

2019 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 9

BY SENATOR PETERSON

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

STATE EMPLOYEE RET. Removes future employees of the Regional Transit Authority from the system and state civil service. (6/30/19)

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 48:1655(N) and 1656(2), relative to the employees of the Regional Transit Authority; to provide for classification of the employees; to provide for membership in the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System; to provide for calculation of and payments for certain unfunded accrued liability attributable to the authority; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 48:1655(N) and 1656(2) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§1655. Board of commissioners; membership; terms

* * *

N.(1) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law to the contrary, the authority shall not be considered an instrumentality of the state for purposes of Article X, Section 1(A) of the Constitution of Louisiana. No employee of the authority hired on or after July 1, 2019, shall be included in the state civil service system or the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System.

1 ~~(2)(a)~~ All permanent employees of the authority **hired on or before June 30,**
 2 **2019,** other than the commissioners, the secretary, the treasurer, the general counsel,
 3 the general manager and his assistant shall be classified employees in the state civil
 4 service system and as such shall be eligible to participate in the Louisiana State
 5 Employees' Retirement System; however, no part-time employee shall participate in
 6 group insurance or retirement ~~benefits; and, further provided, that the Authority~~
 7 **benefits. The authority** shall pay the employer's share of all contributions to such
 8 system. Consultants or other persons or groups furnishing services under contract,
 9 including but not limited to managerial, engineering, planning, or legal services,
 10 shall not be a part of the state civil service system regardless of the length of their
 11 contracts or the nature of the services rendered.

12 **(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the**
 13 **authority shall remit to the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System that**
 14 **portion of the unfunded accrued liability existing on June 30, 2019, attributable**
 15 **to the authority. The amount due shall be determined by the actuary employed**
 16 **by the retirement system and shall be amortized over ten years. The amount**
 17 **shall be paid in equal monthly payments, in the same manner as regular payroll**
 18 **payments to the retirement system.**

19 §1656. General powers

20 The authority shall have all powers necessary or convenient to accomplish
 21 the aforesaid purposes, including but not limited to the following:

22 * * *

23 (2) The power to appoint, select, and employ officers, agents, and employees,
 24 including engineering, architectural, and construction experts, fiscal agents and
 25 attorneys, to contract for the services of individuals or organizations not employed
 26 full time by the authority but who are engaged primarily in the rendition of personal
 27 services and not the sale of goods or merchandise, including but not limited to the
 28 services of attorneys, accountants, engineers, architects, consultants, and advisors,
 29 allowing them suitable compensation. Except as provided in ~~Subsection N of Section~~

LASERS.

Proposed law deletes present law.

Effective June 30, 2019.

(Amends R.S. 48:1655(N) and 1656(2))