

LEGISLATIVE BILL 474

Approved by the Governor March 16, 2011

Introduced by Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee: Nordquist, 7, Chairperson; Heidemann, 1; Karpisek, 32; Louden, 49; Mello, 5; Pankonin, 2.

FOR AN ACT relating to retirement; to amend sections 2-3228, 14-567, 14-1805.01, 14-2111, 15-1017, 16-1017, 16-1037, 19-3501, 23-1118, 23-3526, 71-1631.02, 84-304.02, and 84-1503, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and section 12-101, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010; to require certain reports be submitted to the Auditor of Public Accounts; to eliminate certain report submission and notification requirements; to provide powers for the Auditor of Public Accounts; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 2-3228, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

2-3228 (1) Each district shall have the power and authority to:

(a) Receive and accept donations, gifts, grants, bequests, appropriations, or other contributions in money, services, materials, or otherwise from the United States or any of its agencies, from the state or any of its agencies or political subdivisions, or from any person as defined in section 49-801 and use or expend all such contributions in carrying on its operations;

(b) Establish advisory groups by appointing persons within the district, pay necessary and proper expenses of such groups as the board shall determine, and dissolve such groups;

(c) Employ such persons as are necessary to carry out its authorized purposes and, in addition to other compensation provided, establish and fund a pension plan designed and intended for the benefit of all permanent full-time employees of the district. Any recognized method of funding a pension plan may be employed. Employee contributions shall be required to fund at least fifty percent of the benefits, and past service benefits may be included. The district shall pay all costs of any such past service benefits, which may be retroactive to July 1, 1972, and the plan may be integrated with old age and survivors' insurance, generally known as social security. A uniform pension plan, including the method for jointly funding such plan, shall be established for all districts in the state. A district may elect not to participate in such a plan but shall not establish an independent plan;

(d) Purchase liability, property damage, workers' compensation, and other types of insurance as in the judgment of the board are necessary to protect the assets of the district;

(e) Borrow money to carry out its authorized purposes;

(f) Adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to carry out its authorized purposes; and

(g) Invite the local governing body of any municipality or county to designate a representative to advise and counsel with the board on programs and policies that may affect the property, water supply, or other interests of such municipality or county.

(2) (a) Beginning December 31, 1998, and each December 31 thereafter, the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts as organized under the Interlocal Cooperation Act shall file with the Public Employees Retirement Board an annual report on each retirement plan established pursuant to this section and section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code and shall submit copies of such report to the ~~members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature.~~ Auditor of Public Accounts. The Auditor of Public Accounts may prepare a review of such report pursuant to section 84-304.02 but is not required to do so. The annual report shall be in a form prescribed by the Public Employees Retirement Board and shall contain the following information for each such retirement plan:

(i) The number of persons participating in the retirement plan;

(ii) The contribution rates of participants in the plan;

(iii) Plan assets and liabilities;

(iv) The names and positions of persons administering the plan;

(v) The names and positions of persons investing plan assets;

(vi) The form and nature of investments;

(vii) For each defined contribution plan, a full description of investment policies and options available to plan participants; and

(viii) For each defined benefit plan, the levels of benefits of participants in the plan, the number of members who are eligible for a benefit, and the total present value of such members' benefits, as well as the funding sources which will pay for such benefits.

If a plan contains no current active participants, the association may file in place of such report a statement with the Public Employees Retirement Board indicating the number of retirees still drawing benefits, and the sources and amount of funding for such benefits.

(b) Beginning December 31, 1998, and every four years thereafter, if such retirement plan is a defined benefit plan, the association shall cause to be prepared a quadrennial report and shall file the same with the Public Employees Retirement Board and submit to the ~~members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature~~ Auditor of Public Accounts a copy of such report. The Auditor of Public Accounts may prepare a review of such report pursuant to section 84-304.02 but is not required to do so. The report shall consist of a full actuarial analysis of each such retirement plan established pursuant to this section. The analysis shall be prepared by an independent private organization or public entity employing actuaries who are members in good standing of the American Academy of Actuaries, and which organization or entity has demonstrated expertise to perform this type of analysis and is unrelated to any organization offering investment advice or which provides investment management services to the retirement plan.

Sec. 2. Section 12-101, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

12-101 (1) The cemetery in Lincoln, Nebraska, known as Wyuka Cemetery, is hereby declared to be a public charitable corporation. The general control and management of the affairs of such cemetery shall be vested in a board of three trustees until July 1, 2009, and thereafter shall be vested in a board of five trustees. The trustees shall serve without compensation and shall be a body corporate to be known as Wyuka Cemetery, with power to sue and be sued, to contract and to be contracted with, and to acquire, hold, and convey both real and personal property for all purposes consistent with the provisions of sections 12-101 to 12-105, and shall have the power of eminent domain to be exercised in the manner provided in section 12-201.

(2) The trustees of Wyuka Cemetery shall have the power, by resolution duly adopted by a majority vote, to authorize one of their number to sign a petition for paving, repaving, curbing, recurbing, grading, changing grading, guttering, resurfacing, relaying existing pavement, or otherwise improving any street, streets, alley, alleys, or public ways or grounds abutting cemetery property. When such improvements have been ordered, the trustees shall pay, from funds of the cemetery, such special taxes or assessments as may be properly determined.

(3) The trustees of Wyuka Cemetery shall be appointed by the Governor of the State of Nebraska at the expiration of each trustee's term of office. The two trustees appointed for their initial terms of office beginning July 1, 2009, shall be appointed by the Governor to serve a five-year term and a six-year term, respectively. Thereafter, each of the five trustees shall be appointed by the Governor for a term of six years. In the event of a vacancy occurring among the members of the board, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the Governor, and such appointment shall continue for the unexpired term.

