

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 586

BY REPRESENTATIVE THIBAUT

ASSESSORS: Requires the assessor in certain parishes to pay the cost of certain insurance premiums for eligible retirees from the assessor's office

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 47:1923(D), relative to assessors; to provide relative to the  
3 payment of certain group insurance premiums for retirees of certain assessors'  
4 offices; to establish retiree eligibility criteria; and to provide for related matters.

5 Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published  
6 as provided by Article III, Section 13 of the Constitution of  
7 Louisiana.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 47:1923(D) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

10 §1923. Authority for assessors separately or jointly to contract for insurance;  
11 payment of premiums

12 \* \* \*

13 D.(1)(a) In the parishes of Allen, Ascension, Assumption, Avoyelles,  
14 Beauregard, Bienville, Calcasieu, Caldwell, Cameron, Catahoula, Claiborne,  
15 Concordia, DeSoto, East Baton Rouge, Franklin, Iberia, Iberville, Jackson, Jefferson,  
16 Lafayette, Lafourche, LaSalle, Lincoln, Madison, Morehouse, Natchitoches, Orleans,  
17 Ouachita, Plaquemines, Pointe Coupee, Rapides, Red River, Sabine, St. Bernard, St.  
18 Charles, St. Helena, St. John the Baptist, St. Landry, St. Martin, Tangipahoa, Tensas,  
19 Terrebonne, Union, Vermilion, Vernon, Washington, Webster, West Baton Rouge,  
20 West Carroll, and West Feliciana, the assessor shall pay the premium cost of group

1 life, dental, group health, hospital, surgical, or other medical insurance for any  
2 assessor or assessor's employee who ~~retires with at least twenty years of service who~~  
3 ~~is at least fifty-five years of age or who retires with at least thirty years of service at~~  
4 ~~any age~~ meets the requirements of Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph. A uniform  
5 policy with respect to the payment of such premium shall be formulated and applied  
6 by the assessor of each parish listed in this ~~Subsection~~ Subparagraph.

7 (b)(i) The assessor or assessor's employee was elected, appointed, or hired  
8 before August 1, 2014, and retires in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 11:1421  
9 with at least twenty years of service.

10 (ii) The assessor or assessor's employee was elected, appointed, or hired on  
11 or after August 1, 2014, and retires in accordance with the provisions of R.S.  
12 11:1421 with at least twenty years of service. At least twelve years of service shall  
13 have been earned at the assessor's office from which the person retires. For purposes  
14 of this Item, the twelve years of service required for eligibility for receipt of benefits  
15 provided for in this Paragraph shall not include any service that was earned  
16 elsewhere and transferred for credit with the assessor's office from which the person  
17 retires.

18 (2)(a) In Acadia Parish, the assessor shall pay the premium cost of group life,  
19 dental, group health, hospital, surgical, or other medical insurance for any assessor  
20 or assessor's employee who ~~retires with at least twenty-five years of service who is~~  
21 ~~at least fifty-five years of age or who retires with at least thirty years of service at~~  
22 ~~any age~~ meets the requirements of Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph. A uniform  
23 policy with respect to the payment of the cost of such premium shall be formulated  
24 and applied by the assessor of Acadia Parish.

25 (b)(i) The assessor or assessor's employee was elected, appointed, or hired  
26 before August 1, 2014, and retires in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 11:1421  
27 with at least twenty-five years of service.

28 (ii) The assessor or assessor's employee was elected, appointed, or hired on  
29 or after August 1, 2014, and retires in accordance with the provisions of R.S.

1        11:1421 with at least twenty years of service. At least twelve years of service shall  
2        have been earned at the Acadia Parish assessor's office. For purposes of this Item,  
3        the twelve years of service required for eligibility for receipt of benefits provided for  
4        in this Paragraph shall not include any service that was earned elsewhere and  
5        transferred for credit with the Acadia Parish assessor's office.

