

Thibaut (HB 586)**Act No. 186**

Existing 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, Lincoln, Livingston, 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:

Prior law required the assessor to pay the premium cost of group life, dental, health, and other insurance (insurance premium costs) 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.

New law changes the eligibility criteria for the assessor's payment of a retiree's insurance premium costs. For a retiree elected, appointed, or hired before Aug. 1, 2014, eligibility is changed 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. For a retiree elected, appointed, or hired on or after Aug. 1, 2014, an eligible retiree shall 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.

New law adds Livingston parish.

For Acadia Parish:

Prior law required the assessor to pay the insurance premium costs 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.

New law changes the eligibility criteria for the assessor's payment of a retiree's insurance premium costs. For a retiree elected, appointed, or hired before Aug. 1, 2014, eligibility is changed 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. For a retiree elected, appointed, or hired on or after Aug. 1, 2014, an eligible retiree shall 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:

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

Effective Aug. 1, 2014.

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