

2012 Clerks' Conference

Reminders and Updates from CERF

New Legislation – SB 625

- **SB 625 authorizes that when an active participant dies before becoming vested, the same beneficiary(s) who received the member's \$10,000 death benefit will also receive a refund of any contributions paid by the participant. This legislation became effective August 28, 2012, and affects members who die after December 31, 2002.**
- **Any contributions paid by the counties on behalf of their employees will be credited back to the counties at the time county credits are processed.**

Medical Leave Policy

The following was released in a Clerk Bulletin and prompted questions at the Clerks' Conference. Just to clarify, this is not a change in policy, it is simply a reminder.

- **If your county does not have a written medical leave policy, specifically stating the length of time the county gives their employees for medical leave, then an employee who dies while out on medical leave would not be eligible for the \$10,000 death benefit.**
- **Also, the \$10,000 death benefit would not be payable if an employee's medical leave exceeds the time allowed by the county's medical leave policy.**
- **A poster simply referring to the Family Medical Leave Act would not constitute a "written medical leave policy" for CERF's purposes in paying out the death benefit.**
- **CERF reviews the county's written medical leave policy if a member passes away while actively employed to determine if the member is eligible for the \$10,000 Death Benefit.**

Remember, we are here for you. Any time you or any members of your staff have questions or concerns, please feel free to call our office at 1-877-632-2373 and you will receive prompt, courteous assistance.