

REFERENCE TITLE: **retirement; judges; elected officials**

State of Arizona  
Senate  
Fifty-seventh Legislature  
First Regular Session  
2025

# **SB 1712**

Introduced by  
Senator Gowan

## AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 12-284.03 AND 38-727, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; AMENDING TITLE 38, CHAPTER 5, ARTICLE 2, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 38-728; AMENDING SECTIONS 38-810 AND 38-831, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; APPROPRIATING MONIES; RELATING TO PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEMS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:  
2 Section 1. Section 12-284.03, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended  
3 to read:

4 **12-284.03. Distribution of fees**

5 A. Excluding the monies that are kept by the court pursuant to  
6 subsection B of this section, the county treasurer shall transmit,  
7 distribute or deposit all monies received from the clerk of the superior  
8 court pursuant to section 12-284, subsection K as follows:

9 1. 1.20 percent to the state treasurer for deposit in the resource  
10 center fund established by and for the purposes of section 41-2402,  
11 subsection G.

12 2. 8.18 percent to the state treasurer for deposit in the domestic  
13 violence services fund established by section 36-3002.

14 3. 1.78 percent to the state treasurer for deposit in the child  
15 abuse prevention fund established by section 8-550.01.

16 4. In the county law library fund established by section 12-305,  
17 either:

18 (a) 7.02 percent if the county treasurer is serving in a county  
19 with a population of more than five hundred thousand persons.

20 (b) 14.09 percent if the county treasurer is serving in a county  
21 with a population of five hundred thousand persons or less.

22 5. 0.32 percent to the state treasurer for deposit in the  
23 alternative dispute resolution fund established by section 12-135.

24 6. To the elected officials' retirement plan fund established by  
25 section 38-802, either of the following percentages, which shall be  
26 distributed to the fund pursuant to section 38-810:

27 (a) 21.91 percent if the county treasurer is serving in a county  
28 with a population of more than five hundred thousand persons.

29 (b) 14.09 percent if the county treasurer is serving in a county  
30 with a population of five hundred thousand persons or less.

31 7. 17.62 percent to the state treasurer for deposit in the judicial  
32 collection enhancement fund established by section 12-113.

33 8. 0.24 percent to the state treasurer for deposit in the confidential  
34 intermediary and fiduciary fund established by section 8-135.

35 9. In the county general fund, the following percentages:

36 (a) 28.81 percent if the county treasurer is serving in a county  
37 with a population of more than five hundred thousand persons.

38 (b) 29.56 percent if the county treasurer is serving in a county  
39 with a population of five hundred thousand persons or less.

40 10. ~~6.00~~ 5.70 percent to the elected officials' retirement plan  
41 fund established by section 38-802 for the purpose of funding a portion of  
42 the employers' contributions required pursuant to section 38-810.

43 **11. 0.30 PERCENT TO THE STATE GENERAL FUND.**

44 B. 6.92 percent of the monies transmitted, distributed or deposited  
45 pursuant to subsection A of this section shall be kept and used by the

1 court collecting the fees in the same manner as the ~~seven dollars~~ \$7 of  
2 the time payment fee prescribed by section 12-116, subsection B.

3 Sec. 2. Section 38-727, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
4 read:

5 **38-727. Eligibility; options**

6 A. The following provisions apply to all employees hired on or  
7 after the effective date:

8 1. All employees and officers of this state and all officers and  
9 employees of political subdivisions establishing a retirement plan  
10 administered by the board pursuant to this article are subject to this  
11 article, except that membership is not mandatory:

12 (a) On the part of any employee who is eligible and who elects to  
13 participate in the optional retirement programs established by the Arizona  
14 board of regents pursuant to the authority conferred by section 15-1628 or  
15 by a community college district board pursuant to authority conferred by  
16 section 15-1451.

17 (b) For a state elected official who is subject to term limits, who  
18 is elected or appointed before January 1, 2014, who is eligible for  
19 participation in ASRS because the state elected official elected not to  
20 participate in the elected officials' retirement plan as provided in  
21 section 38-804, subsection A and who elects not to participate in ASRS as  
22 provided in paragraph 7 of this subsection.

