

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007

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SENATE DRS55696-LL-304 (5/1)

Short Title: Amend Winston-Salem Firemen's Retirement Fund. (Local)

Sponsors: Senator Garrou.

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO AMEND THE PROVISIONS OF THE WINSTON-SALEM FIREMEN'S RETIREMENT FUND.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Sections 1 through 32 of Chapter 388 of the 1973 Session Laws, as amended by Chapter 15 of the 1977 Session Laws, Chapter 284 of the 1979 Session Laws, Chapter 647 of the 1981 Session Laws, Chapter 464 of the 1983 Session Laws, Chapter 508 of the 1987 Session Laws, Chapter 793 of the 1989 Session Laws, S.L. 1998-92, S.L. 2003-35, and S.L. 2006-121, read as rewritten:

"Sec. 1. That the name of the Association herein established shall be Winston-Salem Firemen's Retirement Fund Association, hereinafter referred to as the Association. References to the Association as of a date prior to April 3, 1979, and following July 1, 1973, shall mean the Winston-Salem Fire-Public Safety Retirement Fund Association, which was the name of the Association during such period.

Sec. 2. Subject to the provisions of Section 16 hereof, the following persons shall automatically be members of the Association:

(a) As of July 1, 1987, any person who was a member of the Association following the close of business of the Association immediately preceding such date.

(b) As of July 1, 1987, and thereafter, any person not covered under (a) above who shall have been regularly and continuously employed full time by the Fire Department of the City of Winston-Salem (hereinafter referred to as the Fire Department), including any Fire Department mechanic or electrician, who shall have attained his 18th birthday and shall not have attained his 40th birthday. Any person not covered under (a) above who was hired by the Fire Department prior to July 1, 1987, and continues to be employed by the Fire Department on such date, and who had attained his 30th birthday when hired but had not then attained his 40th birthday, may elect within 90 days following July 1, 1987, to become a member by contributing to the

1 Association the sum of twelve dollars (\$12.00) per month from his date of hire by the
2 Fire Department, plus interest at the rate of eight percent (8%), applicable to any
3 payments made on and after July 1, 1989, per annum, computed on the amount accrued
4 as of the end of each fiscal year of the Association.

5 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) immediately preceding, as a
6 condition to any person's becoming a member of the Association pursuant to the
7 provisions of subsection 2(b) or 16(a), the Trustees may require such person to undergo
8 a physical examination by a physician or physicians of good standing or repute selected
9 by the Trustees. If it shall be found from such physician's report that such person is not
10 in good physical or mental condition as of the date he would be eligible to become a
11 member of the Association, such person shall be denied membership in the Association.
12 The determinations of whether or not such person shall be required to undergo a
13 physical examination and whether or not he is in good physical or mental condition
14 shall be made by the Trustees. In making such determinations, all persons similarly
15 situated shall be treated alike. The cost of any medical examination required pursuant to
16 the provisions of this subsection (c) shall be borne by the person seeking membership in
17 the Association.

18 **Sec. 3.** The Association may provide and raise funds in any legal manner to be used
19 as a pension fund for such person or persons as may be entitled thereto under the
20 provisions of this act and to such extent as is hereinafter set out.

21 **Sec. 4.** The governing body of the Association shall consist of a Board of Trustees
22 ~~five~~ seven in number, four from the active membership of the Fire Department, two
23 retired members of the Fire Department, and one to be appointed by the Insurance
24 Commissioner of the State of North Carolina.

25 **Sec. 5.** The Trustees from the membership of the Fire Department shall be elected by
26 the members of the Fire Department for four-year terms. Such terms shall be staggered,
27 so that two of the Trustees shall be elected during the month of January of each year
28 divisible evenly by two. Trustees that are slated to leave the Board are automatically
29 candidates for reelection unless they choose not to serve another term. In addition, the
30 elected Association Trustees shall select from the members of the Fire Department four
31 members in good standing, each of whom continuously served in the Fire Department
32 for a period of at least four years. A general election shall then be held by the
33 membership of the Fire Department to elect from the list of candidates two Trustees to
34 serve a four-year term. Each member of the Fire Department in good standing may cast
35 two votes for the member's choice of nominees. The nominee receiving the highest
36 number of votes in the election will be a member of the Winston-Salem Firemen's
37 Relief Fund Board as well as the Association Board. In the event that a Trustee is
38 unable to complete the Trustee's term, the nominee receiving the next highest number of
39 votes in the last election held and who is not then serving as a Trustee shall complete
40 the unexpired term of the Trustee who resigned from the Board. A tie shall be resolved
41 by casting lots. The Trustees who are retired members of the Fire Department shall be
42 appointed for four-year terms by the Trustees who are active members of the Fire
43 Department.

1 **Sec. 6.** Any Trustee may resign at any time by giving notice in writing to the other
2 Trustees. Should any Trustee who is a member of the Fire Department cease to be a
3 member of the Fire Department for any reason, he shall automatically cease to be a
4 Trustee. With regard to any Trustee elected by the members of the Association who
5 resigns or ceases to be a Trustee for any reason, his successor shall be elected as
6 provided in Section 5 of this act. Should the Trustee who was appointed by the
7 Insurance Commissioner of the State of North Carolina resign or cease to be a Trustee
8 for any reason, his successor shall be appointed by the said Insurance Commissioner.
9 Should any Trustee who is a retired member of the Fire Department resign or cease to
10 be a Trustee for any reason, that Trustee's successor shall be appointed by the Trustees
11 who are active members of the Fire Department as provided in Section 5 of this act.

12 **Sec. 7.** The Board of Trustees is herein fully vested with the exclusive right and
13 authority to pay out the funds of this Association, as provided for in this act. All matters
14 and claims provided for under this act shall be passed upon by said Trustees and all
15 decisions and actions of said Trustees shall be binding upon the Association and the
16 members thereof. Every Trustee shall be entitled to one vote except the chairman of the
17 Board of Trustees, who shall be entitled to vote only to break a tie. At every annual
18 meeting of the Board of Trustees, the Trustees shall elect a chairman, vice-chairman,
19 secretary and treasurer. The secretary and treasurer need not be Trustees, and the offices
20 of secretary and treasurer may be combined into a single office, in the discretion of the
21 Trustees. The annual meeting of the Board of Trustees shall be held as soon as is
22 practicable following the end of each calendar year at such place and at such time as
23 shall be determined by the Trustees.

24 **Sec. 8.** As of September 1, 2001, the secretary of the Association (or the
25 secretary-treasurer if such offices shall be combined into a single office) shall be
26 entitled to receive monthly compensation in an amount to be determined each year by
27 the Trustees. The Trustees, as such, including the chairman and the vice-chairman, shall
28 serve without compensation. The Trustees may authorize reimbursement by the
29 Association to any officer or Trustee of the Association for all expenses incurred by
30 such person in connection with services rendered in behalf of the Association.

