CalPERS Legislative Change California Government Code Provisions

20469.

If after receiving the approximate contribution quotation the governing body intends to approve the proposed contract, it shall adopt a resolution giving notice of that intention. The resolution shall contain a summary of the major provisions of the proposed retirement plan. The contract shall not be approved unless an election has been held to permit the employees proposed to be included in this system to express by secret ballot their approval or disapproval of the retirement proposal. Prior to the election each governing body shall be furnished with a schedule of rates of contribution of members, which shall be made available by the governing body to each employee proposed to be included in this system. The ballot at the election shall include the summary of the retirement plan as set forth in the resolution. The election shall be conducted in the manner prescribed by the governing body which shall be such as to permit the firefighters, the police officers, the county peace officers, and the other employees proposed to be included in this system to express separately their approval or disapproval. In jurisdictions where the methodology for calculating the annual member contribution is defined in a memorandum of understanding ratified by the employee bargaining unit and the governing body of the agency (i.e., County Board of Supervisors) this election shall not be required. The agency shall instead provide CalPERS with a signed side letter between the employee bargaining unit and the agency indicating the exact percentage of the member contribution on an annual basis prior to the beginning of each Fiscal Year.

20474.

Whenever by any provision of law an election is given to contracting agencies to subject themselves and their employees to provisions of this part otherwise not applicable to contracting agencies and their employees, and no other means of making the election is expressly provided, any contracting agency may make the election by amendment to its contract with the board approved in the manner provided for the approval of the contracts including an election among the employees affected unless the amendment only adds benefits without affecting members' contributions, in which case the election among the employees is not required, or unless an election is otherwise exempted in Section 20469. An amendment to a joint contract that has been approved by the governing body of the county shall be deemed approved by the presiding officer of the trial court located within the county. The amendment shall specify the date upon which the agency and its employees shall become subject to the provisions. That date shall not be earlier than the first day following the approval of the contract pursuant to Section 20471, except that if the rate of the employer's contributions changes, the effective date shall not be earlier than the first day of the pay period following the approval. Any election made by amendment to the contract shall be irrevocable until the contract is terminated. However, benefits provided by the amendment may be increased or improved from time to time by further amendment to the contract. From and after the date specified in the amendment to the contract the

provisions, as they are in effect at the time of election and as they may be amended in the future, shall apply to the contracting agency and to its employees, and the rights, privileges, duties, liabilities, and responsibilities of the contracting agency and of each of its employees included in this system shall be governed thereby.

20516.

- (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, with or without a change in benefits, a contracting agency and its employees may agree, in writing, to share the costs of the employer contribution. The cost sharing pursuant to this section shall also apply for related nonrepresented employees as approved in a resolution passed by the contracting agency.
- (b) The collective bargaining agreement shall specify the exact percentage of member compensation that shall be paid toward the current service cost of the benefits by members. The member contributions shall be contributions over and above normal contributions otherwise required by this part and shall be treated as normal contributions for all purposes of this part. The contributions shall be uniform, except as described in subdivision (c), with respect to all members within each of the following classifications: local miscellaneous members, local police officers, local firefighters, county peace officers, and all local safety members other than local police officers, local firefighters, and county peace officers. The balance of any costs shall be paid by the contracting agency and shall be credited to the employer's account. An employer shall not use impasse procedures to impose member cost sharing on any contribution amount above that which is authorized by law.
- (c) Member cost sharing may differ by classification for groups of employees subject to different levels of benefits pursuant to Sections 7522.20, 7522.25, and 20475, or by a recognized collective bargaining unit if agreed to in a memorandum of understanding reached pursuant to the applicable collective bargaining laws.
- (d) This section shall not apply to any contracting agency nor to the employees of a contracting agency until the agency elects to be subject to this section by contract or by amendment to its contract made in the manner prescribed for approval of contracts. Contributions provided by this section shall be withheld from member compensation or otherwise collected when the contract amendment becomes effective.
- (e) For the purposes of this section, all contributions, liabilities, actuarial interest rates, and other valuation factors shall be determined on the basis of actuarial assumptions and methods that, in the aggregate, are reasonable and that, in combination, offer the actuary's best estimate of anticipated experience under this system.
- (f) Nothing in this section shall preclude a contracting agency and its employees from independently agreeing in a memorandum of understanding to share the costs of any benefit, in a manner inconsistent with this section. However, any agreement in a memorandum of understanding that is inconsistent with this section shall not be part of the contract between this system and the contracting agency.

- (g) If, and to the extent that, the board determines that a cost-sharing agreement under this section would conflict with Title 26 of the United States Code, the board may refuse to approve the agreement.
- (h) Nothing in this section shall require a contracting agency to enter into a memorandum of understanding or collective bargaining agreement with a bargaining representative in order to increase the amount of member contributions when such a member contribution increase is authorized by other provisions under this part.

20516.5.

- (a) Equal sharing of normal costs between a contracting agency or school employer and their employees shall be the standard. It shall be the standard that employees pay at least 50 percent of normal costs and that employers not pay any of the required employee contribution.
- (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, a contracting agency or a school district may require that members pay 50 percent of the normal cost of benefits. However, that contribution shall be no more than 8 percent of pay for local miscellaneous or school members, no more than 12 percent of pay for local police officers, local firefighters, and county peace officers, and no more than 11 percent of pay for all local safety members other than police officers, firefighters, and county peace officers.
- (c) Before implementing any change pursuant to subdivision (b), for any represented employees, the employer shall complete the good faith bargaining process as required by law, including any impasse procedures requiring mediation and factfinding. Subdivision (b) shall become operative on January 1, 2018. Subdivision (b) shall not apply to any bargaining unit when the members of that contracting agency or school district are paying for at least 50 percent of the normal cost of their pension benefit or the contribution rates specified in subdivision (b) under an agreement reached pursuant to Section 20516.