

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 86th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2007
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1201

5 By: Representative Harrelson
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO EQUALIZE RETIREE GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE
10 PREMIUM COSTS UNDER THE ARKANSAS TEACHER
11 RETIREMENT SYSTEM FOR RETIRED STATE EMPLOYEES AND
12 RETIRED PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES; TO PERMIT STATE
13 CONTRIBUTIONS TO GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUM
14 COSTS FOR PARTICIPANTS IN THE ARKANSAS TEACHER
15 RETIREMENT SYSTEM WHO ARE NOT STATE EMPLOYEES;
16 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
17

Subtitle

18 AN ACT TO EQUALIZE RETIREE GROUP HEALTH
19 INSURANCE PREMIUM COSTS AND TO PERMIT
20 STATE CONTRIBUTIONS TO GROUP HEALTH
21 INSURANCE PREMIUM COSTS FOR PARTICIPANTS
22 IN THE ARKANSAS TEACHER RETIREMENT
23 SYSTEM WHO ARE NOT STATE EMPLOYEES.
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27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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29 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Section 6-17-1112 is amended to read as
30 follows:

31 6-17-1112. Life and disability insurance - Members of retirement
32 systems.

33 (a) Members of the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System and the Arkansas
34 Public Employees' Retirement System who have rendered, or shall render,
35 service as employees of the public schools who hereafter retire and receive
36 retirement benefits under such systems shall be eligible to participate in



1 the group insurance program instituted pursuant to the provisions of this
 2 subchapter and other laws enacted to implement such programs, provided that
 3 such persons are participating in the group insurance program at the time of
 4 retirement.

5 (b) In addition, upon the death of an active member or a retired
 6 member of the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System, the survivors of such
 7 member who are eligible for an annuity under the system and who were covered
 8 on the active member's policy at the time of death shall have the option of
 9 continuing to be a member of such insurance group at the prevailing rates
 10 established for members of the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System, upon
 11 application for such coverage.

12 ~~(c)(1) However, persons~~ A person drawing retirement benefits under the
 13 Arkansas Teacher Retirement System and the Arkansas Public Employees'
 14 Retirement System who ~~wish~~ elects to participate or continue to participate
 15 in the group insurance program provided for ~~herein~~ in this subchapter shall
 16 pay the ~~full amount~~ retiree portion of the premium or cost of the policy, ~~and~~
 17 ~~such.~~

18 (2) The retiree portion of the premium or cost shall be deducted
 19 from the retirement benefit ~~checks~~ check of ~~such participants~~ the retiree.

20 (d) The retiree portion of the premium or cost of the policy shall not
 21 be greater than that required to be paid by a state-employee retiree in the
 22 Arkansas Teacher Retirement System or the Arkansas Public Employees'
 23 Retirement System under § 21-5-411(b).

24 (e)(1) The state may make a monthly contribution on behalf of the
 25 Arkansas Teacher Retirement System and the Arkansas Public Employees'
 26 Retirement System equal to the number of persons projected to be eligible for
 27 the group insurance program provided for in this subchapter multiplied by the
 28 amount necessary to meet the requirement of subsection (d) of this section.

29 (2) The state contribution amount shall not exceed the state
 30 contribution amount permitted by law for state contributions to the Arkansas
 31 Teacher Retirement System and the Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement
 32 System for the benefit of state employees as provided in § 21-5-414.

33 (3) The Department of Finance and Administration may make a
 34 monthly contribution to partially defray the cost of the group insurance
 35 provided in this section utilizing funds made available for that purpose, not
 36 to exceed the amount authorized by law.