31 **Sec. 9.** The Trustees shall elect a custodian of all funds and property of the
32 Association, provided that such custodian shall have first offered proof satisfactory to
33 the Trustees, by bond or otherwise, that it is and will be financially responsible for all
34 property coming into its hands in a fiduciary capacity. Said custodian shall not release
35 any of the funds or property of the Association for reasons other than investment of
36 such funds or property except upon the written authorization of the Trustees.

37 The Trustees shall also elect an investment manager who may or may not be the
38 same person as the custodian. Any such investment manager shall be a bank, or an
39 insurance company, or an entity registered under the Investment Advisor's Act of 1940.
40 The investment manager shall be authorized to invest and reinvest the funds or property
41 of the Association in the investment manager's own judgment and discretion. The
42 investment manager shall report to the Trustees on a periodic basis, but not less
43 frequently than each calendar quarter. The investment manager (including said

1 custodian when acting as investment manager) shall not be liable to the Association for
2 any act of failure to act by it, except for gross negligence or willful misconduct.

3 **Sec. 10.** A special meeting of the Board of Trustees may be called by the chairman
4 or vice-chairman, or by any two Trustees, upon 24 hours' written notice delivered in
5 person to the members of said Board or mailed to the last known address of each
6 member of said Board. A majority of the Trustees in office shall constitute a quorum at
7 any meeting and a majority vote of the Trustees at a meeting at which a quorum is
8 present shall constitute action by the Trustees.

9 **Sec. 11.** The chairman of the Board of Trustees, when present, shall preside at all
10 meetings. In the absence of the chairman, the vice-chairman shall act as chairman.

11 **Sec. 12.** The secretary shall keep in complete form such data as shall be necessary
12 for actuarial valuation of the funds of the Association and for checking the
13 disbursements for and on behalf of the Association. He shall keep minutes of all
14 proceedings of the Board of Trustees and of the Association, and the same shall be kept
15 in a place selected by the Trustees. The treasurer of the Association shall post yearly at
16 each fire station and at the office of fire administration, as soon as practicable following
17 the end of each year, a financial statement of the Association.

18 **Sec. 13.** The treasurer of the Association shall deposit with the custodian all funds
19 and property that may come into his hands for the Association. The said treasurer shall
20 obtain a receipt from the custodian for all funds and property delivered to the custodian
21 by the treasurer. Said custodian shall invest and reinvest such funds and property as
22 directed by the investment manager appointed under Section 9. Notwithstanding any
23 contrary provisions of Section 9 or of this section, the Trustees are specifically
24 authorized and empowered to invest funds of the Association by depositing such funds
25 with the Winston-Salem Firemen's Credit Union on condition that the Association shall
26 receive interest at an annual rate agreed upon by the Association and such credit union.

27 **Sec. 14.** The custodian and the investment manager shall receive compensation for
28 services rendered as may be agreed upon from time to time in writing by the Trustees
29 and by the custodian (with respect to services rendered by the custodian) or the
30 investment manager (with respect to services rendered by the investment manager). The
31 Trustees shall have the authority to employ legal counsel when, in the opinion of the
32 Trustees, legal counsel is necessary. In case of such employment, said counsel shall be
33 paid such fees as may be fair and reasonable as agreed upon in writing by the Trustees
34 and the counsel so employed.

35 **Sec. 15.** On or before August 31, 1987, the Board of Trustees of the Winston-Salem
36 Firemen's Relief Fund shall transfer to the Board of Trustees of the Winston-Salem
37 Firemen's Retirement Fund Association out of properties and funds belonging to the
38 Winston-Salem Firemen's Relief Fund the sum of fifty-four thousand dollars (\$54,000)
39 in cash or assets. The assets so transferred pursuant to the immediately preceding
40 sentence shall be transferred upon the basis of the fair market value thereof as of the
41 date of transfer, and the particular assets to be transferred shall be determined by joint
42 action of the Board of Trustees of the Winston-Salem Firemen's Relief Fund and the
43 Board of Trustees of the Winston-Salem Firemen's Retirement Fund Association. All
44 property of the Association is hereby relieved from any and all claims of the persons

1 entitled to relief from the Winston-Salem Firemen's Relief Fund. The North Carolina
2 Firemen's Association, its officers, members, boards and committees, are also hereby
3 relieved of any claim of any kind whatsoever which may be based on past service,
4 present service or future service in the Winston-Salem Fire Department. The
5 Winston-Salem Firemen's Relief Fund and the officers, members, boards and
6 committees of said Fund, are also hereby relieved of any claim of any kind whatsoever
7 which may be based on past, present or future service in the Winston-Salem Fire
8 Department, if any, so long as any claimant is entitled to benefits or pension under the
9 provisions of this act.

10 **Sec. 16.** (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) immediately following,
11 if a person who shall not be a member of the Association shall be transferred to the
12 employment of the Fire Department from the employment of the City of Winston-Salem
13 (hereinafter referred to as the City), the following provisions shall apply in determining
14 whether he shall be a member of the Association following such transfer:

15 (1) If he shall have attained at least his 18th birthday and shall not have
16 attained his 40th birthday on the date of such transfer, he shall
17 automatically become a member on such date of transfer. In
18 determining such transferred employee's number of years of
19 continuous employment by the City, employment with the City prior
20 to such transfer shall be taken into account only if such employee shall
21 elect to contribute to the Association the sum of (i) plus (ii) plus (iii),
22 where (i) is the amount of twelve dollars (\$12.00) per month,
23 measured from the date of his hire by the City until earlier of the date
24 of such transfer and June 30, 1998; (ii) is the aggregate amount that the
25 person would have contributed, determined in accordance with Section
26 17 of this act, measured from July 1, 1998, until the date of the
27 transfer, if the transfer occurs on or after July 1, 1998; and (iii) is
28 interest accrued at the rate of eight percent (8%) with respect to any
29 payments made on and after July 1, 1989, per annum, compounded
30 annually on the amount accrued as of the end of each fiscal year of the
31 Association.

32 (2) If he shall have attained at least his 40th birthday on the date of
33 transfer, but had not attained such birthday when last employed by the
34 City, he may elect within 90 days following such transfer to become a
35 member. If he elects to become a member, he shall contribute to the
36 Association the amount he would have contributed if he had become a
37 member on the day next preceding his 40th birthday. In addition, at the
38 option of such employee, he may further elect to contribute such
39 additional amount as he would have contributed prior to his 40th
40 birthday if his employment with the City had been with the Fire
41 Department. Any such contributions shall include interest at the rate of
42 eight percent (8%), applicable to any payments made on and after July
43 1, 1989, per annum, computed on the amount accrued as of the end of
44 each fiscal year of the Association.

