

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
State of Oklahoma

SPEAKER:

CHAIR:

I move to amend HB1268 _____
Of the printed Bill
Page _____ Section _____ Lines _____
Of the Engrossed Bill

By deleting the content of the entire measure, and by inserting in lieu thereof the following language:

AMEND TITLE TO CONFORM TO AMENDMENTS

Adopted: _____

Amendment submitted by: Neil Hays _____

Reading Clerk

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

PROPOSED POLICY
COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 1268

By: Hays

PROPOSED POLICY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to retirement; authorizing certain members to participate in the Oklahoma Public Employees Deferred Option Plan; providing that creditable service shall include service credit; providing requirements and specifications of plan; providing for the cessation of employee contributions; directing that employer contributions shall continue; providing that member is eligible for cost of living adjustments; providing interest earning rate; providing for payment from the account; providing limit for commencement of distribution; providing procedure if the participant dies; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 914.1 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. In lieu of terminating employment and accepting a service retirement pension pursuant to Section 914 of this title, licensed emergency medical personnel, as defined pursuant to Section 1-2503

1 of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes, holding a license issued by
2 the State Department of Health pursuant to Section 1-2505 of Title
3 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes, including emergency medical responders,
4 emergency medical technicians, intermediate emergency medical
5 technicians, advanced emergency medical technicians, and paramedics
6 employed by any participating employer of the Oklahoma Public
7 Employees Retirement System as a licensed emergency medical
8 personnel and deputy sheriffs and county jailers employed by any
9 county that is a participating employer of the Oklahoma Public
10 Employees Retirement System who has not less than twenty (20) years
11 of creditable service and who is eligible to receive a service
12 retirement pension may make an irrevocable election to participate
13 in the Oklahoma Public Employees Deferred Option Plan and defer the
14 receipts of benefits in accordance with the provisions of this
15 section.

16 B. For purposes of this section, creditable service shall
17 include service credit reciprocally recognized pursuant to Section
18 901 et seq. of this title but for eligibility purposes only.

19 C. The duration of participation in the Oklahoma Public
20 Employees Deferred Option Plan for a member shall not exceed five
21 (5) years. Participation in the Oklahoma Public Employees Deferred
22 Option Plan must begin the first day of a month and end on the last
23 day of a month. At the conclusion of a member's participation in
24 the Oklahoma Public Employees Deferred Option Plan, the member shall

1 terminate employment with all participating employers or
2 participating municipalities, and shall start receiving the member's
3 accrued monthly retirement benefit from the System. Such a member
4 may receive in-service distributions of such member's accrued
5 monthly retirement benefit from the System if such member is
6 reemployed by a participating employer only if such reemployment is
7 in a position not covered under the System.

8 D. When a member begins participation in the Oklahoma Public
9 Employees Deferred Option Plan, the contribution of the employee
10 shall cease. The employer contributions shall continue to be paid
11 in accordance with Section 920 or 920A of this title. Municipal
12 contributions for employees who elect the Oklahoma Public Employees
13 Deferred Option Plan shall be credited equally to the Oklahoma
14 Public Employees Retirement System and to the Oklahoma Public
15 Employees Deferred Option Plan. The monthly retirement benefits
16 that would have been payable had the member elected to cease
17 employment and receive a service retirement shall be paid into the
18 Oklahoma Public Employees Deferred Option Plan account.

19 E. 1. A member who participates in this plan shall be eligible
20 to receive cost of living increases.

21 2. A member who participates in this plan shall earn interest
22 at a rate of two percentage points below the rate of return of the
23 investment portfolio of the System, but no less than the actuarial
24 assumed interest rate as certified by the actuary in the yearly

1 evaluation report of the actuary. The interest shall be credited to
2 the individual account balance of the member on an annual basis.

3 F. A participant in the Oklahoma Public Employees Deferred
4 Option Plan shall receive, at the option of the participant:

5 1. A lump sum payment from the account equal to the option
6 account balance of the participant, payable to the participant;

7 2. A lump sum payment from the account equal to the option
8 account balance of the participant, payable to the annuity provider
9 which shall be selected by the participant as a result of the
10 research and investigation of the participant; or

11 3. Any other method of payment if approved by the Oklahoma
12 Public Employees Retirement System Board of Trustees.

13 Notwithstanding any other provision contained herein to the
14 contrary, commencement of distributions under the Oklahoma Public
15 Employees Deferred Option Plan shall be no later than the actual
16 retirement date of the member.

17 G. If the participant dies during the period of participation
18 in the Oklahoma Public Employees Deferred Option Plan, a lump sum
19 payment equal to the account balance of the participant shall be
20 paid to the recipients, which may include a trust, properly
21 designated in writing by the participant or, if none, to the
22 surviving spouse who was married to the participant for the thirty
23 (30) continuous months immediately preceding the death of the
24 participant; provided, a surviving spouse of a participant who died

1 in, and as a consequence of, the performance of the participant's
2 duty for a participating municipality shall not be subject to the
3 thirty-month marriage requirement for survivor benefits or, if no
4 surviving spouse, to the estate of the participant.

5 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.

6

7 60-1-12280 CMA 02/03/25

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24