

1 parish of Pointe Coupee, for any sheriff or deputy sheriff hired on and after
 2 July 1, 2019, the sheriff of Pointe Coupee Parish shall pay in full from the
 3 sheriff's general fund the premium costs of group hospital, surgical, medical
 4 expense, and dental insurance, and the first ten thousand dollars of life
 5 insurance contracted for under the provisions of this Section for any sheriff or
 6 full-time deputy sheriff who retires directly from active service with the
 7 Pointe Coupee Parish Sheriff's Office and who meets the criteria in all of the
 8 following Items:

9 (i) Is entitled to receive benefits from the Sheriff's Pension and Relief
 10 Fund.

11 (ii) Has at least fifteen years of full-time service with the Pointe Coupee
 12 Parish Sheriff's Office.

13 (iii) Is at least fifty-five years of age.

14 Section 2. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2019.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Dawn Romero Watson.

DIGEST

SB 25 Engrossed

2019 Regular Session

Ward

Present law requires the sheriff of each parish to pay insurance premiums for certain coverage on the sheriff and sheriff deputies and permits similar coverage for dependents of the sheriff and dependents of sheriff deputies. Authorizes the sheriff to contract with any insurance company authorized to do business in Louisiana to provide group life and accidental death and dismemberment, group health, accident, dental, hospital, surgical, or other medical expense and group disability insurance on the sheriff's office employees and their dependents; also allows a sheriff to secure such coverage through the Sheriff's Association Self-Insurance Plan.

Present law requires that any policy or self-insurance plan providing group hospital, surgical, medical expense or life insurance contracted for shall contain a provision authorizing any covered employee retiring under his sheriff's department retirement plan to elect to continue such coverage upon retirement. Further provides that the premium cost of such coverage may be paid in full or in part from the sheriff's general funds or by the retired employee, and that a uniform policy with respect to the payment of such premiums shall be formulated and applied by each sheriff.

Present law provides that, notwithstanding present law, the sheriff of certain parishes, including Pointe Coupee, pay in full from the sheriff's general fund the premium costs of group hospital, surgical, medical expense, and dental insurance and the first \$10,000 of life insurance contracted for under present law for any sheriff or deputy sheriff of their respective office who retires with:

- (1) At least 15 years of service and is at least 55 years of age; or
- (2) At least 30 years of service.

Proposed law retains present law for the sheriffs and deputy sheriffs of the Pointe Coupee Parish Sheriff's Office that were hired before July 1, 2019.

Proposed law provides that, in the parish of Pointe Coupee, for sheriffs and deputy sheriffs who were hired on or after July 1, 2019, the sheriff shall pay in full from the sheriff's general fund the premium costs of group hospital, surgical, medical expense, and dental insurance and the first \$10,000 of life insurance contracted for under present law for any sheriff or full-time deputy sheriff who retires directly from active service with the Pointe Coupee Parish Sheriff's Office and who:

- (1) Is entitled to receive benefits from the Sheriff's Pension and Relief Fund; and
- (2) Has at least 15 years of full-time service with the Pointe Coupee Parish Sheriff's Office; and
- (3) Is at least 55 years of age.

Effective July 1, 2019.

(Adds RS 13:5554(G)(9))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

1. Removes provisions that would have required that PCPSO sheriffs and deputies who retired after May 20, 2008, and were hired before July 1, 2019, retire directly from active service with PCPSO and have at least twelve years of service with PCPSO to qualify for full benefits.