

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

As Engrossed: H3/20/07

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1201

5 By: Representatives Harrelson, *Stewart, Blount, T. Bradford, Breedlove, Burris, Cash, Cheatham, Cook,*
6 *Cornwell, L. Cowling, D. Creekmore, Dunn, George, Glidewell, R. Green, Greenberg, Hawkins, Hoyt, D.*
7 *Hutchinson, J. Johnson, Key, King, Maxwell, Overbey, Pierce, Powers, S. Prater, Ragland, J. Roebuck,*
8 *Rosenbaum, Shelby, L. Smith, Wells, Wood, Woods*

For An Act To Be Entitled

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

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21 AN ACT TO EQUALIZE RETIREE GROUP HEALTH
22 INSURANCE PREMIUM COSTS AND TO PERMIT
23 STATE CONTRIBUTIONS TO GROUP HEALTH
24 INSURANCE PREMIUM COSTS FOR PARTICIPANTS
25 IN THE ARKANSAS TEACHER RETIREMENT
26 SYSTEM WHO ARE NOT STATE EMPLOYEES.
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30 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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32 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Section 6-17-1112 is amended to read as
33 follows:

34 6-17-1112. Life and disability insurance - Members of retirement
35 systems.

36 (a) Members of the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System and the Arkansas



1 Public Employees' Retirement System who have rendered, or shall render,
2 service as employees of the public schools who hereafter retire and receive
3 retirement benefits under such systems shall be eligible to participate in
4 the group insurance program ~~instituted~~ administered by the Employee Benefits
5 Division of the Department of Finance and Administration pursuant to the
6 provisions of this subchapter and other laws enacted to implement such
7 programs, provided that such persons are participating in the group insurance
8 program at the time of retirement.

9 (b)(1) In addition, upon the death of an active member ~~or a retired~~
10 ~~member~~ of the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System, the survivors of such
11 member who are eligible for or are receiving an annuity under the system and
12 who were covered on the active member's health insurance policy at the time
13 of death shall have the option of continuing to be a member of such insurance
14 group at the prevailing rates established for members of the Arkansas Teacher
15 Retirement System, upon application for such coverage.

16 (2) Upon the death of a retired member of the Arkansas Teacher
17 Retirement System, a survivor of a member who was receiving an annuity under
18 the system and who was covered on the member's health insurance policy at the
19 time of the member's death shall have the option of continuing to be a member
20 of the insurance group at the prevailing rates established for the members of
21 the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System upon application for the coverage.

22 (c)(1) ~~However, persons~~ A person drawing retirement benefits under the
23 Arkansas Teacher Retirement System and the Arkansas Public Employees'
24 Retirement System who ~~wish~~ elects to participate or continue to participate
25 in the group insurance program provided ~~for herein~~ by the Employee Benefits
26 Division of the Department of Finance and Administration shall pay the ~~full~~
27 ~~amount~~ retiree portion of the premium or cost of the policy, ~~and such~~

28 (2) The retiree portion of the premium or cost shall be deducted
29 from the retirement benefit ~~checks~~ check of ~~such participants~~ the
30 participant.

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

35 (e)(1) The state may make a monthly contribution on behalf of the
36 members who participate in the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System and the

1 Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System group insurance program provided
2 by the Employee Benefits Division of the Management Services Division of the
3 Department of Finance and Administration multiplied by the amount necessary
4 to meet the requirement of subsection (d) of this section.

5 (2) The state contribution amount shall not exceed the state
6 contribution amount permitted by law for state contributions for members and
7 retirees of the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System and the Arkansas Public
8 Employees' Retirement System to the Employee Benefits Division of the
9 Department of Finance and Administration for the benefit of state employees
10 as provided in § 21-5-414.

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

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16 /s/ Harrelson, et al
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