

Approved Alternative Surviving Spouse Definitions

Current definition: For purposes of this chapter, and the governing bylaws of any relief association to which this chapter applies, the term “surviving spouse” means any person who was the dependent spouse of a deceased active member or retired former member living with the member at the time of the death of the active member or retired former member for at least one year prior to the date on which the member terminated active service and membership.

PERA definition: “Surviving spouse” means the spouse of a deceased member or disabilitant who was legally married to the member at the time of death.

Approved changes to Minn. Stat. § 424A.001, subd. 6:

For purposes of this chapter and the governing bylaws of any relief association to which this chapter applies, the term “surviving spouse” means ~~any person who was the dependent spouse of a deceased active member or retired former member living with the member at the time of the death of the active member or retired former member for at least one year prior to the date on which the member terminated active service and membership.~~ the spouse of a deceased member who was legally married to the member either at the time of separation or at death as specified by the governing bylaws or, if the governing bylaws do not specify, at the time of death.