1 (3) If he shall have attained at least his 40th birthday when last employed
2 by the City, he shall be ineligible to become a member following such
3 transfer.

4 (4) The elections specified in subdivisions (1) and (2) hereof shall be
5 made in writing to the Trustees within 90 days following such transfer,
6 and shall be irrevocable when made (subject to termination of
7 membership upon subsequent separation from employment with the
8 Fire Department). Any contributions (and interest) payable pursuant to
9 such election shall be paid in cash in a lump sum at the time such
10 election shall be filed.

11 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of Section 2 hereof, as soon
12 as practicable following April 3, 1979, (but in no event more than 60 days thereafter),
13 the Trustees gave each person who was then employed by the City of Winston-Salem as
14 a Public Safety Officer an election to be a member or not to be a member of the
15 Association. Each such election was to be made in accordance with procedures
16 established by the Trustees and was irrevocable when made (subject to termination of
17 membership upon a subsequent separation from the employment of the City, and subject
18 to the provisions of subsection (a) of this Section 16). If a Public Safety Officer failed to
19 file a timely election, he was deemed to have elected not to be a member. If a Public
20 Safety Officer who was a member on the date of the election elected to discontinue
21 membership (or shall have been deemed to have so elected), within 30 days following
22 such date there should have been refunded to him the full amount of his prior
23 contributions to the Association, if any, without interest. If a Public Safety Officer who
24 failed to make contributions prior to the election date elected to be a member, he shall
25 have within 30 days following such election paid to the Association the full amount he
26 would have contributed if he had made required contributions during the entire period
27 that he was eligible to be a member. Such contributions included interest at the rate of
28 six percent (6%) per annum, computed on the amount accrued as of the end of each
29 fiscal year of the Association.

30 (c) Any member whose employment by the Fire Department as a Public Safety
31 Officer shall be terminated on or after June 27, 1981, for any reason, including transfer
32 to another department in the employment of the City, shall be terminated immediately
33 as a member; provided, that any member who is transferred on or after July 1, 1981, to
34 another department of the City in a fire-related job shall not become a terminated
35 member if the following conditions are met: (i) within 15 days following the date of
36 such transfer he shall file with the Trustees a written election to continue as a member;
37 and (ii) such member shall be notified in writing by the secretary of the Association on
38 or before the date of transfer of his right to make the election. If a terminated member
39 shall reenter employment of the Fire Department, his eligibility to become a member
40 shall be determined at that time in accordance with Section 2 hereof, except to the
41 extent such individual may be entitled to elect to become a member upon a transfer of
42 employment as provided in subsection (a) of this Section 16.

43 (d) In determining the number of years of continuous employment of a member,
44 there shall be taken into account all years for which he shall make contributions in

1 accordance with subsection (a) or (e) of this Section 16 or Section 19. For purposes of
2 computing a member's years of continuous employment with the City, any period of
3 unused sick leave with the Fire Department accrued by the member on the date of his
4 retirement shall be deemed to be a period of continuous employment with the Fire
5 Department.

6 (e) If any member of the Association was employed by the Fire Department as a
7 cadet, such member's number of years of employment as a cadet may be added to the
8 period of his continuous employment with the City if, by July 31, 1981, such member
9 contributed to the Association an amount equal to twelve dollars (\$12.00) per month for
10 the time he was a cadet, plus interest at the rate of six percent (6%) per annum,
11 computed on the amount accrued as of the end of each fiscal year of the Association.

12 (f) If a member has been employed by the City continuously for a period of 10
13 years and has any military service, and is not otherwise treated under Section 26 as
14 being in the employment of the City during the period of such military service, the
15 period of such military service shall nevertheless be added to his period of continuous
16 employment with the City upon such member's paying to the Association an amount
17 equal to twelve dollars (\$12.00) for each month of such military service plus interest at
18 the rate of eight percent (8%), applicable to any payments made on and after July 1,
19 1989, per annum, compounded annually. Such military service shall be limited to the
20 initial period of active duty in the armed forces of the United States up to the time the
21 member was first eligible to be separated or released therefrom, and subsequent periods
22 of such active duty as required by the armed forces of the United States up to the date of
23 first eligibility for separation or release therefrom. The member must submit evidence
24 satisfactory to the Trustees of the military service claimed. Such election must be made
25 within one year after the member first becomes eligible to contribute for such military
26 service. Credit for military service under this subsection shall not be considered service
27 creditable under another retirement system for purposes of G.S. 128-26(a).

28 (g) If an individual who is an active participant in the North Carolina Local
29 Governmental Employees' Retirement System (the 'System') shall terminate service
30 with the employer enabling the individual to participate in the System (the 'System
31 Employer'), and shall immediately enter the employment of the Fire Department, he
32 may elect to have his period of service under the System considered as continuous
33 employment with the Fire Department for purposes of this act; provided, that such
34 election shall be permitted only if the individual was under age 40 when he entered the
35 employment of the System Employer. This election shall be made in writing to the
36 Trustees within 90 days of the individual's commencement of employment with the Fire
37 Department (or, with respect to an individual who becomes employed by the Fire
38 Department prior to July 1, 1989, this election shall be made on or before September 30,
39 1989). The election, if made, shall be accompanied by a cash contribution to the
40 Association equal to the sum of (i) plus (ii) plus (iii), where (i) is the amount of twelve
41 dollars (\$12.00) per month measured from the date of the person's hiring by the City
42 until the earlier of the transfer and June 30, 1998; (ii) is the aggregate amount that the
43 person would have contributed, determined in accordance with Section 17 of this act,
44 measured from July 1, 1998, until the date of the transfer, if the transfer occurs on or

1 after July 1, 1998; and (iii) is interest accrued at the rate of eight percent (8%) per
2 annum, compounded annually on the amount accrued as of the end of each fiscal year of
3 the Association. The election shall be irrevocable when made. If the election is not
4 made in a timely fashion, the right to make the election is forfeited.

5 **Sec. 17.** The Treasurer of the City shall make a deduction from the salary of each
6 member of the Association due him by the City. As of September 1, 2001, the amount
7 of each such deduction shall be determined as of the first day of each payroll period of
8 the City, and shall be equal to the quotient (rounded up to the next whole dollar amount)
9 obtained by dividing (i) the product, rounded to the nearest dollar, of .007 multiplied by
10 the annual starting salary of a firefighter employed by the Fire Department in effect at
11 the beginning of that payroll period; by (ii) the number of payroll periods in that fiscal
12 year of the City. The amount so deducted shall be turned over as soon as practicable
13 after the applicable payroll period by the said Treasurer to the custodian of the
14 Association as hereinbefore provided, and the Association shall have the authority to
15 accept donations from any and all sources whatsoever.

