

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION FOR THE NORTH DAKOTA JUDGES HEALTH CARE SAVINGS PLAN

The State of North Dakota Judges Health Care Savings Plan (“Plan”) allows judges to save money for reimbursement of medical expenses and health insurance premiums after termination of employment. Money is contributed to the Plan on pre-tax basis and paid out to judges tax-free.

- **Participation** - All supreme court and district court judges employed by the State of North Dakota who are eligible to participate in the State’s retirement plan will participate in this Plan.
- **Contributions** - The amount of contributions to the Plan are determined by vote of approval of at least 75% of active judges. The State contributes the approved percentage of pay or dollar amount to individual accounts for eligible judges.
- **Account balance** - Individual accounts will be initially invested in a money market account with the Bank of North Dakota. The account balance is equal to contributions plus investment income minus administrative and investment expenses. Judges will receive quarterly statements of their account balance.
- **Benefits** – Judges may request reimbursement of expenses for medical care at any time after termination of employment. Medical care expenses include health insurance premiums and unreimbursed, out-of-pocket expenses such as copays, deductibles or other expenses not covered by insurance. The Plan requires evidence that the medical care expense was incurred by a judge or spouse or dependent before amounts can be paid from the account.
- **Death Benefits** – After death, any remaining account balance can be paid to the judge’s surviving spouse and dependents to reimburse their medical care expenses until the account balance is exhausted.
- **Administration** – This Plan is administered by the State of North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System Board. The Board is responsible for depositing and investing contributions, paying benefits and Plan expenses, maintaining the records of the Plan and providing benefits statements.
- **Plan Documents** – For your information, attached are two documents:
 - (1) a Plan document, which describes the features of the Plan in greater detail; and
 - (2) a trust document, which describes the legal terms of the trust holding the assets of the Plan. It is important that the assets of the Plan are held in trust so that the assets are tax-advantaged and secured from general funds of the State.

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