

2017 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 52

BY SENATOR LONG

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

SHERIFFS. Provides relative to payment of group insurance for retired sheriffs and deputy sheriffs of the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office. (8/1/17)

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 13:5554(G)(1) and to enact R.S. 13:5554(FF), relative to the premium costs of group hospital and health insurance for retired sheriffs and retired deputy sheriffs; to provide relative to premium costs for retired sheriffs and retired deputy sheriffs of the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office; to provide for eligibility for payment of premium costs; to provide for applicability; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 13:5554(G)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 13:5554(FF) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§5554. Group insurance; kinds; amounts; subrogation

* * *

G.(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection D of this Section, the premium costs of group hospital, surgical, medical expense, and dental insurance, and the first ten thousand dollars of life insurance contracted for under the provisions of this Section shall be paid in full from the sheriff's general fund for all sheriffs and deputy sheriffs retired with at least fifteen years of service who are at least fifty-five

1 years of age or retired with at least thirty years of service at any age. The provisions
 2 of this Subsection shall be applicable only to the sheriffs' offices of the parishes of
 3 Bossier, St. Bernard, St. Martin, Acadia, Allen, Avoyelles, Beauregard, Caddo,
 4 Calcasieu, Caldwell, Cameron, Catahoula, Concordia, East Feliciana, Grant,
 5 Iberville, Jackson, Jefferson Davis, Lafayette, Lincoln, Livingston, Morehouse,
 6 ~~Natchitoches~~, Pointe Coupee, Rapides, Red River, St. James, Tangipahoa, Union,
 7 Vermilion, Vernon, Washington, West Baton Rouge, West Carroll, and West
 8 Feliciana and the sheriff of the Civil District Court of the parish of Orleans, for their
 9 respective retirees. The provisions of this Subsection shall also apply to the
 10 employees of the Sheriffs' Pension and Relief Fund and the Louisiana Sheriffs'
 11 Association, which fund and association shall pay the premium costs for their
 12 employees.

13 * * *

14 **FF. Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection D of this Section, the**
 15 **sheriff of Natchitoches Parish shall pay out of the sheriff's general fund the**
 16 **premium costs of group insurance for any retired sheriff and any retired deputy**
 17 **sheriff who retired from the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office and meets the**
 18 **regular retirement eligibility requirements of the Sheriffs' Pension and Relief**
 19 **Fund, as follows:**

20 **(1) One hundred percent of the premium costs of group hospital,**
 21 **surgical, medical expense, and dental insurance, and the first ten thousand**
 22 **dollars of life insurance contracted for under the provisions of this Section if the**
 23 **sheriff or deputy sheriff retired with twenty-five years or more of creditable**
 24 **service with the sheriff's office of Natchitoches Parish.**

25 **(2) Seventy-five percent of the premium costs of group hospital, surgical,**
 26 **medical expense, and dental insurance, and the first ten thousand dollars of life**
 27 **insurance contracted for under the provisions of this Section if the sheriff or**
 28 **deputy sheriff retired with twenty years of creditable service with the sheriff's**
 29 **office of Natchitoches Parish.**

1 **(3) Fifty percent of the premium costs of group hospital, surgical,**
 2 **medical expense, and dental insurance, and the first ten thousand dollars of life**
 3 **insurance contracted for under the provisions of this Section if the sheriff or**
 4 **deputy sheriff retired with fifteen years of creditable service with the sheriff's**
 5 **office of Natchitoches Parish.**

6 **(4) The provisions of this Subsection shall apply only to persons hired by**
 7 **the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office on or after August 1, 2017, and who**
 8 **subsequently retire from the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office.**

9 **(5) The provisions of Paragraph (G)(1) of this Section shall apply to all**
 10 **persons hired by the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office before August 1, 2017.**

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Ashley E. Menou.

DIGEST

SB 52 Engrossed

2017 Regular Session

Long

Present law provides that the premium costs of group hospital, surgical, medical expense, and dental insurance, and the first \$10,000 of life insurance shall be paid in full from the sheriff's general fund for all sheriffs and deputy sheriffs retired with at least 15 years of service who are at least 55 years of age or retired with at least 30 years of service at any age.

Proposed law removes Natchitoches Parish from present law and provides that premium costs of group insurance for any retired sheriff or retired deputy sheriff who meets the regular eligibility requirements of the Sheriffs' Pension and Relief Fund shall be paid from the sheriff's general fund, as follows:

- (1) 100% for retired sheriffs and deputy sheriffs with 25 years of service.
- (2) 75% for retired sheriffs and deputy sheriffs with 20 years of service.
- (3) 50% for retired sheriffs and deputy sheriffs with 15 years of service.

Proposed law further provides that the percentages of premiums shall only be paid if all service is creditable service with the sheriff's office of Natchitoches Parish.

Proposed law will only apply to persons hired by the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office on or after August 1, 2017, and who subsequently retire from the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office. Provides that present law will apply to persons hired before August 1, 2017.

Effective August 1, 2017.

(Amends R.S. 13:5554(G)(1); adds R.S. 13:5554(FF))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Judiciary B to the original bill

1. Adds requirement that retirees meet the regular retirement eligibility requirements of the Sheriff's Pension and Relief Fund.