

(4) Funds for the Program allocated from the general revenue of Cecil County may not exceed:

- (i) \$35,000 during the first year of the Program;
- (ii) \$39,000 during the second year of the Program;
- (iii) \$44,000 during the third year of the Program;
- (iv) \$49,000 during the fourth year of the Program;
- (v) \$55,000 during the fifth year of the Program; and

(vi) an additional \$10,000 for each additional year of the Program or whatever amount would make the Program actuarially sound by July 1, 2014.

(d) To carry out this section, the Board shall adopt the following provisions as part of the Program:

(1) a member who has certified credit volunteer service on or after January 1, 1979 or who discontinued active volunteer service before January 1, 1979 may receive credit for this service after being certified in accordance with this section to have performed 5 years of active volunteer service after January 1, 1979;

(2) a member who has completed 25 years of certified volunteer service and is under the age of 60 years may be qualified and will be eligible for benefits when the member reaches the age of 60 years if the member is certified to the 25 years of qualified service before January 1, 1984; [and]

(3) after January 1, 1984, AND ON OR BEFORE JUNE 30, 2008, a member who accumulates the proper number of points needed to qualify and certify for 25 years of service and who fails to remain active or maintain membership in a volunteer fire company is not disqualified or otherwise restricted from receiving benefits at the age of 60 years[.]; AND

(4) ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 2008, A MEMBER WHO ACCUMULATES THE PROPER NUMBER OF POINTS NEEDED TO QUALIFY AND CERTIFY FOR 25 YEARS OF SERVICE MAY RECEIVE BENEFITS AT THE AGE OF 55 YEARS.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2008.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2008.