16 **Sec. 18.** If at any time there shall not be sufficient assets in the retirement fund of the
17 Association to pay fully the persons entitled to benefits provided herein, such persons
18 shall be paid such benefits on a pro rata basis to the extent the assets of such fund will
19 allow, as shall be determined by the Trustees acting upon the advice of the
20 Association's actuary. Effective on or after July 1, 1998, the Trustees shall obtain a
21 written report from the Association's actuary as of July 1 of each year evenly divisible
22 by two, or more frequently if the Trustees deem advisable, setting forth the present
23 value of the assets of the fund and the present value of current liabilities of current
24 retirees.

25 **Sec. 19.** (a) Whenever any member of the Association has been employed by the
26 City continuously for a period of at least 30 years, such member may make written
27 application to the trustees for his normal retirement benefit, and whenever any member
28 of the Association has been employed by the City continuously for a period of at least
29 25 years but not more than 30 years, such member may make written application to the
30 Trustees for his early retirement benefit; provided, however, that such member must
31 retire from the service of the City to receive such benefits. The normal and early
32 retirement benefits of such member shall be a monthly pension for the remainder of his
33 life, as provided herein below. For this purpose and for the purpose of Section 20
34 hereof, a member shall be deemed to have been employed by the City continuously if
35 such member shall have been employed continuously by any combination of the Fire
36 Department or Police Department (but only such employment by the Police Department
37 as is described in subsection 16(b) and (c) hereof), and the transfer of a member from
38 the employ of one of such organizations to the employ of the other such organization
39 shall not be deemed to be a termination of employment by the City. Provided, that if a
40 member has at least 25 years of employment with the City, but such service is not
41 continuous solely because of a leave of absence lasting not more than a year and not
42 described in Section 26, such member shall be deemed to have continuous employment
43 with the City during such leave of absence; and provided further, that if a member has
44 less than 25 years of employment with the City but the sum of his years of employment

1 with the City plus any leave of absence lasting not more than one year and not described
2 in Section 26, equals or exceeds 25 years, the period of such leave shall be deemed to be
3 continuous employment with the City if such member contributes to the Association
4 twelve dollars (\$12.00) for each month he was on such leave, plus interest at the rate of
5 eight percent (8%), applicable to any payments made on and after July 1, 1989, per
6 annum, computed on the amount accrued as of the end of each fiscal year of the
7 Association.

8 (b) Effective beginning July 1, 1989, and ending June 30, 1990, the amount of
9 the monthly pension for each member who is entitled to receive a normal retirement
10 benefit (including members who retired prior to July 1, 1989) shall be two hundred
11 dollars (\$200.00). Effective beginning July 1, 1990, and ending June 30, 1998, the
12 amount of the monthly pension for each member who is entitled to receive a normal
13 retirement benefit, including members who retired prior to July 1, 1990, shall be two
14 hundred fifteen dollars (\$215.00). Effective on and after July 1, 1998, the amount of the
15 monthly pension for each member who is entitled to receive a normal retirement benefit
16 (including members who retired prior to that date) shall be two hundred five dollars
17 (\$205.00). The amount of the monthly pension for each member who is entitled to
18 receive an early retirement benefit as of any date prior to July 1, 1998, shall be the
19 product of (1) and (2), where (1) is the applicable percentage listed in the following
20 table based on his years of continuous employment at his early retirement date, and (2)
21 is the amount of the payment that he would have received as a normal retirement benefit
22 under this section as of that date:

Years of Employment at Retirement Date	Percentage of Normal Retirement Benefit
25	85%
26	88%
27	91%
28	94%
29	97%

31
32 Effective on and after July 1, 1998, the amount of the monthly pension for each member
33 who began receiving an early retirement benefit prior to July 1, 1998, shall be further
34 reduced by multiplying the monthly pension amount by 0.9535.

35 (c) Effective on and after July 1, 1998, the amount of the monthly pension of
36 each member who retires on or after that date and is entitled to receive an early
37 retirement benefit shall be the product of (1) the applicable percentage listed in the
38 following table based on the member's years of continuous employment at the member's
39 early retirement date, and (2) the amount of the payment that the member would have
40 received as a normal retirement benefit under this section as of that date:

Years of Employment at Retirement Date	Percentage of Normal Retirement Benefit
25	70%

1	26	76%
2	27	82%
3	28	88%
4	29	94%

5

6 Payment shall be subject to the provisions of Section 18 of this act. Section 16(d)
7 governs the determinations of a member's years of continuous employment.

8 (d) Any benefit payable to a member pursuant to this Section 19 shall commence
9 not later than the April 1 immediately following the calendar year in which the member
10 attains age 70 and 1/2 or, if later, the April 1 immediately following the calendar year in
11 which the member retires from the service of the City. Additionally, the distribution of
12 any such benefit shall be made in accordance with the requirements of section 401(a) of
13 the Internal Revenue Code, including the minimum distribution incidental benefit
14 requirement of section 1.401(a)(9)-2 of the Treasury Regulations, which are
15 incorporated herein by reference. With respect to distributions made for the calendar
16 years beginning on or after January 1, 2001, the act will apply the minimum distribution
17 requirements of section 401(a)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code in accordance with the
18 regulations under section 401(a)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code that were proposed on
19 January 17, 2001, notwithstanding any provision of the act to the contrary. This
20 amendment shall continue in effect until the end of the last calendar year beginning
21 before the effective date of final regulations under section 401(a)(9) of the Internal
22 Revenue Code or such other date as may be specified in guidance published by the
23 Internal Revenue Service.

24 (e) Notwithstanding any provision in this Section 19 to the contrary, effective as
25 of December 12, 1994, the act shall at all times be construed and enforced according to
26 the requirements of the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights
27 Act of 1994.

28 **Sec. 20.** Whenever any member of the Association becomes totally and permanently
29 unable, because of infirmity or disease affecting mind or body (whether or not induced
30 by injury) to perform his duties for the City, which inability shall be determined by a
31 medical examination by a physician or physicians of good standing and repute selected
32 by the Trustees, he shall be deemed to be a disabled member. If a disabled member has
33 been employed by the City for at least five full years prior to suffering disability, he
34 shall be entitled to retire and receive a monthly benefit payable for the remainder of his
35 life.

