

(1) For those employees of the Medical System, as defined in Section 13-301(k) of the Education Article, who have been separated from employment because their positions have been eliminated by the Medical System at any time on or after January 1, 1998 and before July 1, 1998 1999, and who do not retire under this Act, the Medical System shall pay the entire cost of health insurance premiums for those employees to continue the health insurance the employees received while employed by the Medical System, for a period of 12 months following the month of termination, or until those former employees are covered by another employer subsidized health insurance plan through another employer, whichever comes first.

(2) For those employees who have been separated from employment because their positions have been eliminated in the State budget or by budget amendment or as a result of legislative action reducing the State budget by the University System of Maryland at any time on or after January 1, 1998 and before July 1, 1999, and who do not retire under this Act, the University System of Maryland shall pay the entire cost of health insurance premiums for those employees to continue the health insurance the employees received while employed by the University System of Maryland, for a period of 12 months following the month of termination, or until those former employees are covered by another employer subsidized health insurance plan through another employer, whichever comes first. To the extent that the costs of any health insurance premiums imposed pursuant to the provisions of this paragraph are charged to the University System of Maryland or its institutions, the amount of those costs shall be offset against the reduction in fund appropriations relating to this Act as provided in the State Budget Bill (SB 125), as enacted.

~~SECTION 10.~~ 11. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the General Assembly that the retirement incentive applicable to employees who voluntarily separate from State service by participating in the early retirement program established under this Act does not represent an ongoing policy of the State and is a one-time offer only.

~~SECTION 11.~~ 12. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the General Assembly that the retirement incentive under this Act that is applicable to employees of the Medical System or the University System of Maryland who are separated from employment does not represent an ongoing policy of the State and is a one-time offer only.

~~SECTION 12.~~ 13. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That general funds shall be allocated to pay the administrative costs associated with this Act incurred by the State Retirement Agency for members of the Employees' Retirement System or Employees' Pension System whose positions are supported in whole or in part by the State general funds and who retire under this Act. The University System of Maryland shall be responsible for all other administrative costs incurred by the State Retirement Agency in implementing this Act, including, but not limited to, the costs associated with processing retirement applications, of members of the Employees' Retirement System or the Employees' Pension System whose positions are not State supported and who retire under this Act.

~~SECTION 13.~~ 14. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That an individual who retires under this Act is entitled to an initial retirement allowance only as provided in