23 (c) On the part of any employee or officer who is eligible to  
24 participate and who participates in the elected officials' retirement plan  
25 pursuant to article 3 of this chapter, the elected officials' defined  
26 contribution retirement system pursuant to article 3.1 of this chapter,  
27 the public safety personnel retirement system pursuant to article 4 of  
28 this chapter or the corrections officer retirement plan pursuant to  
29 article 6 of this chapter.

30 2. All employees and officers of political subdivisions whose  
31 compensation is provided wholly or in part from state monies and who are  
32 declared to be state employees and officers by the legislature for  
33 retirement purposes are subject, on legislative enactment, to this article  
34 and are members of ASRS.

35 3. Any member whose service terminates other than by death or  
36 withdrawal from membership is deemed to be a member of ASRS until the  
37 member's death benefit is paid.

38 4. Employees and officers shall not become members of ASRS and, if  
39 they are members immediately before becoming employed as provided by this  
40 section, shall have their membership status suspended while they are  
41 employed by state departments paying the salaries of their officers and  
42 employees wholly or in part from monies received from sources other than  
43 appropriations from the state general fund for the period or periods  
44 payment of the employer contributions is not made by or on behalf of the  
45 departments.

1       5. Notwithstanding other provisions of this section, a temporary  
2 employee of the legislature whose projected term of employment is for not  
3 more than six months is ineligible for membership in ASRS. If the  
4 employment continues beyond six successive months, the employee may elect  
5 to either:

6       (a) Receive credit for service for the first six months of  
7 employment and establish membership in ASRS as of the beginning of the  
8 current term of employment if, within forty-five days after the first six  
9 months of employment, both the employer and the employee contribute to  
10 ASRS the amount that would have been required to be contributed to ASRS  
11 during the first six months of employment as if the employee had been a  
12 member of ASRS during those six months.

13       (b) Establish membership in ASRS as of the day following the  
14 completion of six months of employment.

15       6. A person who is employed in postgraduate training in an approved  
16 medical residency training program of an employer or a postdoctoral  
17 scholar who is employed by a university under the jurisdiction of the  
18 Arizona board of regents is ineligible for membership in ASRS.

19       7. A state elected official who is subject to term limits, who is  
20 elected or appointed before January 1, 2014 and who is eligible for  
21 participation in ASRS because the state elected official elected not to  
22 participate in the elected officials' retirement plan as provided in  
23 section 38-804, subsection A may elect not to participate in ASRS. The  
24 election not to participate is specific for that term of office. The  
25 state elected official who is subject to term limits shall make the  
26 election in writing and file the election with ASRS within thirty days  
27 after the elected official's retirement plan mails the notice to the state  
28 elected official of the state elected official's eligibility to  
29 participate in ASRS. The election is effective on the first day of the  
30 state elected official's eligibility. If a state elected official who is  
31 subject to term limits fails to make an election as provided in this  
32 paragraph, the state elected official is deemed to have elected to  
33 participate in ASRS. The election not to participate in ASRS is  
34 irrevocable and constitutes a waiver of all benefits provided by ASRS for  
35 the state elected official's entire term, except for any benefits accrued  
36 by the state elected official in ASRS for periods of participation before  
37 being elected to an office subject to term limits or any benefits  
38 expressly provided by law.

39       8. A person may elect not to participate in ASRS if the person  
40 becomes employed by an employer after the person has attained at least  
41 sixty-five years of age, is not an active member, inactive member, retired  
42 member or receiving benefits pursuant to article 2.1 of this chapter and  
43 does not have any credited service or prior service in ASRS. The employee  
44 shall make the election not to participate in writing and file the  
45 election with ASRS within thirty days after employment. The election not

1 to participate is irrevocable for the remainder of the person's employment  
2 for which the person made the election and constitutes a waiver of all  
3 benefits provided by ~~the Arizona state retirement system~~ ASRS. The period  
4 the person works is not eligible for purchase under section 38-743 or  
5 38-744.

6 9. The following are ineligible for membership in ASRS:

7 (a) A person who performs services in a hospital, home or other  
8 institution as an inmate or patient at the hospital, home or other  
9 institution.

10 (b) A person who performs agricultural labor services, as defined  
11 in section 210 of the social security act.

12 (c) A person who is a nonresident alien temporarily residing in the  
13 United States and who holds an F-1, J-1, M-1 or Q-1 visa when services are  
14 performed.

