

HOUSE No. 2486

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Nine

An Act to clarify creditable service for sabbatical leaves ..

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 1 of Chapter 32 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2004
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding after line 490 the following definition:—

3 “Sabbatical Leave”, leave which promises to contribute to the development of the faculty
4 member or professional employee in the areas of teaching, research, creative or scholarly
5 activity, or professional service, capability, and hence will contribute to the institution as a whole
6 upon the return to the institution for at least one year following the academic year in which said
7 leave takes place.

8 SECTION 2. Subdivision (1) of section 4 of Chapter 32, as so appearing, is hereby
9 amended by adding after line 355 the following:—

10 (s) Creditable service in the case of any member who retires on or after the effective date
11 of this act shall include the period of any sabbatical leave awarded at a public institution of
12 higher education to a faculty member or professional employee regardless of whether the
13 sabbatical leave is granted with full or partial compensation, provided, however, that such

14 creditable service shall be granted at a rate of one half for a sabbatical leave where the member
15 has contributed at half the rate of his or her regular rate and full creditable service where the
16 member has contributed at the full rate and provided, further, that a faculty member or
17 professional employee who had such full-year sabbatical leave or leaves approved prior to July
18 29, 1991, shall, for the first of such leaves, contribute the regular deductions which would
19 ordinarily be assessed based upon the date of such persons entry into the retirement system.