

First Extraordinary Session, 2005

SENATE BILL NO. 30

BY SENATOR HEITMEIER AND REPRESENTATIVE ALARIO

GROUP BENEFITS PROGRAM. Provides for certain benefits offered through the Office of Group Benefits programs for employees who were furloughed or terminated as a result of hurricanes Katrina and Rita. (gov sig)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact the introductory paragraph of R.S. 42:851(E)(1) and to enact R.S.
3 42:851(D)(4), relative to Office of Group Benefits programs; to prohibit any
4 reduction in the minimum state contribution for premium payments for certain
5 employees affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita under certain circumstances; and
6 to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 42:851(D)(4) is hereby enacted and the introductory paragraph of
9 R.S. 42:851(E)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

10 §851. Authority for employee benefit programs; payroll deduction for payment of
11 premiums

12 * * *

13 D.

14 * * *

15 **(4) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, there shall be**
16 **no reduction in the state minimum contribution as a result of any lapse in**
17 **participation from August 30, 2005, through December 31, 2006, for an**

1 **employee furloughed or terminated as the result of hurricanes Katrina or Rita**
2 **who is subsequently rehired.**

3 E.(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Part to the contrary, for
4 any person who is an active employee as defined by R.S. 42:808 and who does not
5 participate in the Office of Group Benefits program provided by this Part before
6 January 1, 2002, but subsequently enrolls in the program, or for any person who is
7 hired on or after January 1, 2002, who meets the definition of employee as provided
8 by ~~Subsection F of this Section~~ **R.S. 42:808** the state contribution of the total
9 premium shall, upon retirement, be:

10 * * *

11 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
12 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
13 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
14 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
15 effective on the day following such approval.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Carla S. Roberts.

DIGEST

Present law provides for the minimum state contribution toward premiums payable by retirees.

Proposed law retains present law and prohibits any reduction in the state minimum contribution as a result of any lapse in participation from August 30, 2005, through December 31, 2006, for an employee furloughed or terminated as the result of hurricanes Katrina or Rita who is subsequently rehired.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 42:851(E)(1); adds R.S. 42:851(D)(4))