(4) The board of trustees of Wyuka Cemetery shall file with the Secretary of State, on or before the second Tuesday in March of each year, an itemized report of all the receipts and expenditures in connection with its management and control of the cemetery.

(5) The trustees of Wyuka Cemetery shall have the power to provide, in their discretion, retirement benefits for present and future employees of the cemetery, and to establish, participate in, and administer plans for the benefit of its employees or its employees and their dependents, which may provide disability, hospitalization, medical, surgical, accident, sickness and life insurance coverage, or any one or more coverages, and which shall be purchased from a corporation or corporations authorized and licensed by the Department of Insurance.

(6) (a) Beginning December 31, 1998, and each December 31 thereafter, the trustees shall file with the Public Employees Retirement Board an annual report on each retirement plan established pursuant to this section and section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code and shall submit copies of such report to the ~~members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature.~~ Auditor of Public Accounts. The Auditor of Public Accounts may prepare a review of such report pursuant to section 84-304.02 but is not required to do so. The annual report shall be in a form prescribed by the

Public Employees Retirement Board and shall contain the following information for each such retirement plan:

- (i) The number of persons participating in the retirement plan;
- (ii) The contribution rates of participants in the plan;
- (iii) Plan assets and liabilities;
- (iv) The names and positions of persons administering the plan;
- (v) The names and positions of persons investing plan assets;
- (vi) The form and nature of investments;
- (vii) For each defined contribution plan, a full description of investment policies and options available to plan participants; and
- (viii) For each defined benefit plan, the levels of benefits of participants in the plan, the number of members who are eligible for a benefit, and the total present value of such members' benefits, as well as the funding sources which will pay for such benefits.

If a plan contains no current active participants, the trustees may file in place of such report a statement with the Public Employees Retirement Board indicating the number of retirees still drawing benefits, and the sources and amount of funding for such benefits.

(b) Beginning December 31, 1998, and every four years thereafter, if such retirement plan is a defined benefit plan, the trustees shall cause to be prepared a quadrennial report and shall file the same with the Public Employees Retirement Board and submit to the ~~members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature~~ Auditor of Public Accounts a copy of such report. The Auditor of Public Accounts may prepare a review of such report pursuant to section 84-304.02 but is not required to do so. The report shall consist of a full actuarial analysis of each such retirement plan established pursuant to this section. The analysis shall be prepared by an independent private organization or public entity employing actuaries who are members in good standing of the American Academy of Actuaries, and which organization or entity has demonstrated expertise to perform this type of analysis and is unrelated to any organization offering investment advice or which provides investment management services to the retirement plan.

Sec. 3. Section 14-567, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

14-567 (1) Beginning December 31, 1998, and each December 31 thereafter, the pension board of a city of the metropolitan class shall file with the Public Employees Retirement Board an annual report on each retirement plan established by such city pursuant to section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code and shall submit copies of such report to the ~~members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature.~~ Auditor of Public Accounts. The Auditor of Public Accounts may prepare a review of such report pursuant to section 84-304.02 but is not required to do so. The annual report shall be in a form prescribed by the Public Employees Retirement Board and shall contain the following information for each such retirement plan:

- (a) The number of persons participating in the retirement plan;
- (b) The contribution rates of participants in the plan;
- (c) Plan assets and liabilities;
- (d) The names and positions of persons administering the plan;
- (e) The names and positions of persons investing plan assets;
- (f) The form and nature of investments;
- (g) For each defined contribution plan, a full description of investment policies and options available to plan participants; and
- (h) For each defined benefit plan, the levels of benefits of participants in the plan, the number of members who are eligible for a benefit, and the total present value of such members' benefits, as well as the funding sources which will pay for such benefits.

If a plan contains no current active participants, the pension board may file in place of such report a statement with the Public Employees Retirement Board indicating the number of retirees still drawing benefits, and the sources and amount of funding for such benefits.

(2) Beginning December 31, 1998, and every four years thereafter, if such retirement plan is a defined benefit plan, the pension board of a city of the metropolitan class shall cause to be prepared a quadrennial report and shall file the same with the Public Employees Retirement Board and submit to the ~~members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature~~ Auditor of Public Accounts a copy of such report. The Auditor of Public Accounts may prepare a review of such report pursuant to section 84-304.02 but is not required to do so. The report shall consist of a full actuarial analysis of each such retirement plan established by the city. The analysis shall be prepared by an independent private organization or public entity employing actuaries who are members in good standing of the American Academy of Actuaries, and which organization or entity has demonstrated expertise to

perform this type of analysis and is unrelated to any organization offering investment advice or which provides investment management services to the retirement plan.

Sec. 4. Section 14-1805.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

14-1805.01 (1) Beginning December 31, 1998, and each December 31 thereafter, the chairperson of the board shall file with the Public Employees Retirement Board an annual report on each retirement plan established pursuant to section 14-1805 and section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code and shall submit copies of such report to the ~~members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature.~~ Auditor of Public Accounts. The Auditor of Public Accounts may prepare a review of such report pursuant to section 84-304.02 but is not required to do so. The annual report shall be in a form prescribed by the Public Employees Retirement Board and shall contain the following information for each such retirement plan:

- (a) The number of persons participating in the retirement plan;
- (b) The contribution rates of participants in the plan;
- (c) Plan assets and liabilities;
- (d) The names and positions of persons administering the plan;
- (e) The names and positions of persons investing plan assets;
- (f) The form and nature of investments;
- (g) For each defined contribution plan, a full description of investment policies and options available to plan participants; and
- (h) For each defined benefit plan, the levels of benefits of participants in the plan, the number of members who are eligible for a benefit, and the total present value of such members' benefits, as well as the funding sources which will pay for such benefits.