15 (d) A person who performs services for a school, college or  
16 university in this state at which the person is enrolled as a student, as  
17 defined by the employing institution. The employing institution shall  
18 maintain an appeal process for a person who disagrees with the employing  
19 institution's determination that the person is a student and not eligible  
20 for membership in ASRS.

21 (e) A person who performs services under a program designed to  
22 relieve the person from unemployment.

23 B. The following elected officials are subject to this article if  
24 the member's employer is an employer under article 3 of this chapter:

25 1. A state elected official who is subject to term limits, who is  
26 elected or appointed on or before December 31, 2013 and who is an active,  
27 an inactive or a retired member of ASRS or a member of ASRS with a  
28 disability because the state elected official had previously elected not  
29 to participate in the elected officials' retirement plan as provided in  
30 section 38-804, subsection A.

31 2. An elected official, as defined in section 38-831, who is an  
32 active, an inactive or a retired member of ASRS or a member of ASRS with a  
33 disability, if the elected official's employer is a participating employer  
34 under this article and the elected official is eligible for ASRS service  
35 credit for the elected official's service.

36 3. A JUDICIAL OFFICER OR CLERK OR AN ELECTED OFFICIAL, AS DEFINED  
37 IN SECTION 38-728, WHO MAKES AN ELECTION PURSUANT TO SECTION 38-728 TO  
38 PARTICIPATE IN ASRS.

39 Sec. 3. Title 38, chapter 5, article 2, Arizona Revised Statutes,  
40 is amended by adding section 38-728, to read:

41 38-728. Benefit election; eligibility; judicial officers;  
42 court clerks; elected officials; definitions

43 A. A JUDICIAL OFFICER OR CLERK OR AN ELECTED OFFICIAL WHO IS  
44 ELECTED OR APPOINTED ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 2026 AND WHO WAS NOT AN ACTIVE,  
45 AN INACTIVE OR A RETIRED MEMBER OR A MEMBER WITH A DISABILITY OF ASRS

1 PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE OR ARTICLE 2.1 OF THIS CHAPTER, THE ELECTED  
2 OFFICIALS' RETIREMENT PLAN ESTABLISHED BY ARTICLE 3 OF THIS CHAPTER OR THE  
3 ELECTED OFFICIALS' DEFINED CONTRIBUTION RETIREMENT SYSTEM ESTABLISHED BY  
4 ARTICLE 3.1 OF THIS CHAPTER MAY MAKE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING IRREVOCABLE  
5 ELECTIONS:

6 1. TO PARTICIPATE SOLELY IN ASRS PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE AND  
7 ARTICLE 2.1 OF THIS CHAPTER.

8 2. TO PARTICIPATE SOLELY IN THE ELECTED OFFICIALS' DEFINED  
9 CONTRIBUTION RETIREMENT SYSTEM ESTABLISHED BY ARTICLE 3.1 OF THIS CHAPTER.

10 B. THE JUDICIAL OFFICER OR CLERK OR ELECTED OFFICIAL SHALL MAKE AN  
11 ELECTION UNDER THIS SECTION WITHIN NINETY DAYS AFTER THE DATE THE JUDICIAL  
12 OFFICER OR CLERK OR ELECTED OFFICIAL WAS ELECTED OR APPOINTED. IF THE  
13 JUDICIAL OFFICER OR CLERK OR ELECTED OFFICIAL DOES NOT MAKE AN ELECTION ON  
14 OR BEFORE THE NINETIETH DAY AFTER THE DATE THE JUDICIAL OFFICER OR CLERK  
15 OR ELECTED OFFICIAL WAS ELECTED OR APPOINTED, THE JUDICIAL OFFICER OR  
16 CLERK OR ELECTED OFFICIAL IS DEEMED TO HAVE ELECTED TO PARTICIPATE SOLELY  
17 IN ASRS.

18 C. ANY ELECTION MADE UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE MADE IN WRITING  
19 AND FILED WITH THE DISBURSING OFFICER OF THE EMPLOYING INSTITUTION AND THE  
20 RETIREMENT SYSTEM THE JUDICIAL OFFICER OR CLERK OR ELECTED OFFICIAL ELECTS  
21 AND BECOMES EFFECTIVE ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE PAY PERIOD FOLLOWING THE  
22 RETIREMENT SYSTEM ELECTION.

