CURRENT BOARD POLICY:

Members currently receiving workmen's compensation and use accrued vacation or sick leave to continue with their health insurance policy are making contributions to MERS on their vacation or sick leave.

This results in multiple breaks in service and are causing administrative issues with both the employer and the retirement system.

The member is not actually performing any work or earning any wages. This member would not be considered eligible to be a member of MERS due to not being regularly scheduled to work 35 hours or more per week.

PROPOSED BOARD POLICY:

If a member is absent due to a workmen's compensation claim, no contributions are to be withheld from workmen's compensation payments or leave/wages paid until the member returns to work full-time. The member will have a break in service for the entire time the member is being paid workman's compensation. The employer will be responsible for notifying MERS the date the employee begins receiving workmen's compensation and the date the employee returns to work full-time.