If a plan contains no current active participants, the chairperson may file in place of such report a statement with the Public Employees Retirement Board indicating the number of retirees still drawing benefits, and the sources and amount of funding for such benefits.

(2) Beginning December 31, 1998, and every four years thereafter, if such retirement plan is a defined benefit plan, the authority shall cause to be prepared a quadrennial report and the chairperson shall file the same with the Public Employees Retirement Board and submit to the ~~members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature~~ Auditor of Public Accounts a copy of such report. The Auditor of Public Accounts may prepare a review of such report pursuant to section 84-304.02 but is not required to do so. The report shall consist of a full actuarial analysis of each such retirement plan established pursuant to section 14-1805. The analysis shall be prepared by an independent private organization or public entity employing actuaries who are members in good standing of the American Academy of Actuaries, and which organization or entity has demonstrated expertise to perform this type of analysis and is unrelated to any organization offering investment advice or which provides investment management services to the retirement plan.

Sec. 5. Section 14-2111, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

14-2111 (1) The board of directors of any metropolitan utilities district may also provide benefits for, insurance of, and annuities for the present and future employees and appointees of the district covering accident, disease, death, total and permanent disability, and retirement, all or any of them, under such terms and conditions as the board may deem proper and expedient from time to time. Any retirement plan adopted by the board of directors shall be upon some contributory basis requiring contributions by both the district and the employee or appointee, except that the district may pay the entire cost of the fund necessary to cover service rendered prior to the adoption of any new retirement plan. Any retirement plan shall take into consideration the benefits provided for employees and appointees of metropolitan utilities districts under the Social Security Act, and any benefits provided under a contributory retirement plan shall be supplemental to the benefits provided under the Social Security Act as defined in section 68-602 if the employees entitled to vote in a referendum vote in favor of old age and survivors' insurance coverage. To effectuate any plan adopted pursuant to this authority, the board of directors of the district is empowered to establish and maintain reserves and funds, provide for insurance premiums and costs, and make such delegation as may be necessary to carry into execution the general powers granted by this section. Payments made to employees and appointees, under the authority in this section, shall be exempt from attachment or other legal process and shall not be assignable.

(2) Any retirement plan adopted by the board of directors of any metropolitan utilities district may allow the district to pick up the employee

contribution required by this section for all compensation paid on or after January 1, 1986, and the contributions so picked up shall be treated as employer contributions in determining federal tax treatment under the Internal Revenue Code, except that the employer shall continue to withhold federal income taxes based upon such contributions until the Internal Revenue Service or the federal courts rule that, pursuant to section 414(h) of the Internal Revenue Code, such contributions shall not be included as gross income of the employee until such time as they are distributed or made available. The employer shall pay the employee contributions from the same source of funds which is used in paying earnings to the employees. The employer shall pick up the contributions by a salary deduction either through a reduction in the cash salary of the employee or a combination of a reduction in salary and offset against a future salary increase. Employee contributions picked up shall be treated in the same manner and to the same extent as employee contributions made prior to the date picked up.

(3) (a) Beginning December 31, 1998, and each December 31 thereafter, the chairperson of the board shall file with the Public Employees Retirement Board an annual report on each retirement plan established pursuant to this section and section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code and shall submit copies of such report to the ~~members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature.~~ Auditor of Public Accounts. The Auditor of Public Accounts may prepare a review of such report pursuant to section 84-304.02 but is not required to do so. The annual report shall be in a form prescribed by the Public Employees Retirement Board and shall contain the following information for each such retirement plan:

- (i) The number of persons participating in the retirement plan;
- (ii) The contribution rates of participants in the plan;
- (iii) Plan assets and liabilities;
- (iv) The names and positions of persons administering the plan;
- (v) The names and positions of persons investing plan assets;
- (vi) The form and nature of investments;
- (vii) For each defined contribution plan, a full description of investment policies and options available to plan participants; and
- (viii) For each defined benefit plan, the levels of benefits of participants in the plan, the number of members who are eligible for a benefit, and the total present value of such members' benefits, as well as the funding sources which will pay for such benefits.

If a plan contains no current active participants, the chairperson may file in place of such report a statement with the Public Employees Retirement Board indicating the number of retirees still drawing benefits, and the sources and amount of funding for such benefits.

(b) Beginning December 31, 1998, and every four years thereafter, if such retirement plan is a defined benefit plan, the board of directors of any metropolitan utilities district shall cause to be prepared a quadrennial report and shall file the same with the Public Employees Retirement Board and submit to the ~~members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature~~ Auditor of Public Accounts a copy of such report. The Auditor of Public Accounts may prepare a review of such report pursuant to section 84-304.02 but is not required to do so. The report shall consist of a full actuarial analysis of each such retirement plan established pursuant to this section. The analysis shall be prepared by an independent private organization or public entity employing actuaries who are members in good standing of the American Academy of Actuaries, and which organization or entity has demonstrated expertise to perform this type of analysis and is unrelated to any organization offering investment advice or which provides investment management services to the retirement plan.

Sec. 6. Section 15-1017, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

15-1017 (1) A city of the primary class which has a city pension and retirement plan or fund, or a city fire and police pension plan or fund, or both, may provide by ordinance as authorized by its home rule charter, and not prohibited by the Constitution of Nebraska, for the investment of any plan or fund, and it may provide that (a) such a city shall place in trust any part of such plan or fund, (b) it shall place in trust any part of any such plan or fund with a corporate trustee in Nebraska, or (c) it shall purchase any part of any such plan from a life insurance company licensed to do business in the State of Nebraska. The powers conferred by this section shall be independent of and in addition and supplemental to any other provisions of the laws of the State of Nebraska with reference to the matters covered hereby and this section shall be considered as a complete and independent act and not as amendatory of or limited by any other provision of the laws of the State of Nebraska.