6                (3)(a) In the parishes of East Carroll and Richland, the assessor shall pay the  
7        premium cost of group life, dental, group health, hospital, surgical, or other medical  
8        insurance for any assessor or assessor's employee who meets the requirements of  
9        Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph. A uniform policy with respect to the payment  
10       of the cost of such premium shall be formulated and applied by the assessor of each  
11       parish listed in this Subparagraph.

12               (b) The assessor or assessor's employee was elected, appointed, or hired on  
13       or after August 1, 2014, and retires in accordance with the provisions of R.S.  
14       11:1421 with at least twenty years of service. At least twelve years of service shall  
15       have been earned at the assessor's office from which the person retires. For purposes  
16       of this Item, the twelve years of service required for eligibility for receipt of benefits  
17       provided for in this Paragraph shall not include any service that was earned  
18       elsewhere and transferred for credit with the assessor's office from which the person  
19       retires.

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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)]

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Thibaut

HB No. 586

**Abstract:** Requires the assessor in certain parishes to pay the cost of group insurance premiums for retirees of the assessor's office who meet certain eligibility criteria.

Present law provides with respect to eligibility for normal retirement benefits from the Assessors' Retirement Fund (R.S. 11:1421). Persons hired on or before Sept. 30, 2013, may retire with at least 12 years of service if they are at least 55 years of age, or with at least 30 years of service at any age. Persons hired on or after Oct. 1, 2013, may retire with at least 12 years of service if they are at least 60 years of age, or with at least 30 years of service if they are at least 55 years of age.

For Allen, Ascension, Assumption, Avoyelles, Beauregard, Bienville, Calcasieu, Caldwell, Cameron, Catahoula, Claiborne, Concordia, DeSoto, East Baton Rouge, Franklin, Iberia, Iberville, Jackson, Jefferson, Lafayette, Lafourche, LaSalle, Madison, Morehouse, Natchitoches, Orleans, Ouachita, Plaquemines, Pointe Coupee, Rapides, Red River, Sabine, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. Helena, St. John the Baptist, St. Landry, St. Martin, Tangipahoa, Tensas, Terrebonne, Union, Vermilion, Vernon, Washington, Webster, West Baton Rouge, West Carroll, and West Feliciana parishes:

Present law requires the assessor to pay the premium cost of group life, dental, health, and other insurance (insurance premium cost) for an assessor or assessor's employee who retires (retiree) with at least 20 years of service and who is at least 55 years of age, or with at least 30 years of service at any age.

Proposed law changes present law eligibility criteria for a retiree elected, appointed, or hired before Aug. 1, 2014, from a retiree who retires with at least 20 years of service and is at least 55 years of age, or at least 30 years of service at any age to a retiree with at least 20 years of service and who is eligible for normal retirement benefits from the Assessors' Retirement Fund. Retirees elected, appointed, or hired on or after Aug. 1, 2014, must retire with at least 20 years of service, be eligible for normal retirement benefits from the Assessors' Retirement Fund, and have at least 12 years of service credit earned at the assessor's office from which he retires.

For Acadia Parish:

Present law requires the assessor to pay the insurance premium cost for a retiree who retires with at least 25 years of service and who is at least 55 years of age, or with at least 30 years of service at any age.

Proposed law changes present law eligibility criteria for a retiree elected, appointed, or hired before Aug. 1, 2014, from a retiree who retires with at least 25 years of service and is at least 55 years of age, or at least 30 years of service at any age to a retiree who retires with at least 20 years of service and is eligible for normal retirement benefits from the Assessors' Retirement Fund. Retirees elected, appointed, or hired on or after Aug. 1, 2014, must retire with at least 20 years of service, be eligible for normal retirement benefits from the Assessors' Retirement Fund, and have at least 12 years of service credit earned at the Acadia Parish assessor's office.

For East Carroll and Richland parishes:

Proposed law requires payment of insurance premium costs for a retiree elected, appointed, or hired on or after Aug. 1, 2014, who retires with at least 20 years of service credit, 12 years of which shall have been earned at the assessor's office from which he retires, and who is eligible for normal retirement benefits from the Assessors' Retirement Fund.

(Amends R.S. 47:1923(D))