

COUNTY LOCAL LAWS

be no crediting of service for any period under a qualified retirement system for which the member is receiving retirement pay or has vested rights.

(s) **Limitation on credited service.** Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Article, any credited service earned, granted or purchased may not be used for qualifying for normal retirement before reaching age forty-six with at least twenty years of actual County service or for qualifying for vesting or retirement before completion of at least five years of membership, except members enrolled prior to January 22, 1974 may qualify for vesting after completion of three years of membership.

(w) **Purchase of prior State and County service credits.** Prior service credits for any period of temporary or regular State of Maryland or County service after March 1, 1948 may not be credited without the payment of the amount of contributions that would have been deducted from the member's pay during this period plus interest at the rate of four and one-half percent per annum to June 30, 1970, and six and one-half percent per annum thereafter to date of full payment. Service credits for the period before March 1, 1948 will be credited without contribution by the member if service credits for the period after March 1, 1948 are purchased. On or after June 1, 1974, any member exercising this option must pay, in a lump sum or on an extended payment basis, the full cost for prior service credits which shall be determined on an actuarial basis.

SECTION VIII. Sections 42(a), title "Average final earnings", 42(b), title "Amount of pension at normal retirement or administrative retirement on or after elective early retirement date", 42(d), title, "Adjustment for pension payments previously paid", and 42(e), title, "Early retirement on full benefits", are hereby amended to read as follows:

(a) **Average Final Earnings.** "Average final earnings" are the regular earnings of a full-time or part-time career member for the twelve month period immediately preceding retirement, or any consecutive twelve month membership period, whichever is greater. Whenever a member is in leave without pay status during part of the final twelve month period of membership, average final earnings will be the last twelve months during which the member was in full pay status.

"Average final earnings" for a member who has full-time service credits and is a part-time career