(2) (a) Beginning December 31, 1998, and each December 31 thereafter, the clerk of a city of the primary class shall file with the Public Employees Retirement Board an annual report on each retirement plan established pursuant to this section, section 15-1026, and section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code and shall submit copies of such report to the ~~members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature.~~ Auditor of Public Accounts. The Auditor of Public Accounts may prepare a review of such report pursuant to section 84-304.02 but is not required to do so. The annual report shall be in a form prescribed by the Public Employees Retirement Board and shall contain the following information for each such retirement plan:

- (i) The number of persons participating in the retirement plan;
- (ii) The contribution rates of participants in the plan;
- (iii) Plan assets and liabilities;
- (iv) The names and positions of persons administering the plan;
- (v) The names and positions of persons investing plan assets;
- (vi) The form and nature of investments;
- (vii) For each defined contribution plan, a full description of investment policies and options available to plan participants; and
- (viii) For each defined benefit plan, the levels of benefits of participants in the plan, the number of members who are eligible for a benefit, and the total present value of such members' benefits, as well as the funding sources which will pay for such benefits.

If a plan contains no current active participants, the city clerk may file in place of such report a statement with the Public Employees Retirement Board indicating the number of retirees still drawing benefits, and the sources and amount of funding for such benefits.

(b) Beginning December 31, 1998, and every four years thereafter, if such retirement plan is a defined benefit plan, the city council of a city of the primary class shall cause to be prepared a quadrennial report and shall file the same with the Public Employees Retirement Board and submit to the ~~members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature~~ Auditor of Public Accounts a copy of such report. The Auditor of Public Accounts may prepare a review of such report pursuant to section 84-304.02 but is not required to do so. The report shall consist of a full actuarial analysis of each such retirement plan established pursuant to this section and section 15-1026. The analysis shall be prepared by an independent private organization or public entity employing actuaries who are members in good standing of the American Academy of Actuaries, and which organization or entity has demonstrated expertise to perform this type of analysis and is unrelated to any organization offering investment advice or which provides investment management services to the retirement plan.

Sec. 7. Section 16-1017, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

16-1017 (1) It shall be the duty of the retirement committee to:

- (a) Provide each employee a summary of plan eligibility requirements and benefit provisions;
- (b) Provide, within thirty days after a request is made by a participant, a statement describing the amount of benefits such participant is eligible to receive; and
- (c) Make available for review an annual report of the system's operations describing both (i) the amount of contributions to the system from both employee and employer sources and (ii) an identification of the total assets of the retirement system.

(2) (a) Beginning December 31, 1998, and each December 31 thereafter, the chairperson of the retirement committee shall file with the Public Employees Retirement Board an annual report on each retirement plan established pursuant to section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code and administered by a retirement system established pursuant to sections 16-1001 to 16-1019 and shall submit copies of such report to the ~~members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature.~~ Auditor of Public Accounts. The Auditor of Public Accounts may prepare a review of such report pursuant to section 84-304.02 but is not required to do so. The annual report shall be in a form prescribed by the Public Employees Retirement Board and shall contain the following information for each such retirement plan:

- (i) The number of persons participating in the retirement plan;
- (ii) The contribution rates of participants in the plan;
- (iii) Plan assets and liabilities;
- (iv) The names and positions of persons administering the plan;
- (v) The names and positions of persons investing plan assets;
- (vi) The form and nature of investments;
- (vii) For each defined contribution plan, a full description of investment policies and options available to plan participants; and

(viii) For each defined benefit plan, the levels of benefits of participants in the plan, the number of members who are eligible for a benefit, and the total present value of such members' benefits, as well as the funding sources which will pay for such benefits.

If a plan contains no current active participants, the chairperson may file in place of such report a statement with the Public Employees Retirement Board indicating the number of retirees still drawing benefits, and the sources and amount of funding for such benefits.

(b) Beginning December 31, 1998, and every four years thereafter, if such retirement plan is a defined benefit plan, the retirement committee shall cause to be prepared a quadrennial report and the chairperson shall file the same with the Public Employees Retirement Board and submit to the ~~members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature~~ Auditor of Public Accounts a copy of such report. The Auditor of Public Accounts may prepare a review of such report pursuant to section 84-304.02 but is not required to do so. The report shall consist of a full actuarial analysis of each such retirement plan administered by a system established pursuant to sections 16-1001 to 16-1019. The analysis shall be prepared by an independent private organization or public entity employing actuaries who are members in good standing of the American Academy of Actuaries, and which organization or entity has demonstrated expertise to perform this type of analysis and is unrelated to any organization offering investment advice or which provides investment management services to the retirement plan.

Sec. 8. Section 16-1037, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

16-1037 (1) It shall be the duty of the retirement committee to:

(a) Elect a chairperson, a vice-chairperson, and such other officers as the committee deems appropriate;

(b) Hold regular quarterly meetings and special meetings upon the call of the chairperson;

(c) Conduct meetings pursuant to the Open Meetings Act;

(d) Provide each employee a summary of plan eligibility requirements, benefit provisions, and investment options available to such employee;

(e) Provide, within thirty days after a request is made by a participant, a statement describing the amount of benefits such participant is eligible to receive; and

(f) Make available for review an annual report of the system's operations describing both (i) the amount of contributions to the system from both employee and employer sources and (ii) an identification of the total assets of the retirement system.