23 D. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION:

24 1. "ELECTED OFFICIAL" MEANS EVERY ELECTED OFFICIAL OF THIS STATE  
25 AND EVERY ELECTED OFFICIAL OF EACH COUNTY OF THIS STATE.

26 2. "JUDICIAL OFFICER OR CLERK" MEANS A SUPREME COURT JUSTICE, COURT  
27 OF APPEALS JUDGE, SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE, FULL-TIME SUPERIOR COURT  
28 COMMISSIONER OR JUSTICE OF THE PEACE OR AN ELECTED CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR  
29 COURT.

30 Sec. 4. Section 38-810, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
31 read:

32 **38-810. Contributions; appropriations**

33 A. Each member shall contribute to the fund an amount equal to the  
34 amount prescribed in subsection G of this section. Contributions of  
35 members shall be made by payroll deductions. Every member is deemed to  
36 consent to these deductions. Payment of a member's compensation, less  
37 these payroll deductions, constitutes a full and complete discharge and  
38 satisfaction of all claims and demands by the member relating to  
39 remuneration for the member's services rendered during the period covered  
40 by the payment, except with respect to the benefits provided under the  
41 plan. A member may not, under any circumstance, borrow from, take a loan  
42 against or remove contributions from the member's account before the  
43 termination of membership in the plan or the receipt of a pension.

1       B. The board's office shall be credited monthly with monies  
2 collected pursuant to section 12-119.01, subsection B, paragraph 2,  
3 section 12-120.31, subsection D, paragraph 2, section 12-284.03,  
4 subsection A, paragraph 6, section 22-281, subsection C, paragraph 3 and  
5 section 41-178. The monies credited to the fund pursuant to this  
6 subsection shall be deposited in the fund on a monthly basis, and there  
7 shall be a complete accounting of the determination of these monies  
8 deposited in the fund.

9       C. Beginning on July 1, 2018, as determined by actuarial valuations  
10 performed by the plan's actuary each employer shall make contributions on  
11 a level percent of compensation basis for all employees of the employer  
12 who are either members under this article, article 3.1 of this chapter or  
13 article 2 of this chapter pursuant to section 38-727, subsection B **OR**  
14 **SECTION 38-728** sufficient under the actuarial valuation to meet both the  
15 normal cost plus the actuarially determined amount required to amortize  
16 the unfunded accrued liability over a closed period of at least twenty and  
17 not more than thirty years that is established by the board taking into  
18 account the recommendation of the plan's actuary and the employer's  
19 contribution under the elected officials' defined contribution retirement  
20 system established pursuant to article 3.1 of this chapter and the  
21 employer's contribution under article 2 of this chapter for members who  
22 are eligible pursuant to section 38-727, subsection B **OR SECTION**  
23 **38-728**. The employer also shall pay the amount required by section  
24 38-797.05 for members under article 2 of this chapter who are eligible  
25 pursuant to section 38-727, subsection B **OR SECTION 38-728** and the amount  
26 required by article 3.2 of this chapter for members under article 3.1 of  
27 this chapter. The monies deposited in the fund pursuant to subsection B  
28 of this section shall be used to supplement the contributions required of  
29 all employers under the plan. The employer level percent compensation  
30 contribution that is paid pursuant to this subsection, less the amount  
31 contributed by the employer pursuant to section 38-833 and section 38-737  
32 for members eligible pursuant to section 38-727, subsection B **OR SECTION**  
33 **38-728**, shall not be used to pay for an increase in benefits that is  
34 otherwise payable to members but shall be used to meet the normal cost  
35 plus an amount to amortize the unfunded accrued liability.

36       D. In any fiscal year, an employer's contribution to the plan in  
37 combination with member contributions may not be less than the actuarially  
38 determined normal cost for that fiscal year. After the close of any  
39 fiscal year, if the plan's actuary determines that the actuarial valuation  
40 of the fund contains excess valuation assets and is more than one hundred  
41 percent funded, the board shall account for fifty percent of the excess  
42 valuation assets in a stabilization reserve account. After the close of  
43 any fiscal year, if the plan's actuary determines that the actuarial  
44 valuation of the fund has a valuation asset deficiency and an unfunded  
45 actuarial accrued liability, the board shall use any valuation assets in

1 the stabilization reserve account, to the extent available, to limit the  
2 decline in the fund's funding ratio to not more than two percent.