36 Effective beginning July 1, 1989, and ending June 30, 1990, the monthly benefit of a
37 member who retires as a disabled member (including a member who retired as a
38 disabled member prior to July 1, 1989) shall equal eight dollars (\$8.00) times his years
39 of service but in no event more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00) per month. Effective
40 beginning July 1, 1990, and ending June 30, 1998, the monthly benefit of a member
41 (including a member who retires as a disabled member prior to this date) shall equal
42 eight dollars and sixty cents (\$8.60) times his years of service, but in no event more than
43 two hundred fifteen dollars (\$215.00) per month. Effective on and after July 1, 1998, the
44 monthly benefit of a member who retires as a disabled member, including a member

1 who retires as a disabled member prior to July 1, 1998, shall equal eight dollars and
2 twenty cents (\$8.20) times his years of service, but in no event more than two hundred
3 five dollars (\$205.00) per month. For this purpose only, years of service shall mean the
4 number of his earned years of service in the employment of the City (as determined
5 pursuant to Section 16(d) of this act). Payments shall be subject to the provisions of
6 Section 18 of this act.

7 Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Section 20, in the case of a disabled
8 member whose disability shall arise out of injuries incurred in fire safety activities, such
9 as fire fighting, fire training and fire inspection, such monthly benefit shall in no event
10 be less than forty dollars (\$40.00) per month, whether or not such disabled member was
11 employed by the City for at least five years prior to suffering such disability. The
12 determination of whether such disability arises out of injuries incurred in fire safety
13 activities shall be made by the Trustees.

14 **Sec. 21.** Any disabled member of the Association who retires under Section 19
15 hereof and who had not been employed by the City for a period of at least 30 years prior
16 to retirement, shall be subject to call by the Trustees for reexamination by a physician of
17 good standing and repute selected by the Trustees and, if based upon such examination
18 it is determined by the Trustees that such member is able to perform active duties for the
19 City, such member may be reinstated and receive for his services the same
20 compensation paid to other employees of the City of his rank or classification. If such
21 member, upon being called by the Trustees, shall refuse to submit to an examination or
22 shall refuse to be reinstated to active duty in the employ of the City after being found to
23 be able to perform active duty, such benefits as he is then receiving under the provisions
24 of this act shall immediately terminate and his membership in this Association shall
25 automatically terminate. But in the event that such member is physically unable to
26 resume active employment, or in the event he is able and willing to resume active
27 employment but no job with the City is open for him at such time, his pension or
28 compensation shall continue until there shall be an opening for such member and he is
29 reemployed by the City. For the purpose of this Section 21, employment with the City
30 shall mean only employment with the Fire Department or Police Department (but
31 employment with the Police Department shall be included only with regard to any such
32 member who was employed with the Police Department prior to his retirement under
33 Section 20 hereof).

34 **Sec. 22.** When any member of the Association shall resign or be dismissed from
35 employment by the City (which for this purpose shall include only employment with the
36 Fire Department or Police Department), he shall receive a sum of money equal to all
37 monies paid into the Association by him. Upon the death of any member of the
38 Association while in the employment of the City, a sum of money equal to all monies
39 paid into the Association by such deceased member shall be paid to the beneficiary or
40 beneficiaries designated in writing by such deceased member, or in default thereof, to
41 his estate. If, after retirement, a member of the Association shall die before having
42 received an amount equal to his contributions to the Association, there shall be paid to
43 the beneficiary or beneficiaries designated by such member, or in default thereof to his
44 estate, an amount equal to his contributions less the sum of retirement benefits paid to

1 such member. The reimbursements provided in this Section 22 shall be in cash in a
2 lump sum, unless otherwise determined by the Trustees with the consent in writing of
3 the recipient thereof less interest, if any, previously contributed to the Association by
4 the member pursuant to Section 16 or Section 19.

5 **Sec. 23.** No amount payable or held by the Association under this act for the benefit
6 of any member or beneficiary thereof shall be subject in any manner to anticipation,
7 alienation, sale, transfer, assignment, pledge, encumbrance or charge, nor shall any
8 amount payable or held under this act for the benefit of any member or beneficiary
9 thereof be in anywise liable for his debts, contracts, liabilities, engagements, or torts,
10 nor be subject to any legal process to levy upon or attach, but the provisions of this
11 Section 22 shall not be applicable as regards any dealings with or obligations to the
12 Winston-Salem Firemen's Credit Union.

13 **Sec. 24.** Out of the amount paid to the Insurance Commissioner of the State of North
14 Carolina upon the amount of all premiums on fire and lightning policies covering
15 property situated in the corporate limits of the City, the Insurance Commissioner of the
16 State of North Carolina shall pay annually to the Treasurer of the City ninety-five
17 percent (95%), and the Treasurer of the City shall immediately pay over the same to the
18 treasurer of the Association, or if the treasurer of the Association shall so direct, the
19 Treasurer of the City shall pay such amount directly to the custodian.

20 **Sec. 25.** No member of this Association or Trustee shall be personally liable in any
21 manner whatsoever to any person, association, firm or corporation by reason of his
22 connection with, or act or acts on behalf of, said Association, unless such act or acts are
23 fraudulently committed.

24 **Sec. 26.** If a member of the Association, or an employee of the Fire Department or
25 Police Department who is not a member of the Association due to failure to meet the
26 minimum age requirements of subsection 2(b) hereof, is granted a leave of absence from
27 employment by the City on account of accidental injury or temporary illness, military
28 service during time of active warfare, compulsory military service in time of peace, or
29 other good cause, for the purpose of this act such employee shall be deemed to have
30 remained in the employment of the City during the period of such leave of absence or
31 any extension thereof if he shall return to active service with the City promptly
32 following the end of the period of such leave of absence or extension thereof. During
33 such leave of absence or extension thereof, the Treasurer of the City shall make no
34 deductions from the salary, if any, of such member, and such member shall not
35 otherwise be required to make any contributions to the Association during or with
36 respect to such period.

37 **Sec. 27.** If any person entitled to benefits under this act shall be physically or
38 mentally incapable of receiving or acknowledging receipt of such benefits, the Trustees,
39 upon receipt of satisfactory evidence of such incapacity and that another person or
40 institution is maintaining such person entitled to benefits, and that no guardian or
41 committee has been appointed for him, may cause any benefits otherwise payable to
42 him to be made to such person or institution so maintaining him.

43 **Sec. 28.** The provisions of this act shall be administered on an equitable and
44 nondiscriminatory basis, it being the intent hereof that where the Trustees are given

1 discretionary powers, such powers shall be exercised in an equitable manner and so as
2 to prevent discrimination between persons similarly situated. All assets of the
3 Association shall be administered for the exclusive benefit of the members of the
4 Association and their beneficiaries, and as a fund to provide for such members or
5 beneficiaries the benefits provided in this act. It shall be impossible for any part of the
6 principal or income of the retirement fund of the Association to be used for or diverted
7 to purposes other than for the exclusive benefit of the members of the Association or
8 their beneficiaries as provided in this act; except that the Trustees may use such assets
9 to pay the reasonable expenses incurred in administering the said fund and any debts,
10 liabilities or obligations of said fund. The assets and income of the fund shall be exempt
11 from all taxes, including income taxes, imposed by the State of North Carolina or any
12 political subdivision thereof.

