



**NOTICE TO PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS OF THE
STANISLAUS COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION**

THIS NOTICE REVIEWS YOUR MAXIMUM RETIREMENT BENEFIT

The Internal Revenue Code (the Code) limits the amount of benefits that you may receive from a qualified retirement plan. Section 415 of the Code defines these limits. The IRS reviews these rates annually and adjusts the rates for inflation. Depending on your age at retirement and the form of payment selected, actuarial modifications may reduce the limit, unless your benefits are governed by specified rules for qualified Safety members.

If you accept full-time employment with an employer participating in the Stanislaus County Employees' Retirement Association (StanCERA), you may have certain rights under the retirement plan. However, if you became a member prior to January 1, 1990, your base benefit cannot exceed the limit set by the IRS. While it is possible for members hired before 1990 to accrue benefits in excess of the limit, the plan cannot consider any benefit increases after October 14, 1987 when calculating a "grandfathered" limit.

As a qualified retirement plan, StanCERA is required to impose the IRS limitations contained in Section 415 of the Code. Depending on your membership date, years of service with a participating employer, and age when payments begin, these limitations may serve to reduce or restrict benefits otherwise payable to you by StanCERA.

This notice is provided only to clarify the IRS limitations, not to alter or modify any information found in your member handbook. If you have any further questions regarding the limit or its application to your future benefits, you should contact the Internal Revenue Service, a qualified tax advisor, or the plan administrator. Any inquires of the plan administrator should be addressed as follows:

*Stanislaus County Employees' Retirement Association
P.O. Box 3150
Modesto, CA 95353-3150
(209) 525-6393*

I have read the above notice and receive a copy for my records. I understand that my retirement rights and benefits are subject to the limits of Internal Revenue Code §415.

Member Signature Printed Name Employee ID Date