

# ACT No. 280

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 23

BY REPRESENTATIVES BACALA, ADAMS, BAYHAM, BERAULT, BILLINGS, BROUSSARD, CARVER, FREIBERG, ILLG, TRAVIS JOHNSON, KNOX, LACOMBE, LAFLEUR, LYONS, MARCELLE, MARTINEZ, MCMAKIN, NEWELL, PHELPS, SAWYER, STAGNI, TAYLOR, THOMPSON, AND WYBLE

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 11:542.4, relative to the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System; to provide for a cost-of-living adjustment; to provide for eligibility and funding; to provide for payment and timing; and to provide for related matters.

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

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 11:542.4 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§542.4. Cost-of-living adjustment; payable July 1, 2026

A. Notwithstanding any provision of R.S. 11:542 to the contrary, the board of trustees of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System may grant a cost-of-living adjustment, funded exclusively with money from the experience account and payable July 1, 2026, to the following retirees and beneficiaries:

(1) Any retiree, other than a disability retiree, who has attained at least age sixty and who has received a benefit for at least one year by June 30, 2026.

(2) Any nonretiree beneficiary, if benefits had been paid to the retiree or the beneficiary, or both combined, for at least one year and if the retiree would have attained age sixty by June 30, 2026.

1                   (3) Any disability retiree or a person who receives benefits from the system  
2                   based on the death of a disability retiree, if benefits have been paid to the retiree or  
3                   the beneficiary, or both combined for at least one year by June 30, 2026.

4                   B. The adjustment authorized by this Section shall be payable only on the  
5                   first eighty-one thousand two hundred and one dollars of a retiree or beneficiary's  
6                   benefit and shall be an amount determined by the system's actuary with the  
7                   agreement of the legislative auditor's actuary that is supported by the experience  
8                   account balance after any credits or debits to the account pursuant to R.S. 11:542, up  
9                   to a maximum payment of two percent of the eligible benefit amount.

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

12                  Section 3. This Act shall become effective on June 30, 2026; if vetoed by the  
13                  governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on  
14                  June 30, 2026, or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

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