

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

HB 42

2026 Regular Session

Bacala

May 29, 2026

To the Honorable Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives and the Honorable President and Members of the Senate.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, the conferees appointed to confer over the disagreement between the two houses concerning House Bill No. 42 by Representative Bacala, recommend the following concerning the Engrossed bill:

- 1. That Senate Floor Amendments Nos. 1 and 2 by Senator Price (#4339) be rejected.
- 2. That Senate Floor Amendment No. 3 by Senator Price (#4339) be adopted.
- 3. That the following amendments to the Engrossed bill be adopted:

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, delete line 2, and insert "To amend and reenact R.S. 11:927(B)(2)(c)(i) and (d) and (F)(2) and to enact R.S. 11:791 and 927(B)(2)(b)(iii) and R.S. 17:3357, relative"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, delete line 15, and insert "Section 1. R.S. 11:927(B)(2)(c)(i) and (d) and (F)(2) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 11:791 and 927(B)(2)(b)(iii) are"

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Tony Bacala

Senator Edward J. "Ed" Price

Representative Christopher Turner

Senator Robert "Bob" Owen

Representative Kendrick "Ken" Brass

Senator Sidney Barthelemy II

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, 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)]

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

HB 42

2026 Regular Session

Bacala

Keyword and oneliner of the instrument as it left the House

RETIREMENT/TEACHERS: Provides relative to a phased retirement program within the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana

Report adopts Senate amendments to:

1. Provide, beginning July 1, 2026, in addition to the employer rate as provided in present law, an additional 1.8% of pay shall be contributed for the optional retirement plan by each constitutionally established board which manages public postsecondary education institutions to the Teachers' Retirement System of La.
2. Provide that the additional employer contribution is subject to appropriation.

Report rejects Senate amendments which would have:

1. Made technical changes.

Report amends the bill to:

1. Make technical changes.

Digest of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

Proposed law provides for the creation of a Phased Retirement Program (PRP) within the Teachers' Retirement System of La.

Proposed law provides that a member of the system who qualifies with the member's respective public postsecondary education institution must apply to the retirement system as provided in present law.

Proposed law provides that during participation in the PRP the participant's benefit is reduced. Provides that the reduction of the retirement benefit is based on the full regular benefit amount the participant would have been eligible to receive at the beginning of the participation period reduced by the percentage of work performed by the participant.

Proposed law provides that upon completion of the phased retirement program, the participant begins to receive his full regular retirement benefit.

Proposed law provides that during the PRP, the participant and the employer do not make contributions if they are on the defined benefit plan. Provides the following remain fixed as they were when the participant began in the PRP:

- (1) The participant's benefit.
- (2) Final average compensation.
- (3) Creditable service.

Proposed law requires the employer of the participant in the PRP to notify the system of the participant's terms including the following:

- (1) The participant's start date.
- (2) Length of participation in the plan.
- (3) Final termination date.
- (4) The percentage of work to be performed by the participant.

Proposed law requires the employer and participant to notify the system upon completion or termination of participation in the PRP.

Proposed law provides:

- (1) Each public postsecondary education management board may develop and implement a phased retirement program.
- (2) Any such program is subject to board policy, which shall provide for, at a minimum, all of the following:
 - (a) Program participation is voluntary.
 - (b) Eligibility criteria for employees to participate in the program.
 - (c) Program participation period of 12-36 months.
 - (d) Requirement for memorandum of understanding between the employee and his institution or system about workload (must be no less than 50%), schedule, and program expectations.
 - (e) A requirement for formal written acknowledgment by the employee of all program terms and conditions.
- (3) Authorizes a management board to adopt a policy prior to July 1, 2027, but prohibits program implementation prior to that date.

Present law provides for a monthly fee to cover the administration and maintenance of the Optional Retirement Program. Provides that the fee is expressed as a percentage of the participant's earnable compensation. Provides that the participant's share of the monthly fee is the lesser of:

- (1) One-half of the total monthly fee.
- (2) Five-hundredths of one percent of the participant's compensation.

Present law provides that the employer's share of the fee is the balance remaining after payment of the participant's share.

Proposed law, beginning July 1, 2027, provides that the employer shall pay the full amount of the monthly fee.

Present law requires that, beginning July 1, 2018, each constitutionally established board that manages public postsecondary education institutions and each employer institution and agency to contribute to TRSL on behalf of each participant in the optional retirement plan the following amounts:

- (1) An amount calculated in accordance with present law.
- (2) An amount not less than 6.2% of pay.

Proposed law provides that, beginning July 1, 2026, employers pay an additional 1.8% of pay, subject to appropriation.

Proposed law requires that any cost of proposed law be funded with additional employer contributions in compliance with present constitution (Art. X, Sec. 29(F)).

(Amends R.S. 11:927(B)(2)(c)(i) and (d) and (F)(2); Adds R.S. 11:791 and 927(B)(2)(b)(iii) and R.S. 17:3357)