevocable from the date it is received by the fund until the employee ceases to participate in the plan as provided in section 742.444 of the Revised Code.

A member is not required to specify the number of years or portion of a year the member will participate in the plan but must agree to terminate active service in a police or fire department and begin receiving the