

## Summary of Proposed Rule Changes

### Joint Public Retirement Committee October 10, 2025

#### Agenda Items:

1. **Full ATRS 24 CAR Rule** – This document contains the mark-up of all of the proposed rule changes in a single document. The remaining attachments contain summaries, public comments, and fiscal impact statements for each individual rule.
  2. **24 CAR § 10-207. Qualifications and Voter Eligibility for Elected Trustee Positions** (Page 9 of Exhibit F, Full ATRS 24 CAR Rule) – Implements Act 938 of 2025 which repealed the requirement that Trustee Position No. 8 be held by a minority member.
  3. **24 CAR § 10-302. Confidentiality of Member Accounts** (Page 19 of Exhibit F, Full ATRS 24 CAR Rule) – Clarifies that ATRS may disclose member information without a written confidentiality agreement when necessary for the proper operation and administration of the System. For example, this allows ATRS to disclose information to a beneficiary following a member's death.
  4. **24 CAR § 10-329. Employer Participation – Employers of Early Childhood Workers** (Page 40 of Exhibit F, Full ATRS 24 CAR Rule) – Implements Act 587 of 2025, which allows ATRS to extend membership to early childhood workers in childcare facilities that receive childcare funding through the Arkansas Department of Education and meet other requirements.
  5. **24 CAR § 10-501. Definitions** (Page 58 of Exhibit F, Full ATRS 24 CAR Rule) – Implements Act 227 of 2025, which replaces “gap year service” with “gap period service,” allowing members to purchase service credit for a gap that is at least one quarter.
  6. **24 CAR § 10-512. Purchasable Service Credit – Gap Year Service** (Page 72 of Exhibit F, Full ATRS 24 CAR Rule) – Implements Act 227 of 2025, which replaces “gap year service” with “gap period service,” allowing members to purchase service credit for a gap that is at least one quarter.
  7. **24 CAR § 10-513. Purchasable Service Credit – Contact Buyouts, Settlements, and Court-ordered Payments** (Page 74 of Exhibit F, Full ATRS 24 CAR Rule) – Corrects a misspelling in the title of the section.
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8. **24 CAR § 10-613. Annuity Options** (Page 100 of Exhibit F, Full ATRS 24 CAR Rule) – Implements Acts 222 and 363 of 2025. Act 222 clarifies language regarding election of an Option A annuity and payments following death. Act 363 allows payment of benefits to a special needs trust.
9. **24 CAR § 10-616. Correction of Errors and Collection of Overpayments** (Page 108 of Exhibit F, Full ATRS 24 CAR Rule) – Corrects a typo where a subsection heading was mistakenly included in the text.
10. **24 CAR § 10-710. Teacher Deferred Retirement Option Plan – Distribution Election** (Page 120 of Exhibit F, Full ATRS 24 CAR Rule) – Implements Act 226 of 2025 which clarifies when a member may change their TDROP distribution election.
11. **24 CAR § 10-712. T-DROP Cash Balance Account Program – Internal Revenue Code** (Page 121 of Exhibit F, Full ATRS 24 CAR Rule) – Corrects a typo by replacing “Cash Account Balance” with “Cash Balance Account.”
12. **24 CAR § 10-804. Survivors – Surviving Spouse** (Page 127 of Exhibit F, Full ATRS 24 CAR Rule) – Implements Act 224 of 2025 which changes the waiting period for a surviving spouse to be eligible for survivor benefits from two years of marriage to one year of marriage. Also clarifies that the surviving spouse must submit all required documentation before benefits may begin.
13. **24 CAR § 10-807. Survivors – Dependent Children** (Page 131 of Exhibit F, Full ATRS 24 CAR Rule) – Implements Act 225 of 2025 which allows all qualifying dependent children to receive child survivor benefits through age 22.
14. **24 CAR § 10-808. Survivors – Dependent Children – Full-time Students** (Page 132 of Exhibit F, Full ATRS 24 CAR Rule) – Repeals conflicting language to implement Act 225 of 2025 which allows all qualifying dependent children to receive child survivor benefits through age 22.
15. **24 CAR § 10-809. Survivors – Dependent Children – Active Military Duty or Training** (Page 133 of Exhibit F, Full ATRS 24 CAR Rule) – Repeals conflicting language to implement Act 225 of 2025 which allows all qualifying dependent children to receive child survivor benefits through age 22.
16. **24 CAR § 10-811. Survivors – Dependent Children – Return to Work Retirees** (Page 134 of Exhibit F, Full ATRS 24 CAR Rule) – Implements Act 225 of 2025 which allows children of disability retirees to be eligible for child survivor benefits and clarifies language regarding child survivor benefits.
17. **24 CAR § 10-826. Qualified Domestic Relations Order – Benefit Payments – Overpayments** (Page 145 of Exhibit F, Full ATRS 24 CAR Rule) – Clarifies that no benefits are owed to a member’s former spouse until the necessary court order has been filed and approved.