The following words and phrases as used in this subtitle, unless a different meaning is plainly required by the context, shall have the following meanings:

- (1) "Retirement System" shall mean the State Police Retirement System of the State of Maryland as defined in § 50 of this subtitle.
  - (2) "Department" shall mean the Department of Maryland State Police.
- (3) "Employee" shall mean any officer or employee of the Maryland State Police for whom compensation is provided for by State appropriation, or whose compensation is paid from State funds, and whether paid on an annual, daily, or hourly basis. It shall exclude any person who is a member of or eligible to membership in the Teachers' Retirement System of the State of Maryland or the Employees' Retirement System of the State of Maryland or the Judges' Retirement System and any class of employees whose compensation is only partly paid by the State or who are serving on a temporary basis. In all cases of doubt, the board of trustees, provided for in § 54 of this subtitle shall determine whether any person is an employee as defined in this subtitle, irrespective of the method of payment. The Superintendent of the Maryland State Police as of July 1, 1971, and his successors in office may elect membership under the State Police Retirement System of the State of Maryland or under the Employees' Retirement System of the State of Maryland.
- (4) "Member" shall mean any employee included in the membership of the Retirement System as provided in § 51 of this subtitle.
- (5) "Board of trustees" shall mean the board provided for in § 54 of this subtitle to administer the Retirement System.
- (6) "Medical board" shall mean the board of physicians provided for in § 54 of this subtitle.
  - (7) "Service" shall mean service as an employee paid for by the State.
- (8) "Prior service" shall mean service rendered prior to the date of establishment of the Retirement System, for which credit is allowable under § 52 of this subtitle.
- (9) "Membership service" shall mean service as an employee rendered while a member of the Retirement System.
- (10) "Creditable service" shall mean prior service plus membership service for which credit is allowable as provided in § 52 of this subtitle.
- (11) "Beneficiary" shall mean any person in receipt of a pension, an annuity, a retirement allowance, or other benefits as provided by this subtitle.
- (12) "Regular interest" for the Annuity Savings Fund shall mean interest at the rate of four per centum per annum compounded annually for members who became such on or before June 30, 1955; and for all other members shall mean interest at a rate per centum per annum compounded annually as may be set from time to time by the board with a minimum rate of three per centum per annum and a maximum rate of four per centum per annum. "Regular interest" for the IAnnuity Reserve Fund, the Pension Accumulation Fund and the Pension Reserve Fund PURPOSES OF THE ACTUARIAL VALUATIONS shall mean interest at such rate as may be set from time to time by the board of trustees in accordance with § 55, subsection (2) of this article, as amended from time to time.