

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

SB 9

2019 Regular Session

Peterson

June 3, 2019

To the Honorable President and Members of the Senate and to the Honorable Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, the conferees appointed to confer over the disagreement between the two houses concerning Senate Bill No. 9 by Senator Peterson, recommend the following concerning the Reengrossed bill:

- 1. That the House Floor Amendments No. 1 and 2 proposed by the House of Representatives on May 31, 2019, be accepted.
- 2. That the House Floor Amendment No 3 proposed by the House of Representatives on May 31, 2019, be rejected.
- 3. That the following amendments to the reengrossed bill be adopted:

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 2, line 2, change "**equitable**" to "**equitably**"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, at the end of line 29, change "**that falls**" to "**in**"

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 3, delete line 1 and insert "**the management class of the authority shall**"

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 4, delete lines 6 and 7, and insert "to the state classified service and ~~full-time employees of the authority~~ shall be eligible to participate in the **Louisiana** State Employees' Retirement System."

Respectfully submitted,

Senators:

Representatives:

Senator Karen Carter Peterson

Representative Neil C. Abramson

Senator Barrow Peacock

Representative J. Kevin Pearson

Senator Conrad Appel

Representative Barbara Carpenter

The legislative instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Margaret M. Corley.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

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Keyword and summary of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

STATE EMPLOYEE RET. Removes certain future employees of the Regional Transit Authority from the system and state civil service. (6/30/19)

Report adopts House amendments to:

1. Remove limitation on permanent employees of RTS hired on or before June, 30, 2019.

Report rejects House amendments which would have:

1. Reinstated provisions for personnel of RTA to be eligible to participate in LASERS.

Report amends the bill to:

1. Reinstated provisions for certain personnel of RTA to be eligible to participate in LASERS.
2. Make technical changes to the bill.

Digest of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

Present law provides for the Regional Transit Authority (RTA).

Present law further provides that all permanent employees of the RTA shall be classified employees in the state civil service system and as such shall be eligible to participate in the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS).

Proposed law defines "management class" or "class of position" as a definitely recognized kind of employment designated to embrace positions that are so nearly alike in the essential character of their duties, responsibilities, and consequent qualifications requirements that can fairly and equitably be treated alike under like conditions for all personnel purposes in which the primary duty or responsibility of policy, planning, accounting, administration, clerical, grants management compliance, engineering, finance, security and technology.

Proposed law retains present law for all permanent employees except those that fall under the management class.

Present law (La. Const. Art. X, Sec. 1(A)) establishes the state civil service. Provides that regardless of the source of funding used to pay for their employment, employees of certain entities including the state and any state instrumentality are in the state civil service.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that the RTA shall not be considered to be an instrumentality of the state for purposes of Article X, Section 1(A). Provides that no employee that falls under the management class of the authority, hired on or after July 1, 2019, shall be included in the state civil service system or LASERS.

Proposed law requires the RTA to remit that portion of LASERS' unfunded accrued liability existing on June 30, 2019, attributable to the RTA. Proposed law further provides that the amount due shall be determined by the actuary employed by LASERS and shall be amortized over ten years.

Present law provides for the general powers of the RTA, including the power to hire employees and to contract for services.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law specifies that, except as provided in present law, all personnel of the RTA shall be employed in accordance with the constitutional provisions and rules and regulations pertaining to the state classified service.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that full-time employees of the RTA shall be eligible to participate in LASERS.

Proposed law removes eligibility to participate for management class employees of the authority in LASERS.

Effective June 30, 2019.

(Amends R.S. 48:1653(18), (19), (20), (21), and (22), 1655(N) and 1656(2); adds R.S. 48:1653(23))