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## DIGEST

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Havard

HB No. 64

**Abstract:** Adds to the Hazardous Duty Services Plan in the La. State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS) new employees of the Eastern Louisiana Mental Health System who are employed as therapeutic corrections guards or officers in the forensic program.

Present law generally creates the Hazardous Duty Services Plan within LASERS for certain law enforcement personnel whose first employment making them eligible for membership in any state retirement system occurs on or after Jan. 1, 2011, and provides that members of existing hazardous duty plans may retain membership in those plans. The personnel eligible for the Hazardous Duty Services Plan include the following persons:

- (1) Wildlife agents of the enforcement division of the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries.
- (2) Wardens, correctional officers, security personnel, and probation and parole officers employed by the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections (DPS&C).
- (3) Employees of the bridge police section of the Crescent City Connection Division of the Dept. of Transportation and Development (DOTD).
- (4) Full-time law enforcement personnel, supervisors, and administrators who are employed with the Dept. of Revenue, office of alcohol and tobacco control, who are P.O.S.T.-certified, who have the power to arrest, and who hold a commission from such office.
- (5) Peace officers, as defined by R.S. 40:2402(3)(a), employed by DPS&C, office of state police, other than state troopers.
- (6) Arson investigators employed by the office of state fire marshal who are P.O.S.T.-certified, who have the power to arrest, and who hold a commission from such office.
- (7) Park rangers employed by the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, office of state parks, who are P.O.S.T.-certified, who have the power to arrest, and who hold a commission from such office.
- (8) Campus police officers employed by postsecondary education institutions, who are P.O.S.T.-certified, who have the power to arrest, and who hold a commission required for

employment.

- (9) Hospital security officers employed by LSU Health Sciences Center, who are P.O.S.T.-certified, who have the power to arrest, and who hold a commission required for employment.
- (10) Investigators of the Dept. of Justice who are in a position required to be P.O.S.T.-certified.
- (11) Investigators of the office of state inspector general who are in a position required to be P.O.S.T.-certified.
- (12) All personnel employed in positions required to be P.O.S.T.-certified, who have the power to arrest, and who hold commissions required for employment, who are otherwise members of LASERS, and are not members of any other retirement system.

Proposed law adds employees of the Eastern La. Mental Health System who are therapeutic corrections guards or officers in the forensic program whose first employment making them eligible for membership in a state system occurred on or after July 1, 2015.

Proposed law authorizes qualifying employees of the Eastern La. Mental Health System to transfer service credit and upgrade accruals earned in other LASERS plans or other state or statewide retirement systems to the hazardous duty plan under certain circumstances, requires the member to pay certain actuarial costs and any additional cost related to Office of Group Benefits premiums.

Proposed law requires that the cost of future accruals pursuant to proposed law be funded with additional employer contributions in compliance with Art. X, §29(F) of the state constitution.

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

(Amends R.S. 11:613(A) and 615(B); Adds R.S. 11:612(2.1) and 620.1)

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Retirement to the original bill.

- 1. Restricts applicability of proposed law to employees of the system who are employed as therapeutic corrections guards or officers in the forensic program.
- 2. Adds references to proposed law regarding therapeutic guards and officers to provisions with respect to membership and benefit calculations in the Hazardous Duty Services Plan.