

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 85

BY SENATOR MILLER

SHERIFFS. Provides for funding of certain insurance costs for retirees of the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office. (8/1/26)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 13:5554.15, relative to the payment of group insurance premiums for retired  
3 sheriffs and deputy sheriffs in St. Charles Parish; to create a permanent fund; to  
4 provide for the depositing of certain monies into the fund; to provide for investment  
5 of monies in the fund; to authorize the withdrawal of earnings; to provide for  
6 limitations on appropriations from the fund; to provide for audits of the fund; to  
7 provide for the membership of the investment advisory board; and to provide for  
8 related matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 13:5554.15 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

11 **§5554.15. St. Charles Parish; payment of group insurance premiums; retired**  
12 **sheriffs and deputy sheriffs; creation of fund**

13 **A. There is hereby created the St. Charles Parish Sheriff Retired**  
14 **Employees Insurance Fund, hereinafter referred to as the "SCREIF", to help**  
15 **offset the payment by the sheriff's office of St. Charles Parish of the premium**  
16 **costs for eligible retired sheriffs and retired deputy sheriffs as provided in R.S.**  
17 **13:5554(O).**

1           **B. The sheriff of St. Charles Parish may contribute to the SCREIF at his**  
2           **discretion.**

3           **C. Upon recommendations of the board established in Subsection F of**  
4           **this Section, the sheriff of St. Charles Parish shall invest at least twenty-five**  
5           **percent in equities and twenty-five percent in fixed income investments into the**  
6           **SCREIF, provided that a minimum of seventy-five percent of the fixed income**  
7           **portion is rated as investment grade by a nationally recognized rating agency.**

8           **D.(1) The earnings realized on the monies invested pursuant to**  
9           **Subsection C of this Section shall be available for the sheriff to withdraw for the**  
10           **sole purpose of paying the insurance premium costs provided in R.S. 13:5554(O)**  
11           **for retired sheriffs and retired deputy sheriffs of St. Charles Parish, legal**  
12           **representation costs for the SCREIF Board, or both, provided that no such**  
13           **earnings shall be withdrawn until the amount of principal and accumulated**  
14           **earnings in the SCREIF are equal to the sum of four million dollars.**

15           **(2) In the event that the total amount of monies derived from deposits**  
16           **provided in Subsection B of this Section and investment earnings fall below the**  
17           **sum of four million dollars, no earnings shall be withdrawn, and any balance**  
18           **owed for the payment of insurance premium costs as required by R.S.**  
19           **13:5554(O) or legal representation costs for the SCREIF Board shall be paid in**  
20           **full from the sheriff's general fund.**

21           **E. Any financial audit conducted of the sheriff's office of St. Charles**  
22           **Parish shall specifically address compliance with the provisions of this Section.**

23           **F.(1) To provide recommendations concerning the investment of funds**  
24           **as provided in Subsection C of this Section, the sheriff shall establish the**  
25           **SCREIF Board as an investment advisory board consisting of three members**  
26           **as follows:**

27           **(a) The sheriff or his designee.**

28           **(b) One retired sheriff or retired deputy sheriff of the department,**  
29           **appointed by the sheriff, who shall serve a term determined by the sheriff.**

1                    **(c) One active deputy sheriff of the department, appointed by the sheriff,**  
 2                    **who shall serve a term determined by the sheriff.**

3                    **(2) The members of the board shall elect a chairperson at its first board**  
 4                    **meeting, which shall be held within thirty days after the appointment of board**  
 5                    **members.**

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

## DIGEST

SB 85 Reengrossed

2026 Regular Session

Miller

Present law applicable to the sheriff's office of St. Charles Parish provides that premium costs of group hospital, surgical, and medical expense shall be paid from the sheriff's general fund for any sheriff or deputy sheriff who has retired from the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office and have either:

- (1) At least 15 years of service and have reached the age of 55.
- (2) At least 20 years of service at any age.

Proposed law retains present law and creates the St. Charles Parish Retired Employees Insurance Fund (SCREIF) to fund the payment by the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office for the premium costs of insurance for retired sheriffs and deputy sheriffs as provided in present law.

Proposed law provides that the sheriff of St. Charles Parish may contribute to the SCREIF at his discretion.

Proposed law provides that the sheriff shall invest at least 25% in equities and 25% fixed income investments into the SCREIF, provided that a minimum of 75% of the fixed income portion is rated as investment grade by a nationally recognized rating agency.

Proposed law provides that earnings realized from investments shall be available for the sheriff to withdraw for the purpose of paying the insurance premium costs, legal representation costs for the SCREIF Board, or both, provided that no such earnings shall be withdrawn until the amount of principal and accumulated earnings in the SCREIF is equal to the sum of \$4 million. Provides that if the deposits and earnings on investments fall below \$4 million, no earnings shall be withdrawn and any balance owed for the payment of insurance premium costs shall be paid in full from the sheriff's general fund.

Proposed law requires any financial audit by the sheriff's office to comply with all provisions of proposed law.

Proposed law requires the sheriff to establish the SCREIF Board as a three-member investment advisory board consisting of three members as follows:

- (1) The sheriff or his designee.
- (2) One retired sheriff or retired deputy sheriff of the department, appointed by the sheriff, who shall serve a term determined by the sheriff.

- (3) One active deputy sheriff of the department, appointed by the sheriff, who shall serve a term determined by the sheriff.

Proposed law requires the board to meet within 30 days after appointment of members and provides for election of a chairperson at the first meeting of the board.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Adds R.S. 13:5554.15)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Make technical change.