(2) (a) Beginning December 31, 1998, and each December 31 thereafter, the chairperson of the retirement committee shall file with the Public Employees Retirement Board an annual report on each retirement plan established pursuant to section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code and administered by a retirement system established pursuant to sections 16-1020 to 16-1042 and shall submit copies of such report to the ~~members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature.~~ Auditor of Public Accounts. The Auditor of Public Accounts may prepare a review of such report pursuant to section 84-304.02 but is not required to do so. The annual report shall be in a form prescribed by the Public Employees Retirement Board and shall contain the following information for each such retirement plan:

(i) The number of persons participating in the retirement plan;

(ii) The contribution rates of participants in the plan;

(iii) Plan assets and liabilities;

(iv) The names and positions of persons administering the plan;

(v) The names and positions of persons investing plan assets;

(vi) The form and nature of investments;

(vii) For each defined contribution plan, a full description of investment policies and options available to plan participants; and

(viii) For each defined benefit plan, the levels of benefits of participants in the plan, the number of members who are eligible for a benefit, and the total present value of such members' benefits, as well as the funding sources which will pay for such benefits.

If a plan contains no current active participants, the chairperson may file in place of such report a statement with the Public Employees Retirement Board indicating the number of retirees still drawing benefits, and the sources and amount of funding for such benefits.

(b) Beginning December 31, 1998, and every four years thereafter, if such retirement plan is a defined benefit plan, the retirement committee shall cause to be prepared a quadrennial report and the chairperson shall file the same with the Public Employees Retirement Board and submit to the ~~members~~

of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature Auditor of Public Accounts a copy of such report. The Auditor of Public Accounts may prepare a review of such report pursuant to section 84-304.02 but is not required to do so. The report shall consist of a full actuarial analysis of each such retirement plan administered by a system established pursuant to sections 16-1020 to 16-1042. The analysis shall be prepared by an independent private organization or public entity employing actuaries who are members in good standing of the American Academy of Actuaries, and which organization or entity has demonstrated expertise to perform this type of analysis and is unrelated to any organization offering investment advice or which provides investment management services to the retirement plan.

Sec. 9. Section 19-3501, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

19-3501 (1) The governing body of cities of the first and second classes and villages may, by appropriate ordinance or proper resolution, establish a pension plan designed and intended for the benefit of the regularly employed or appointed full-time employees of the city. Any recognized method of funding a pension plan may be employed. The plan shall be established by appropriate ordinance or proper resolution, which may provide for mandatory contribution by the employee. The city may also contribute, in addition to any amounts contributed by the employee, amounts to be used for the purpose of funding employee past service benefits. Any two or more cities of the first and second classes and villages may jointly establish such a pension plan by adoption of appropriate ordinances or resolutions. Such a pension plan may be integrated with old age and survivors insurance, otherwise generally known as social security.

(2) (a) Beginning December 31, 1998, and each December 31 thereafter, the clerk of a city or village with a retirement plan established pursuant to this section and section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code shall file with the Public Employees Retirement Board an annual report on such plan and shall submit copies of such report to the ~~members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature.~~ Auditor of Public Accounts. The Auditor of Public Accounts may prepare a review of such report pursuant to section 84-304.02 but is not required to do so. The annual report shall be in a form prescribed by the Public Employees Retirement Board and shall contain the following information for each such retirement plan:

- (i) The number of persons participating in the retirement plan;
- (ii) The contribution rates of participants in the plan;
- (iii) Plan assets and liabilities;
- (iv) The names and positions of persons administering the plan;
- (v) The names and positions of persons investing plan assets;
- (vi) The form and nature of investments;
- (vii) For each defined contribution plan, a full description of investment policies and options available to plan participants; and
- (viii) For each defined benefit plan, the levels of benefits of participants in the plan, the number of members who are eligible for a benefit, and the total present value of such members' benefits, as well as the funding sources which will pay for such benefits.

If a plan contains no current active participants, the city or village clerk may file in place of such report a statement with the Public Employees Retirement Board indicating the number of retirees still drawing benefits, and the sources and amount of funding for such benefits.

(b) Beginning December 31, 1998, and every four years thereafter, if such retirement plan is a defined benefit plan, the city council or village board shall cause to be prepared a quadrennial report and shall file the same with the Public Employees Retirement Board and submit to the ~~members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature~~ Auditor of Public Accounts a copy of each report. The Auditor of Public Accounts may prepare a review of such report pursuant to section 84-304.02 but is not required to do so. The report shall consist of a full actuarial analysis of each such retirement plan established pursuant to this section. The analysis shall be prepared by an independent private organization or public entity employing actuaries who are members in good standing of the American Academy of Actuaries, and which organization or entity has demonstrated expertise to perform this type of analysis and is unrelated to any organization offering investment advice or which provides investment management services to the retirement plan.

(3) Subsection (1) of this section shall not apply to firefighters or police officers who are included under an existing pension or retirement system established by the municipality employing such firefighters or police officers or the Legislature. If a city of the first class decreases in population to less than five thousand, as determined by the latest federal

census, any police officer or firefighter employed by such city on or prior to the date such city becomes a city of the second class shall retain the level of benefits established by the Legislature for police officers or firefighters employed by a city of the first class on the date such city becomes a city of the second class.

Sec. 10. Section 23-1118, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

23-1118 (1)(a) Unless the county has adopted a retirement system pursuant to section 23-2329, the county board of any county having a population of one hundred fifty thousand inhabitants or more may, in its discretion and with the approval of the voters, provide retirement benefits for present and future employees of the county. The cost of such retirement benefits shall be funded in accordance with sound actuarial principles with the necessary cost being treated in the county budget in the same way as any other operating expense.

