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**Section 145: Retirement Fund**

All moneys contributed by employees of the City or appropriated by the Council or received from any other source under the terms of this Article, shall be placed in a special fund in the City Treasury to be known as the City Employees' Retirement Fund, which said fund is hereby created. Such fund shall be a Trust Fund to be held and used only for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Article. No payments shall be made therefrom except upon the order of the Board of Administration. This fund may be placed by the Board under the Funds Commission for investment; but shall not be merged with other funds of the City.

**Section 146: Additional Provisions**

The Council is hereby fully empowered by a majority vote of the members to enact any and all ordinances necessary, in addition to the ordinance authorized in Section 141 of this Article, to carry into effect the provisions of this Article; and any and all ordinances so enacted shall have equal force and effect with this Article and shall be construed to be a part hereof as fully as if drawn herein.

**Section 147: Former Pensioners Entitled to Benefits of this Article**

All persons who were receiving pensions prior to the adoption of this Charter shall be entitled to all the provisions of this Article.

**Section 148: Declaration of Intent**

It is the intent and purpose of this Article, where not in conflict with the terms of the present existing City Employees' Retirement System, to continue said system in force and effect as existing at the time this Charter is adopted.

**Section 148.1: Authority to Consolidate City Employees' Retirement System with State of California Retirement System And/or U.s. Government Social Security**

Notwithstanding any of the provisions of this Article IX to the contrary, the Council may, with the approval of a majority of all active members of the City Employees' Retirement System, enter into a contract with the State of California wherein said employees shall be entitled to become members of and enjoy all of the benefits of the State Retirement System for state employees, and/or with the U. S. Government for the conferring of Social Security benefits upon such municipal employees; provided, however, that in any such contract provision shall be made for protecting and safeguarding any and all vested