AN ACT concerning

Higher Education - Teacher Retirement System

FOR the purpose of allowing professional employees an option to enroll in the Teachers' Retirement System or an alternate retirement program if adopted by the Board; relating generally to subsequent membership in the Teachers' Retirement System; and clarifying language.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 77A - Higher Education Section 5(b) Annotated Code of Maryland (1975 Replacement Volume and 1975 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Section 5(b) of Article 77A — Higher Education, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1975 Replacement Volume and 1975 Supplement) be and it is hereby repealed and reenacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

Article 77A - Higher Education

5.

All professional employees [are eligible for shall participate in] WHO ENTERED INTO A CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT PRIOR TO JULY 1, 1975 MAY JOIN the Teachers' Retirement System as established and maintained under Article 77 [of this Code] [[or]] IF ANY SUCH EMPLOYEE ELECTS TO DO SO WITHIN ONE YEAR FOLLOWING THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS PROVISION; OR THEY MAY JOIN [the] AN optional retirement program if adopted by the board as provided in [§ 217 of] Article 77 [of this Code], SECTION ALL PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES WHO ENTER INTO 217. CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT AFTER JULY 1, 1975 SHALL PARTICIPATE IN THE TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM AS ESTABLISHED AND MAINTAINED UNDER ARTICLE 77 OR AN OPTIONAL RETIREMENT PROGRAM IF ADOPTED BY THE BOARD AS PROVIDED IN ARTICLE 77, § 217. Clerical employees [[are eligible for and shall participate in the Teachers' Retirement System as established and maintained under Article 77]] WHO ENTERED INTO A CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT PRIOR TO JULY 1, 1975, MAY JOIN THE TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM AS ESTABLISHED AND MAINTAINED UNDER ARTICLE 77, IF ANY SUCH EMPLOYEE ELECTS TO DO SO WITHIN ONE YEAR OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS PROVISION. CLERICAL EMPLOYEES WHO ENTER A CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT AFTER JULY 1, 1975, SHALL PARTICIPATE IN THE TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM AS ESTABLISHED AND MAINTAINED UNDER ARTICLE 77. HOWEVER, ANY ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEE WHO JOINED THE TBACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM IN THE PERIOD JULY 1, 1975, TO JUNE 30, 1976, WITHOUT EXERCISING HIS OPTION AS PROVIDED IN THIS