(b) Except as provided in subdivision (c) of this subsection, each employee shall be required to contribute, or have contributed on his or her behalf, an amount at least equal to the county's contribution to the cost of any such retirement program as to service performed after the adoption of such retirement program, but the cost of any benefits based on prior service shall be borne solely by the county.

(c) In a county or municipal county having a population of two hundred thousand or more inhabitants but not more than three hundred thousand inhabitants, the county or municipal county shall establish the employee and employer contribution rates to the retirement program for each year after July 15, 1992. The county or municipal county shall contribute at least an amount equal to each employee's mandatory contribution, if any, to the cost of any such retirement program and by January 1, 1996, shall be contributing one hundred fifty percent of each employee's mandatory contribution. The combined contributions of the county or municipal county and its employees to the cost of any such retirement program shall not exceed thirteen percent of the employees' salaries.

(2) Before the county board or council provides retirement benefits for the employees of the county or municipal county, such question shall be submitted at a regular general or primary election held within the county or municipal county, and in which election all persons eligible to vote for the officials of the county or municipal county shall be entitled to vote on such question, which shall be submitted in the following language: Shall the county board or council provide retirement benefits for present and future employees of the county or municipal county? If a majority of the votes cast upon such question are in favor of such question, then the county board or council shall be empowered to provide retirement benefits for present and future employees as provided in this section. If such retirement benefits for present and future county and municipal county employees are approved by the voters and authorized by the county board or council, then the funds of such retirement system, in excess of the amount required for current operations as determined by the county board or council, may be invested and reinvested in the class of securities and investments described in section 30-3209.

(3) As used in this section, employees shall mean all persons or officers devoting more than twenty hours per week to employment by the county or municipal county, all elected officers of the county or municipal county, and such other persons or officers as are classified from time to time as permanent employees by the county board or council.

(4) The county or municipal county may pick up the member contributions required by this section for all compensation paid on or after January 1, 1985, and the contributions so picked up shall be treated as employer contributions in determining federal tax treatment under the Internal Revenue Code, except that the county or municipal county shall continue to withhold federal income taxes based upon these contributions until the Internal Revenue Service or the federal courts rule that, pursuant to section 414(h) of the Internal Revenue Code, these contributions shall not be included as gross income of the member until such time as they are distributed or made available. The county or municipal county shall pay these member contributions from the same source of funds which is used in paying earnings to the member. The county or municipal county shall pick up these contributions by a salary deduction either through a reduction in the cash salary of the member or a combination of a reduction in salary and offset against a future salary increase. Member contributions picked up shall be treated in the same manner and to the same extent as member contributions made prior to the date picked up.

(5)(a) Beginning December 31, 1998, and each December 31 thereafter, the chairperson of the county board or council with a retirement plan

established pursuant to this section and section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code shall file with the Public Employees Retirement Board an annual report on such plan and shall submit copies of such report to the ~~members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature.~~ Auditor of Public Accounts. The Auditor of Public Accounts may prepare a review of such report pursuant to section 84-304.02 but is not required to do so. The annual report shall be in a form prescribed by the Public Employees Retirement Board and shall contain the following information for each such retirement plan:

- (i) The number of persons participating in the retirement plan;
- (ii) The contribution rates of participants in the plan;
- (iii) Plan assets and liabilities;
- (iv) The names and positions of persons administering the plan;
- (v) The names and positions of persons investing plan assets;
- (vi) The form and nature of investments;
- (vii) For each defined contribution plan, a full description of investment policies and options available to plan participants; and
- (viii) For each defined benefit plan, the levels of benefits of participants in the plan, the number of members who are eligible for a benefit, and the total present value of such members' benefits, as well as the funding sources which will pay for such benefits.

If a plan contains no current active participants, the chairperson may file in place of such report a statement with the Public Employees Retirement Board indicating the number of retirees still drawing benefits, and the sources and amount of funding for such benefits.

(b) Beginning December 31, 1998, and every four years thereafter, if such retirement plan is a defined benefit plan, the county board of a county or council of the municipal county with a retirement plan established pursuant to this section shall cause to be prepared a quadrennial report and the chairperson shall file the same with the Public Employees Retirement Board and submit to the ~~members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature~~ Auditor of Public Accounts a copy of such report. The Auditor of Public Accounts may prepare a review of such report pursuant to section 84-304.02 but is not required to do so. The report shall consist of a full actuarial analysis of each such retirement plan established pursuant to this section. The analysis shall be prepared by an independent private organization or public entity employing actuaries who are members in good standing of the American Academy of Actuaries, and which organization or entity has demonstrated expertise to perform this type of analysis and is unrelated to any organization offering investment advice or which provides investment management services to the retirement plan.

Sec. 11. Section 23-3526, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

23-3526 (1) The board of trustees of each facility, as provided by section 23-3501, shall, upon approval of the county board, have the power and authority to establish and fund a retirement plan for the benefit of its full-time employees. The plan may be funded by any actuarially recognized method approved by the county board. Employees participating in the plan may be required to contribute toward funding the benefits. The facility shall pay all costs of establishing and maintaining the plan. The plan may be integrated with old age and survivor's insurance.

