For An Act To Be Entitled
AN ACT TO INCREASE THE ANNUAL CAREER SERVICE RECOGNITION PAYMENTS FOR STATE EMPLOYEES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle
AN ACT TO INCREASE THE ANNUAL CAREER SERVICE RECOGNITION PAYMENTS FOR STATE EMPLOYEES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 21-5-106 is amended to read as follows:

21-5-106. Annual career service recognition payments for state employees.
(a)(1)(A) Employees of state agencies and nonfaculty employees of institutions of higher education shall become eligible for annual career service recognition payments upon completion of ten (10) or more years of service in either elected positions or classified or nonclassified positions with an agency or institution of the State of Arkansas.
(B) However, the service shall have been in either elected positions or regular full-time positions.
(2) Periods of authorized leave without pay and leave of absence for military service when veterans' reemployment rights are exercised shall not negate eligibility for the payment, provided all other eligibility requirements are met.
(b) The Office of Personnel Management of the Division of Management Services of the Department of Finance and Administration shall establish and publish policies and procedures for the administration of career service recognition payments to state employees upon a determination by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State that sufficient funds are available for such purpose.

(c) An employee who meets eligibility requirements established by subsection (a) of this section shall become eligible for annual career service recognition payments on the anniversary date of the completion of such service according to the following schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE SERVICE</th>
<th>ANNUAL PAYMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 through 14 years of state service</td>
<td>$300 600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 through 19 years of state service</td>
<td>400 700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 through 24 years of state service</td>
<td>500 800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 or more years of state service</td>
<td>600 900</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(d) Career service recognition payments authorized by this section shall be:
   (1) subject to withholding of all applicable state and federal taxes; but and
   (2) shall not be included by retirement systems in determining benefits.

SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly that provisions of this act change the Uniform Attendance and Leave Policy Act and should become effective July 1, 2007, for consistent application and to avoid confusion and that unless this emergency clause is adopted, this act will not go into effect until after the beginning of the next fiscal year. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this act being necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2007.

APPROVED: 3/19/2007