

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 14

BY REPRESENTATIVE WILDER

RETIREMENT/TEACHERS: Provides relative to beneficiaries within the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 11:783(A)(2) and to enact R.S. 11:783(A)(5), relative to the  
3 Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana; to provide for designation of a child or  
4 children with a disability as a beneficiary or beneficiaries; to provide relative to  
5 medical determination of such disability; to provide relative to benefits; and to  
6 provide for related matters.

7 Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published  
8 as provided by Article X, Section 29(C) of the Constitution  
9 of Louisiana.

10 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

11 Section 1. R.S. 11:783(A)(2) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 11:783(A)(5)  
12 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

13 §783. Selection of option for method of payment after death of member

14 A.

15 \* \* \*

16 (2) Upon retirement or participation in the Deferred Retirement Option Plan  
17 any member may make an election which is irrevocable after the effective date of  
18 retirement or the effective date of participation in the Deferred Retirement Option  
19 Plan to receive his benefit in a retirement allowance payable throughout life, or he  
20 may make an election which is irrevocable after the effective date of retirement or

1 the effective date of participation in the Deferred Retirement Option Plan to receive  
2 the actuarial equivalent of his retirement allowance in a reduced retirement  
3 allowance payable throughout life with the provisions that:

4 Option 1. If he dies before he has received in annuity payments the present  
5 value of his annuity as it was at the time of his retirement, the balance shall be paid  
6 to his succession or to any person he shall designate in a written instrument  
7 acknowledged and filed with the board of trustees.

8 Option 2. Upon his death, his reduced retirement allowance shall be  
9 continued throughout the life of and paid to a natural person he shall irrevocably  
10 designate in a written instrument acknowledged and filed with the board of trustees  
11 at the time the election is made; or

12 Option 2A. Upon his death, his reduced retirement allowance shall be  
13 continued throughout the life of and paid to a natural person he shall irrevocably  
14 designate in a written instrument acknowledged and filed with the board of trustees  
15 at the time the election is made, provided that if the designated beneficiary  
16 predeceases the retiree, the retiree's reduced benefit shall change to the maximum  
17 benefit effective on the first day of the next month following the death of the  
18 designated beneficiary.

19 Option 3. Upon his death, one-half of his reduced retirement allowance shall  
20 be continued throughout the life of and paid to a natural person he shall irrevocably  
21 designate in a written instrument acknowledged and filed with the board of trustees  
22 at the time the election is made; or

23 Option 3A. Upon his death, one-half of his reduced retirement allowance  
24 shall be continued throughout the life of and paid to a natural person he shall  
25 irrevocably designate in a written instrument acknowledged and filed with the board  
26 of trustees at the time the election is made, provided that if the designated  
27 beneficiary predeceases the retiree, the retiree's reduced benefit shall change to the  
28 maximum benefit effective on the first day of the next month following the death of  
29 the designated beneficiary.

Option 4. Upon his death, some other benefit which shall not exceed the Option 2 benefit amount, designated by him at the time the election is made, shall be paid throughout the life of and to a natural person he shall irrevocably designate in a written instrument acknowledged and filed with the board of trustees at the time the election is made, provided such other benefit, together with the reduced retirement allowance shall be certified by the actuary to be of equivalent actuarial value to his retirement allowance, and approved by the board of trustees; or

Option 4A. Upon his death, some other benefit which shall not exceed the Option 2 benefit amount, designated by him at the time the election is made shall be paid throughout the life of and to a natural person he shall irrevocably designate in a written instrument acknowledged and filed with the board of trustees at the time the election is made, provided such other benefit, together with the reduced retirement allowance, shall be certified by the actuary to be of equivalent actuarial value to his retirement allowance, and approved by the board of trustees, provided that if the designated beneficiary predeceases the retiree, the retiree's reduced benefit shall change to the maximum benefit effective on the first day of the next month following the death of the designated beneficiary.

Option 5. Upon his death, some other benefit or benefits shall be payable to the member's child or children with a permanent mental or physical disability as he shall nominate, provided such other benefit or benefits, together with the reduced retirement allowance, shall be certified by the actuary to be of equivalent value to his retirement allowance and approved by the board of trustees.

\* \* \*

(5) If a member nominates his child or children diagnosed with a permanent mental or physical disability to receive a benefit pursuant to Option 5 of this Subsection, the medical determination of such disability shall be performed in immediate proximity to, but before the effective date of, such member's retirement or entry into the Deferred Retirement Option Plan. If a member requests the system to perform a medical determination of disability for his child or children and the

1 member does not allocate to the child or children at least one-half of his reduced  
2 benefit, at the discretion of the board of trustees, the member shall have the cost of  
3 the medical determination deducted from his retirement benefits.

4 \* \*

5           Section 2. The cost of this Act, if any, shall be funded with additional employer  
6   contributions in compliance with Article X, Section 29(F) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

# DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 14 Original

2026 Regular Session

Wilder

**Abstract:** Provides for the designation of a child or children with a disability as a beneficiary or beneficiaries for members of the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL).

Present law provides any member may make an irrevocable election, upon his retirement, to receive a benefit allowance throughout his lifetime, or make an irrevocable election to receive the actuarial equivalent of his reduced retirement benefit to allow a designated beneficiary to receive a benefit throughout their lifetime.

Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law allows a member to designate a child or children with a permanent physical or mental disability to receive a reduced portion of the member's benefit. Requires the reduced benefit to be certified by the system's actuary and approved by the system's board of trustees.

Proposed law provides that if a member designates a child or children with a disability to receive a benefit pursuant to proposed law, a medical determination must be performed in immediate proximity to the member's retirement or entry into the Deferred Retirement Option Program.

Proposed law allows the member to request the medical determination to be done by the system, but stipulates if the member does not allocate at least one-half of the benefit to the child or children with a disability the cost of the medical determination is to be deducted from the member's benefit.

Proposed law requires that any cost of proposed law be funded with additional employer contributions in compliance with present constitution (Art. X, Sec. 29(F)).

(Amends R.S. 11:783(A)(2); Adds R.S. 11:783(A)(5))