(2) (a) Beginning December 31, 1998, and each December 31 thereafter, the chairperson of the board of trustees of a facility with a retirement plan established pursuant to this section and section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code shall file with the Public Employees Retirement Board an annual report on such plan and shall submit copies of such report to the ~~members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature.~~ Auditor of Public Accounts. The Auditor of Public Accounts may prepare a review of such report pursuant to section 84-304.02 but is not required to do so. The annual report shall be in a form prescribed by the Public Employees Retirement Board and shall contain the following information for each such retirement plan:

- (i) The number of persons participating in the retirement plan;
- (ii) The contribution rates of participants in the plan;
- (iii) Plan assets and liabilities;
- (iv) The names and positions of persons administering the plan;
- (v) The names and positions of persons investing plan assets;
- (vi) The form and nature of investments;
- (vii) For each defined contribution plan which is not administered by a retirement system under the County Employees Retirement Act, a full description of investment policies and options available to plan participants; and
- (viii) For each defined benefit plan which is not administered by a retirement system under the County Employees Retirement Act, the levels of

benefits of participants in the plan, the number of members who are eligible for a benefit, and the total present value of such members' benefits, as well as the funding sources which will pay for such benefits.

If a plan which is not administered by a retirement system under the County Employees Retirement Act contains no current active participants, the chairperson may file in place of such report a statement with the Public Employees Retirement Board indicating the number of retirees still drawing benefits, and the sources and amount of funding for such benefits.

(b) Beginning December 31, 1998, and every four years thereafter, if such retirement plan is a defined benefit plan, the board of trustees shall cause to be prepared a quadrennial report for each retirement plan which is not administered by a retirement system under the County Employees Retirement Act, and the chairperson shall file the same with the Public Employees Retirement Board and submit to the ~~members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature~~ Auditor of Public Accounts a copy of such report. The Auditor of Public Accounts may prepare a review of such report pursuant to section 84-304.02 but is not required to do so. The report shall consist of a full actuarial analysis of each such retirement plan established pursuant to this section which is not administered by a retirement system under the County Employees Retirement Act. The analysis shall be prepared by an independent private organization or public entity employing actuaries who are members in good standing of the American Academy of Actuaries, and which organization or entity has demonstrated expertise to perform this type of analysis and is unrelated to any organization offering investment advice or which provides investment management services to the retirement plan.

Sec. 12. Section 71-1631.02, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

71-1631.02 (1) Beginning December 31, 1998, and each year thereafter, the health director of a board of health with an independent retirement plan established pursuant to section 71-1631 and section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code shall file with the Public Employees Retirement Board an annual report on such plan and shall submit copies of such report to the ~~members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature.~~ Auditor of Public Accounts. The Auditor of Public Accounts may prepare a review of such report pursuant to section 84-304.02 but is not required to do so. The annual report shall be in a form prescribed by the Public Employees Retirement Board and shall contain the following information for each such retirement plan:

(a) The number of persons participating in the retirement plan;
 (b) The contribution rates of participants in the plan;
 (c) Plan assets and liabilities;
 (d) The names and positions of persons administering the plan;
 (e) The names and positions of persons investing plan assets;
 (f) The form and nature of investments;
 (g) For each independent defined contribution plan, a full description of investment policies and options available to plan participants;
 and

(h) For each independent defined benefit plan, the levels of benefits of participants in the plan, the number of members who are eligible for a benefit, and the total present value of such members' benefits, as well as the funding sources which will pay for such benefits.

If an independent plan contains no current active participants, the health director may file in place of such report a statement with the Public Employees Retirement Board indicating the number of retirees still drawing benefits, and the sources and amount of funding for such benefits.

(2) Beginning December 31, 1998, and every four years thereafter, if such retirement plan is a defined benefit plan, a board of health with an independent retirement plan established pursuant to section 71-1631 shall cause to be prepared a quadrennial report and the health director shall file the same with the Public Employees Retirement Board and submit to the ~~members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature~~ Auditor of Public Accounts a copy of such report. The Auditor of Public Accounts may prepare a review of such report pursuant to section 84-304.02 but is not required to do so. The report shall consist of a full actuarial analysis of each such independent retirement plan established pursuant to section 71-1631. The analysis shall be prepared by an independent private organization or public entity employing actuaries who are members in good standing of the American Academy of Actuaries, and which organization or entity has demonstrated expertise to perform this type of analysis and is unrelated to any organization offering investment advice or which provides investment management services to the retirement plan.

Sec. 13. Section 84-304.02, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is

amended to read:

84-304.02 ~~The~~ (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the Auditor of Public Accounts, or a person designated by him or her, shall prepare a written review of all audit, accounting, or financial reports required to be filed by a political subdivision of the state with the Auditor of Public Accounts and cause one copy of such written review to be mailed to the political subdivision involved and one copy to the accountant who prepared the report. Such written review shall specifically set forth wherein the audit, accounting, or financial report fails to comply with the applicable minimum standards and the necessary action to be taken to bring the report into compliance with such standards. The Auditor of Public Accounts may, upon continued failure to comply with such standards, refuse to accept for filing an audit, accounting, or financial report or any future report submitted for filing by any political subdivision.

(2) For public retirement system plan reports required to be submitted to the Auditor of Public Accounts pursuant to sections 2-3228, 12-101, 14-567, 14-1805.01, 14-2111, 15-1017, 16-1017, 16-1037, 19-3501, 23-1118, 23-3526, and 71-1631.02, the auditor may prepare a review of such report pursuant to subsection (1) of this section but is not required to do so.