13 **Sec. 28A.** (a) Upon termination of the Association or upon complete discontinuance
14 of contributions to the Association, the rights of all members of the Association to
15 benefits accrued to the date of the termination or discontinuance, to the extent then
16 funded, are nonforfeitable.

17 (b) Forfeitures under the Association may not be applied to increase the benefits
18 that any member would otherwise receive under the Association.

19 (c) Notwithstanding any provision of the Association to the contrary, the
20 maximum annual benefit payable in the form of a straight life annuity from the
21 Association on behalf of a member, when combined with any benefits from another
22 qualified retirement plan maintained by the Fire Department of the City of
23 Winston-Salem, shall not exceed the amount permitted by section 415 of the Internal
24 Revenue Code. Code, the provisions of which are specifically incorporated by reference
25 into this act.

26 (d) In addition to the other applicable limitations set forth in this act, and
27 notwithstanding any other provision of this act to the contrary, for plan years beginning
28 on or after January 1, 1996, the annual compensation of each member taken into
29 account under this act shall not exceed the OBRA 1993 annual compensation limit. The
30 OBRA 1993 annual compensation limit is one hundred fifty thousand dollars
31 (\$150,000), as adjusted by the Commissioner for increase in the cost of living in
32 accordance with section 401(a)(17)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code. The cost of living
33 adjustment in effect for a calendar year applies to any period, not exceeding 12 months,
34 over which compensation is determined (the "determination period") beginning in that
35 calendar year. If a determination period consists of fewer than 12 months, the OBRA
36 1993 annual compensation limit shall be multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of
37 which is the number of months in the determination period, and the denominator of
38 which is 12. If compensation for any prior determination period is taken into account in
39 determining a member's benefits accruing in the current plan year, the compensation for
40 that prior determination period is subject to the OBRA 1993 annual compensation limit
41 in effect for that prior determination period. For this purpose, for determination periods
42 beginning before the first day of the first plan year beginning on or after January 1,
43 1996, the OBRA 1993 annual compensation limit is one hundred fifty thousand dollars
44 (\$150,000). Effective for plan years beginning on or after January 1, 2002, the OBRA

1 1993 annual compensation limit shall be two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000), as
2 adjusted by the Commissioner for increases in the cost of living in accordance with
3 section 401(a)(17)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code.

4 (e) This subsection applies to distributions made on or after January 1, 2002.
5 Notwithstanding any provision of this act to the contrary that would otherwise limit a
6 distributee's election under this subsection, a distributee may elect, at the time and in the
7 manner prescribed by the Trustees, to have any portion of an eligible rollover
8 distribution paid directly to an eligible retirement plan specified by the distributee in a
9 direct rollover. The following definitions shall apply for purposes of this subsection:

10 (1) Eligible rollover distribution. An eligible rollover distribution is any
11 distribution of all or any portion of the balance to the credit of the
12 distributee, except that an eligible rollover distribution does not
13 include:

14 a. Any distribution that is one of a series of substantially equal
15 periodic payments (not less frequently than annually) made for
16 the life (or life expectancy) of the distributee or the joint lives
17 (or joint life expectancies) of the distributee and the
18 distributee's designated beneficiary, or for a specified period of
19 10 years or more;

20 b. Any distribution to the extent such distribution is required under
21 section 401(a)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code; or

22 c. Any ~~hardship distribution described in section~~
23 ~~401(k)(2)(B)(i)(IV) of the Internal Revenue Code.~~ distribution
24 that is made upon the hardship of the distributee.

25 Notwithstanding the foregoing, a portion of a distribution shall not fail
26 to be an eligible rollover distribution merely because the portion
27 consists of after-tax employee contributions that are not includible in
28 gross income. However, such a portion may be transferred only to an
29 individual retirement account or annuity described in section 408(a) or
30 section 408(b) of the Internal Revenue Code, or to a qualified defined
31 contribution plan described in section 401(a) or section 403(a) of the
32 Internal Revenue Code that agrees to separately account for amounts
33 so transferred, including separately accounting for the portion of that
34 distribution that is includible in gross income and the portion of that
35 distribution that is not so includible.

36 (2) Eligible retirement plan. An eligible retirement plan is an individual
37 retirement account described in section 408(a) of the Internal Revenue
38 Code, an individual retirement annuity described in section 408(b) of
39 the Internal Revenue Code, or a qualified trust described in section
40 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, that accepts the distributee's
41 eligible rollover distribution. An eligible retirement plan shall also
42 mean an annuity contract described in section 403(b) of the Internal
43 Revenue Code and an eligible plan under section 457(b) of the Internal
44 Revenue Code that is maintained by a state, a political subdivision of a

1 state, or any agency or instrumentality of a state or a political
2 subdivision of a state, and that agrees to separately account for
3 amounts transferred into that plan from the Association. The definition
4 of eligible plan shall also apply in the case of a distribution to a
5 surviving spouse, or to a spouse or former spouse who is the alternate
6 payee under a qualified domestic relations order, as defined in section
7 414(p) of the Internal Revenue Code. Effective January 1, 2008, an
8 eligible retirement plan shall also mean a Roth IRA as described in
9 section 408A of the Internal Revenue Code.

10 (3) Distributee. A distributee includes a member or former member of the
11 Association. In addition, the surviving spouse of a member or former
12 member is a distributee with regard to the interest of the member or
13 former member.

14 (4) Direct rollover. A direct rollover is a payment by the Association to
15 the eligible retirement plan specified by the distributee.

16 (5) Rollovers by nonspouse beneficiaries. Notwithstanding anything in
17 this subsection to the contrary, effective January 1, 2007, the benefits
18 of nonspouse beneficiaries may be transferred in a direct rollover to an
19 inherited individual retirement account or an inherited individual
20 retirement annuity ("inherited IRA"). Once in the inherited IRA,
21 distributions will be made in compliance with the minimum
22 distribution rules of section 401(a)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code
23 that apply following the death of a member.

24 **Sec. 28B. (a)** This section shall apply for purposes of determining required
25 minimum distributions for calendar years beginning with the 2003 calendar year. The
26 requirements of this section shall take precedence over any inconsistent provisions of
27 the Association. All distributions required under this section shall be determined and
28 made in accordance with the Treasury Regulations under section 401(a)(9) of the
29 Internal Revenue Code, which are specifically incorporated by reference into this act.
30 Notwithstanding the other provisions of this section, distributions may be made under a
31 designation made before January 1, 1984, in accordance with section 242(b)(2) of the
32 Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act (TEFRA) and the provisions of the
33 Association that relate to section 242(b)(2) of TEFRA.