3 E. The department of administration and the treasurer of each  
4 county and participating city and town shall transfer to the board the  
5 contributions provided for in subsections A and C of this section within  
6 ten working days after each payroll date. The state, county treasurers  
7 and clerks of the superior court shall transfer the monies credited under  
8 subsection B of this section to the board on or before the fifteenth day  
9 of each calendar month that follows the month in which the court fees were  
10 collected. Contributions and monies credited under subsection B of this  
11 section and transferred after these dates shall include a penalty equal to  
12 ten percent a year, compounded annually, for each day that the  
13 contributions or monies credited under subsection B of this section are  
14 late. Delinquent payments due under this subsection, together with  
15 interest charges as provided in this subsection and court costs, may be  
16 recovered by action in a court of competent jurisdiction against the  
17 person or persons responsible for the payments or, at the request of the  
18 board, may be deducted from any other monies, including excise revenue  
19 taxes, payable to a political subdivision by any department or agency of  
20 this state. If requested by the board, the state, county treasurers or  
21 clerks of the superior court shall transfer the monies credited under  
22 subsection B of this section, in an amount determined by the board,  
23 directly to the qualified governmental excess benefit arrangement  
24 established pursuant to section 38-803.01.

25 F. The employer shall pay the member contributions required of  
26 members on account of compensation earned after August 7, 1985. The paid  
27 contributions shall be treated as employer contributions for the purpose  
28 of determining tax treatment under the United States internal revenue  
29 code. The effective date of the employer payment shall not be before the  
30 date the retirement plan has received notification from the United States  
31 internal revenue service that pursuant to section 414(h) of the United  
32 States internal revenue code the member contributions paid will not be  
33 included in gross income for income tax purposes until the paid  
34 contributions are distributed by refund or pension payments. The employer  
35 shall pay the member contributions from monies established and available  
36 in the retirement deduction account, which monies would otherwise have  
37 been designated as member contributions and paid to the retirement plan.  
38 Member contributions paid pursuant to this subsection shall be treated for  
39 all other purposes, in the same manner and to the same extent, as member  
40 contributions made before August 7, 1985.

41 G. An elected official who became a member of the plan before July  
42 20, 2011 shall contribute seven percent of the member's gross salary  
43 pursuant to subsection A of this section. The amount contributed pursuant  
44 to subsection A of this section by an elected official who became a member  
45 of the plan on or after July 20, 2011 is:

1       1. For fiscal year 2011-2012, ten percent of the member's gross  
2 salary.

3       2. For fiscal year 2012-2013, eleven and one-half percent of the  
4 member's gross salary.

5       3. For fiscal year 2013-2014 and each fiscal year thereafter,  
6 thirteen percent of the member's gross salary.

7       H. For fiscal year 2011-2012 and each fiscal year thereafter, the  
8 amount of the member's contribution that exceeds seven percent of the  
9 member's compensation shall not be used to reduce the employer's  
10 contributions that are calculated pursuant to subsection C of this  
11 section.

12      I. In fiscal years 2013-2014 through 2042-2043, the sum of  
13 \$5,000,000 is appropriated in each fiscal year from the state general fund  
14 to the elected officials' retirement plan fund to supplement the normal  
15 cost plus an amount to amortize the unfunded accrued liability pursuant to  
16 subsection C of this section. Monies appropriated pursuant to this  
17 subsection shall not be used to pay for an increase in benefits that is  
18 otherwise payable to members and shall only be used as specified in this  
19 subsection. Monies appropriated pursuant to this subsection are exempt  
20 from the provisions of section 35-190 relating to lapsing of  
21 appropriations.

22      Sec. 5. Section 38-831, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
23 read:

24       38-831. Definitions

25       In this article, unless the context otherwise requires:

26       1. "Annuity account" means an account that is established for each  
27 member to record the ~~deposit~~ DEPOSITS of ~~member~~ THE MEMBER'S  
28 contributions, employer contributions and interest, dividends or other  
29 accumulations credited on behalf of the member.

30       2. "Board" means the board of trustees of the public safety  
31 personnel retirement system established ~~by~~ PURSUANT TO section 38-848.

32       3. "Defined contribution system" means the elected officials'  
33 defined contribution retirement system established pursuant to this  
34 article.