Sec. 14. Section 84-1503, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

84-1503 (1) It shall be the duty of the Public Employees Retirement Board:

(a) To administer the retirement systems provided for in the County Employees Retirement Act, the Judges Retirement Act, the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement Act, the School Employees Retirement Act, and the State Employees Retirement Act. The agency for the administration of the retirement systems and under the direction of the board shall be known and may be cited as the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems;

(b) To appoint a director to administer the systems under the direction of the board. The appointment shall be subject to the approval of the Governor and a majority of the Legislature. The director shall be qualified by training and have at least five years of experience in the administration of a qualified public or private employee retirement plan. The director shall not be a member of the board. The salary of the director shall be set by the board. The director shall serve without term and may be removed by the board;

(c) To provide for an equitable allocation of expenses among the retirement systems administered by the board, and all expenses shall be provided from the investment income earned by the various retirement funds unless alternative sources of funds to pay expenses are specified by law;

(d) To administer the deferred compensation program authorized in section 84-1504;

(e) To hire an attorney, admitted to the Nebraska State Bar Association, to advise the board in the administration of the retirement systems listed in subdivision (a) of this subsection;

(f) To hire an internal auditor to perform the duties described in section 84-1503.04 who meets the minimum standards as described in section 84-304.03;

(g) To adopt and implement procedures for reporting information by employers, as well as testing and monitoring procedures in order to verify the accuracy of such information. The information necessary to determine membership shall be provided by the employer. The board shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations and prescribe such forms necessary to carry out this subdivision. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to require the board to conduct onsite audits of political subdivisions for compliance with statutes, rules, and regulations governing the retirement systems listed in subdivision (1)(a) of this section regarding membership and contributions; and

(h) To prescribe and furnish forms for the public retirement system plan reports required to be filed pursuant to sections 2-3228, 12-101, 14-567, 14-1805.01, 14-2111, 15-1017, 16-1017, 16-1037, 19-3501, 23-1118, 23-3526, 71-1631.02, and 79-987. ~~and to notify the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature of the failure of any governmental entity to file such reports.~~

(2) In administering the retirement systems listed in subdivision (1)(a) of this section, it shall be the duty of the board:

(a) To determine, based on information provided by the employer, the prior service annuity, if any, for each person who is an employee of the county on the date of adoption of the retirement system;

(b) To determine the eligibility of an individual to be a member of

the retirement system and other questions of fact in the event of a dispute between an individual and the individual's employer;

(c) To adopt and promulgate rules and regulations for the management of the board;

(d) To keep a complete record of all proceedings taken at any meeting of the board;

(e) To obtain, by a competitive, formal, and sealed bidding process through the materiel division of the Department of Administrative Services, actuarial services on behalf of the State of Nebraska as may be necessary in the administration and development of the retirement systems. Any contract for actuarial services shall contain a provision allowing the actuary, without prior approval of the board, to perform actuarial studies of the systems as requested by entities other than the board, if notice, which does not identify the entity or substance of the request, is given to the board, all costs are paid by the requesting entity, results are provided to the board upon being made public, and such actuarial studies do not interfere with the actuary's ongoing responsibility to the board. The term of the contract shall be for up to three years. A competitive, formal, and sealed bidding process shall be completed at least once in every three years, unless the board determines that such a process would not be cost effective under the circumstances and that the actuarial services performed have been satisfactory, in which case the contract may also contain an option for renewal without a competitive, formal, and sealed bidding process for up to three additional years. An actuary under contract for the State of Nebraska shall be a member of the American Academy of Actuaries;

(f) To direct the State Treasurer to transfer funds, as an expense of the retirement systems, to the Legislative Council Retirement Study Fund. Such transfer shall occur beginning on or after July 1, 2005, and at intervals of not less than five years and not more than fifteen years and shall be in such amounts as the Legislature shall direct;

(g) To adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of each retirement system described in subdivision (1)(a) of this section, which shall include, but not be limited to, the crediting of military service, direct rollover distributions, and the acceptance of rollovers;

(h) To obtain, by a competitive, formal, and sealed bidding process through the materiel division of the Department of Administrative Services, auditing services for a separate compliance audit of the retirement systems to be completed by December 31, 2007, and from time to time thereafter at the request of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee, to be completed not more than every four years but not less than every ten years. The compliance audit shall be in addition to the annual audit conducted by the Auditor of Public Accounts. The compliance audit shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of records, files, and other documents and an evaluation of all policies and procedures to determine compliance with all state and federal laws. A copy of the compliance audit shall be given to the Governor, the board, and the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee and shall be presented to the committee at a public hearing;

(i) To adopt and promulgate rules and regulations for the adjustment of contributions or benefits, which shall include, but not be limited to: (i) The procedures for refunding contributions, adjusting future contributions or benefit payments, and requiring additional contributions or repayment of benefits; (ii) the process for a member, member's beneficiary, employee, or employer to dispute an adjustment to contributions or benefits; and (iii) notice provided to all affected persons. All notices shall be sent prior to an adjustment and shall describe the process for disputing an adjustment to contributions or benefits; and

(j) To administer all retirement system plans in a manner which will maintain each plan's status as a qualified plan pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code. The board shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations necessary or appropriate to maintain such status including, but not limited to, rules or regulations which restrict discretionary or optional contributions to a plan or which limit distributions from a plan.

(3) By March 15 of each year, the board shall prepare a written plan of action and shall present such plan to the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee at a public hearing. The plan shall include, but not be limited to, the board's funding policy, the administrative costs and other fees associated with each fund and plan overseen by the board, member education and informational programs, the director's duties and limitations, an organizational structure of the office of the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems, and the internal control structure of such office to ensure compliance with state and federal laws.

Sec. 15. Original sections 2-3228, 14-567, 14-1805.01, 14-2111,

15-1017, 16-1017, 16-1037, 19-3501, 23-1118, 23-3526, 71-1631.02, 84-304.02, and 84-1503, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and section 12-101, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, are repealed.