34 (b) Time and Manner of Distribution. –

35 (1) Required beginning date. – The member's entire interest will be
36 distributed, or begin to be distributed, to the member no later than the
37 member's required beginning date.

38 (2) Death of member before distributions begin. – If the member dies
39 before distributions begin, the member's entire interest will be
40 distributed, or begin to be distributed, no later than as follows:

41 a. If the member's surviving spouse is the member's sole
42 designated beneficiary, as defined in section 28(e)(1), then
43 distributions to the surviving spouse will begin by December 31
44 of the calendar year immediately following the calendar year in

1 which the member died, or by December 31 of the calendar
2 year in which the member would have attained age 70 ½, if
3 later.

4 b. If the member's surviving spouse is not the member's sole
5 designated beneficiary, then distributions to the designated
6 beneficiary will begin by December 31 of the calendar year
7 immediately following the calendar year in which the member
8 died.

9 c. If there is no designated beneficiary as of September 30 of the
10 year following the year of the member's death, the member's
11 entire interest will be distributed by December 31 of the
12 calendar year containing the fifth anniversary of the member's
13 death.

14 d. If the member's surviving spouse is the member's sole
15 designated beneficiary and the surviving spouse dies after the
16 member but before distributions to the surviving spouse begin,
17 the provisions of this subdivision, except for sub-subdivision a.
18 of this subdivision, will apply as if the surviving spouse were
19 the member.

20 For purposes of this subdivision and of subsection (d) of this section,
21 distributions are considered to begin on the member's required
22 beginning date, or if sub-subdivision d. of this subdivision applies, the
23 date distributions are required to begin to the surviving spouse under
24 sub-subdivision a. of this subdivision. If annuity payments irrevocably
25 commence to the member before the member's required beginning
26 date, or to the member's surviving spouse before the date distributions
27 are required to begin to the surviving spouse under sub-subdivision a.
28 of this subdivision, the date distributions are considered to begin is the
29 date distributions actually commence.

30 (3) Forms of distribution. – Unless the member's interest is distributed in
31 the form of an annuity purchased from an insurance company or in a
32 single lump sum on or before the required beginning date, as of the
33 first distribution calendar year, as defined in subdivision (2) of
34 subsection (e) of this section, distributions will be made in accordance
35 with subsections (b), (c), and (d) of this section. If the member's
36 interest is distributed in the form of an annuity purchased from an
37 insurance company, distributions under that annuity shall be made in
38 accordance with the requirements of section 401(a)(9) of the Internal
39 Revenue Code and the Treasury Regulations.

40 (b) Determination of Amount to be Distributed Each Year. –

41 (1) General annuity requirements. – If the member's interest is paid in the
42 form of annuity distributions from the Association, payments under the
43 annuity will satisfy the following requirements:

- 1 a. The annuity distributions shall be paid in periodic payments
2 made at intervals not longer than one year;
3 b. The distribution period shall be over a life, or lives, or over a
4 period certain not longer than the period described in subsection
5 (c) or (d) of this section;
6 c. Once payments have begun over a period certain, the period
7 certain will not be changed even if the period certain is shorter
8 than the maximum permitted;
9 d. Payments will either not increase or will increase only as
10 follows:
11 1. By an annual percentage increase that does not exceed
12 the annual percentage increase in an eligible
13 cost-of-living index, as defined in subdivision (3) of
14 subsection (e) of this section, for a 12-month period
15 ending in the year during which the increase occurs or
16 the prior year;
17 2. By a percentage increase that occurs at specified times
18 and does not exceed the cumulative total of annual
19 percentage increases in an eligible cost-of-living index
20 since the annuity starting date, or if later, the date of the
21 most recent percentage increase. However, in cases
22 providing such a cumulative increase, an actuarial
23 increase may not be provided to reflect the fact that
24 increases were not provided in the interim years;
25 3. To the extent of the reduction in the amount of the
26 member's payments to provide for a survivor benefit
27 upon death, but only if the beneficiary whose life was
28 being used to determine the distribution period described
29 in subsection (c) of this section dies or is no longer the
30 member's beneficiary pursuant to a qualified domestic
31 relations order within the meaning of section 414(c) of
32 the Internal Revenue Code.
33 4. To pay increased benefits that result from an amendment
34 to the Association; or
35 5. To allow a beneficiary to convert the survivor portion of
36 a joint and survivor annuity into a single sum distribution
37 upon the member's death.
38 (2) Amount required to be distributed by required beginning date. – The
39 amount that must be distributed on or before the member's required
40 beginning date, or if the member dies before distributions begin, the
41 date distributions are required to begin under sub-subdivisions a. or b.
42 of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section is the payment that
43 is required for one payment interval. The second payment need not be
44 made until the end of the next payment interval even if that payment

1 interval ends in the next calendar year. Payment intervals are the
2 periods for which payments are received, such as bimonthly, monthly,
3 semiannually, or annually. All of the member's benefit accruals as of
4 the last day of the first distribution calendar year shall be included in
5 the calculation of the amount of the annuity payments for payment
6 intervals ending on or after the member's required beginning date.

7 (3) Additional accruals after first distribution calendar year. – Any
8 additional benefits accruing to the member in a calendar year after the
9 first distribution calendar shall be distributed beginning with the first
10 payment interval ending in the calendar year immediately following
11 the calendar year in which such amount accrues.

12 (c) Requirements for Annuity Distributions that Commence during Member's
13 Lifetime. –

14 (1) Joint life annuities where the beneficiary is not the member's spouse. –
15 If the member's interest is being distributed in the form of a joint and
16 survivor annuity for the joint lives of the member and a nonspouse
17 beneficiary, annuity payments to be made on or after the member's
18 required beginning date to the designated beneficiary after the
19 member's death must not at any time exceed the applicable percentage
20 of the annuity payment for that period that would have been payable to
21 the member using the table set forth in Q&A-2 of section 1.401(a)(9)-6
22 of the Treasury Regulations. The applicable percentage is based upon
23 the adjusted age difference between the member and the beneficiary.
24 The adjusted age difference between the member and the beneficiary is
25 determined by first calculating the excess of the age of the member
26 over the age of the beneficiary based upon their ages on their birthdays
27 in a calendar year. Then, if the member is younger than age 70, the age
28 difference determined in the previous sentence is reduced by the
29 number of years that the member is younger than age 70 on the
30 member's birthday in the calendar year that contains the annuity
31 starting date. If the form of distribution combines a joint and survivor
32 annuity for the joint lives of the member and a nonspouse beneficiary
33 and a period certain annuity, the requirement in the preceding sentence
34 shall apply to annuity payments to be made to the designated
35 beneficiary after the expiration of the period certain.

