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

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## DIGEST

Heitmeier (SB 30)

Present law provides for the minimum 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 and Rita who is subsequently rehired.

Present law provides that where an employee is granted a leave of absence for a service related injury or at the request of the agency, or is disabled under the worker's compensation, he may continue participation in Office of Group Benefits program for a period not to exceed 12 months. The state will continue to contribute its portion of the premiums.

Proposed law retains present law but provides that an employee who is granted leave of absence for any other reason may continue participation in the Office of Group Benefits program for a period not to exceed 12 months if the employee pays the full premium or charges due.

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

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

### Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

#### Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Insurance to the original bill.

1. Allows an employee who is granted leave of absence without pay due to reasons other than work related injury to continue to participate in the Office of Group Benefits program for up to 12 months upon the employee's payment of the full premium or charges due.