

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 27 (HB 72)

2017 Regular Session

Leopold

Existing law provides that the premium costs of group hospital, surgical, medical expense, and dental insurance and the first \$10,000 of life insurance shall be paid out of the sheriff's general fund for all sheriffs and deputy sheriffs who retire from the Plaquemines Parish Sheriff's Office with at least 12 years of service with the Plaquemines Parish Sheriff's Office and have either:

- (1) At least 15 years of service and have reached the age of 55.
- (2) At least 30 years of service at any age.

New law retains existing law but specifies that the provisions of existing law only apply to persons hired by the Plaquemines Parish Sheriff's Office before July 1, 2017.

New law further requires that the Plaquemines Parish Sheriff's Office pay premium costs of group hospital, surgical, medical expense, and dental insurance and the first \$10,000 of life insurance out of the sheriff's general fund for all sheriffs and deputy sheriffs who retire from the Plaquemines Parish Sheriff's Office and were hired for the first time on or after July 1, 2017, as follows:

- (1) 100% of the premium costs with at least 30 years of creditable service with the Plaquemines Parish Sheriff's Office regardless of age.
- (2) 100% of the premium costs with at least 25 years of creditable service with the Plaquemines Parish Sheriff's Office and who are at least 55 years of age.
- (3) 75% of the premium costs with at least 20 years of creditable service with the Plaquemines Parish Sheriff's Office and who are at least 55 years of age.
- (4) 50% of the premium costs with at least 15 years of creditable service with the Plaquemines Parish Sheriff's Office and who are at least 55 years of age.

Existing law provides for the Plaquemines Parish Retired Employees' Insurance Fund (PREIF) to fund the payment by the sheriff's office of Plaquemines Parish of the premium costs for eligible retired sheriffs and retired deputy sheriffs.

Prior law required the following monies to be deposited into the PREIF until the total amount of the monies including principal and earnings in the PREIF equaled the sum of \$5,000,000:

- (1) 1½% of the monies received by the Plaquemines Parish Sheriff's Office for its efforts of collecting parish property tax.
- (2) 50% percent of the revenues received by the Plaquemines Parish Sheriff from video poker proceeds.
- (3) Any other monies that the sheriff of Plaquemines Parish may contribute to the PREIF.

New law removes these provisions of prior law and provides that the sheriff may contribute to the PREIF at his discretion.

Existing law provides that the sheriff must invest the monies in the PREIF as follows:

- (1) Not more than 50% in equities.
- (2) At least 50% in fixed income investments, provided that not more than one-half of the investment in fixed income may be invested in corporate bonds.

Existing law permits the earnings realized on the monies invested to be available for the sheriff to withdraw for the purpose of paying the insurance premium costs for retired sheriffs and retired deputy sheriffs of Plaquemines Parish, provided that no such earnings will be

withdrawn until the amount of principal and accumulated earnings in the PREIF is equal to the sum of \$5,000,000.

New law retains existing law but removes the provision prohibiting withdrawal from the PREIF until the amount of principal and accumulated earnings is equal to the sum of \$5,000,000.

Existing law requires the sheriff to establish an investment advisory board consisting of three members as follows:

- (1) The sheriff.
- (2) Two active deputy sheriffs of the department elected by the other active deputy sheriffs of the department. If more than two people qualify for the election, the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes cast shall be elected to the board.

Existing law further provides for election of members, filling of vacancies, election of a chairperson, terms of office, the adoption of rules by the board, compensation of the board, and the requirement that the board retain a financial advisor and legal counsel.

New law retains existing law but provides that if money deposited into the PREIF falls below \$10,000, the requirement for the board and the financial and legal counsel provided for in existing law will be extinguished.

Effective August 1, 2017.

(Amends R.S. 13:5554(N) and 5554.3(B), (C), (D), (E), and (F); Repeals R.S. 13:5554.3(G))