36 (2) Period certain annuities. – Unless the member's spouse is the sole
37 designated beneficiary and the form of distribution is a period certain
38 and no life annuity, the period certain for an annuity distribution
39 commencing during the member's lifetime may not exceed the
40 applicable distribution period for the member under the Uniform
41 Lifetime Table set forth in section 1.401(a)(9)-9 of the Treasury
42 Regulations for the calendar year that contains the annuity starting
43 date. If the annuity starting date precedes the year in which the
44 member reaches age 70, the applicable distribution period for the

1 member is the distribution period for age 70 under the Uniform
2 Lifetime Table set forth in section 1.401(a)(9)-9 of the Treasury
3 Regulations plus the excess of 70 over the age of the member as of the
4 member's birthday in the year that contains the annuity starting date. If
5 the member's spouse is the member's sole designated beneficiary and
6 the form of distribution is a period certain and no life annuity, the
7 period certain may not exceed the longer of the member's applicable
8 distribution period, as determined under subsection (b) of this section,
9 or the joint life and last survivor expectancy of the member and the
10 member's spouse as determined under the Joint and Last Survivor
11 Table set forth in section 1.401(a)(9)-9 of the Treasury Regulations,
12 using the member's and spouse's attained ages as of the member's and
13 spouse's birthdays in the calendar year that contains the annuity
14 starting date.

15 (d) Requirements for Minimum Distributions where Member Dies before Date
16 Distributions Begin –

17 (1) Member survived by designated beneficiary. – If the member dies
18 before the date distribution of the member's interest begins and there is
19 a designated beneficiary, the member's entire interest will be
20 distributed, beginning no later than the time described in
21 sub-subdivision a. or b. of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this
22 section, over the life of the designated beneficiary or over a period
23 certain not exceeding:

24 a. Unless the annuity starting date is before the first distribution
25 calendar year, the life expectancy, as defined in subdivision (4)
26 of subsection (e) of this section, of the designated beneficiary
27 determined using the beneficiary's age as of the beneficiary's
28 birthday in the calendar year immediately following the
29 calendar year of the member's death; or

30 b. If the annuity starting date is before the first distribution
31 calendar year, the life expectancy of the designated beneficiary
32 determined using the beneficiary's age as of the beneficiary's
33 birthday in the calendar year that contains the annuity starting
34 date.

35 (2) No designated beneficiary. – If the member dies before the date
36 distributions begin and there is no designated beneficiary as of
37 September 30 of the year following the year of the member's death,
38 distribution of the member's entire interest will be completed by
39 December 31 of the calendar year containing the fifth anniversary of
40 the member's death.

41 (3) Death of surviving spouse before distributions to surviving spouse
42 begin. – If the member dies before the date distribution of the
43 member's interest begins, the member's surviving spouse is the
44 member's sole designated beneficiary, and the surviving spouse dies

1 before distributions to the surviving spouse begin, this subsection will
2 apply as if the surviving spouse were the member, except that the time
3 by which distributions must begin will be determined without regard to
4 subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section.

5 (e) Definitions. –

6 (1) Designated beneficiary. – The individual who is designated as the
7 beneficiary under the Association in accordance with section 401(a)(9)
8 of the Internal Revenue Code and section 1.401(a)(9)-1, Q&A-4 of the
9 Treasury Regulations.

10 (2) Distribution calendar year. – A calendar year for which a minimum
11 distribution is required. For distributions beginning before the
12 member's death, the first distribution calendar year is the calendar year
13 immediately preceding the calendar year that contains the member's
14 required beginning date. For distributions beginning after the
15 member's death, the first distribution date is the calendar year in which
16 distributions are required to begin pursuant to subsection (a) of this
17 section.

18 (3) Eligible cost-of-living index. – One of the following:

19 a. A consumer price index that is based on prices of all items, or
20 all items excluding food and energy, and is issued by the
21 Bureau of Labor Statistics, including an index for a specific
22 population, such as urban consumers or urban wage earners and
23 clerical workers, and an index for a geographic area or areas,
24 such as a given metropolitan area or state.

25 b. A percentage adjustment based on a cost-of-living index
26 described in sub-subdivision a. of this subdivision, or a fixed
27 percentage if less. In any year in which the cost-of-living index
28 is lower than the fixed percentage, the fixed percentage may be
29 treated as an increase in an eligible cost-of-living index,
30 provided it does not exceed the sum of:

31 1. The cost-of-living index for that year; and

32 2. The accumulated excess if the annual cost-of-living
33 index from each prior year over the fixed annual
34 percentage used in that year, reduced by any amount
35 previously used under this sub-subdivision.

36 c. A percentage adjustment based on the increase in compensation
37 for the position held by the member at the time of retirement,
38 and provided under either the terms of a governmental plan
39 within the meaning of section 414(d) of the Internal Revenue
40 Code or under the terms of a nongovernmental plan in effect on
41 April 17, 2002.

42 (4) Life expectancy. – Life expectancy as computed by use of the Single
43 Life Table in section 1. 401(a)(9)-9 of the Treasury Regulations.

1 (5) Required beginning date. – April 1 of the calendar year following the
2 later of (i) the calendar year in which the member attains age 70 ½; or
3 (ii) the calendar year in which the member retires. Notwithstanding the
4 foregoing, the required beginning date of a member who is a five
5 percent (5%) owner, as defined in section 416 of the Internal Revenue
6 Code, shall be April 1 of the calendar year following the calendar year
7 in which the member attains age 70 ½. In the event that, as of the
8 required beginning date, the amount of the payment to commence
9 cannot be determined or the recipient of the payment cannot be located
10 after a reasonable effort has been made to locate the recipient,
11 payments retroactive to the required beginning date shall be made
12 within 60 days after the amount has been determined or the recipient
13 has been located, whichever is applicable.

14 **Sec. 29.** The fiscal year of the Association shall end on June 30 of each year.

15 **Sec. 30.** Throughout this act, use of the masculine pronoun shall include the
16 feminine.

17 **Sec. 31.** If any part or section of this act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid
18 by the Supreme Court of North Carolina or any other court of last resort of competent
19 jurisdiction it shall in no wise affect the remainder of this act, and the remainder shall
20 remain in full force and effect.

21 **Sec. 32.** All the laws and clauses of laws in conflict with the provisions of this act
22 are hereby repealed."

23 **SECTION 2.** None of the provisions of this act shall create an additional
24 liability for the Winston-Salem Firemen's Retirement Fund Association unless sufficient
25 funds are available to pay fully for the liability.

26 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2008.