35       4. "Elected official" means:

36       (a) Every elected official of this state who was elected or  
37 appointed on or after January 1, 2014 AND BEFORE JULY 1, 2026 and who was  
38 not an active, an inactive, ~~a disabled~~ or a retired member of the plan OR  
39 A MEMBER OF THE PLAN WITH A DISABILITY on December 31, 2013.

40       (b) Every elected official of each county of this state who was  
41 elected or appointed on or after January 1, 2014 AND BEFORE JULY 1, 2026  
42 and who was not an active, an inactive, ~~a disabled~~ or a retired member of  
43 the plan OR A MEMBER OF THE PLAN WITH A DISABILITY on December 31, 2013.

(c) EVERY ELECTED OFFICIAL OF THIS STATE AND ELECTED OFFICIAL OF EACH COUNTY OF THIS STATE WHO WAS ELECTED OR APPOINTED ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 2026, WHO WAS NOT AN ACTIVE, AN INACTIVE OR A RETIRED MEMBER OF THE PLAN OR A MEMBER OF THE PLAN WITH A DISABILITY ON JUNE 30, 2026 AND WHO MADE AN ELECTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DEFINED CONTRIBUTION RETIREMENT SYSTEM PURSUANT TO SECTION 38-728.

(c) Every justice of the supreme court who was appointed on or after January 1, 2014 AND BEFORE JULY 1, 2026, and who was not an active, an inactive, ~~a disabled~~ or a retired member of the plan OR A MEMBER OF THE PLAN WITH A DISABILITY on December 31, 2013.

(e) Every judge of the court of appeals who was appointed on or after January 1, 2014 AND BEFORE JULY 1, 2026, and who was not an active, an inactive, a disabled or a retired member of the plan OR A MEMBER OF THE PLAN WITH A DISABILITY on December 31, 2013.

~~(e)~~ (f) Every judge of the superior court who was elected or appointed on or after January 1, 2014 AND BEFORE JULY 1, 2026, ~~and~~ who was not an active, an inactive, ~~a disabled~~ or a retired member of the plan OR A MEMBER OF THE PLAN WITH A DISABILITY on December 31, 2013.

(f) Every full-time superior court commissioner, except full-time superior court commissioners who failed to make a timely election of membership under the judges' retirement plan, repealed on August 7, 1985, who was hired on or after January 1, 2014 AND BEFORE JULY 1, 2026, and who was not an active, an inactive, a disabled or a retired member of the plan OR A MEMBER OF THE PLAN WITH A DISABILITY on December 31, 2013.

~~(g)~~ (h) Each elected official of an incorporated city or town whose employer has executed a proper joinder agreement with the plan for coverage of its elected officials, who was elected or appointed on or after January 1, 2014 and who was not an active, an inactive, ~~a disabled~~ or a retired member of the plan **OR A MEMBER OF THE PLAN WITH A DISABILITY** on December 31, 2013.

(i) A JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT, A COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE, A SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE, A FULL-TIME SUPERIOR COURT COMMISSIONER WHO WAS ELECTED OR APPOINTED ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 2026, WHO WAS NOT AN ACTIVE, AN INACTIVE OR A RETIRED MEMBER OF THE PLAN OR A MEMBER OF THE PLAN WITH A DISABILITY ON JUNE 30, 2026 AND WHO MADE AN ELECTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DEFINED CONTRIBUTION SYSTEM PURSUANT TO SECTION 38-728.

5. "Employer" means a department or political subdivision of this state that makes employer contributions to the defined contribution system on behalf of a member.

6. "Employer contribution" means an amount deposited by an employer, from the employer's own monies, in the member's annuity account on a periodic basis coinciding with the member's regular pay period.

7. "Member" means an elected official under the defined contribution system.

1       8. "Plan" means the elected officials' retirement plan established  
2 by article 3 of this chapter.

3       Sec. 6. Appropriation; Arizona administrative office of the  
4           courts; fiscal year 2026-2027

5       In addition to any other appropriation made in fiscal year  
6 2026-2027, the sum of \$150,000 is appropriated from the state general fund  
7 in fiscal year 2026-2027 to the Arizona administrative office of the  
8 courts for the Arizona state retirement system employer contribution costs  
9 associated with this act.

10      Sec. 7. Effective date

11      This act is effective from and after June 30, 2026.