

SENATE BILL NO. 140

BY SENATOR ABRAHAM

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 13:5554(G)(4)(d), (e), (f), and (g), relative to insurance benefits for certain sheriffs and deputies; to provide for eligibility requirements for the payment of insurance premium costs for retired sheriffs and deputies of the Acadia Parish Sheriff's Office; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 13:5554(G)(4)(d), (e), (f), and (g) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§5554. Group insurance; kinds; amounts; subrogation

\* \* \*

G. \* \* \*

(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, the sheriff of Acadia Parish shall pay out of the sheriff's general fund the premium costs of group insurance for any sheriff or deputy sheriff who is eligible to receive benefits from the Sheriffs' Pension and Relief Fund, as follows:

\* \* \*

**(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection and Subparagraphs (a) through (c) of this Paragraph, one hundred percent of the premium costs of group insurance, hospital, surgical, and medical expense insurance and the first ten thousand dollars of life insurance contracted pursuant to the provisions of this Section shall be paid in full from the sheriff's general fund for any sheriff, full-time deputy sheriff, or any other employee who has retired from the Acadia Parish Sheriff's Office, who is eligible to receive benefits from the Sheriff's Pension and Relief Fund, and who meets all of the following qualifications:**

1                   (i) Has at least thirty years of creditable service with a statewide  
2                   retirement system with the final twelve years of continuous full-time creditable  
3                   service with the Acadia Parish Sheriff's Office.

4                   (ii) Is at least fifty-five years of age.

5                   (e) Insurance benefits provided for in Subparagraph (d) of this  
6                   Paragraph shall be based on the total amount of creditable service with a  
7                   statewide retirement system including time earned in the Sheriff's Pension and  
8                   Relief Fund and the recipient's coverage during the last active year of service  
9                   with the Acadia Parish Sheriff's Office. Coverage of these insurance benefits  
10                  shall be extended to the recipient's eligible dependents if the recipient requests  
11                  such coverage.

12                  (f) Recipients of insurance pursuant to Subparagraph (d) of this  
13                  Paragraph are subject to all cost increases or changes to the active insurance  
14                  plan.

15                  (g) The provisions of Subparagraph (d) of this Paragraph shall apply to  
16                  sheriffs and deputy sheriffs who retire on or after July 1, 2022.

17                  Section 2. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2022; if vetoed by the governor  
18                  and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day  
19                  following such approval by the legislature or July 1, 2022, whichever is later.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_