

By Senator Saunders

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to state retirees' health insurance; amending s. 112.363, F.S.; providing for a health insurance subsidy for the benefit of dependent children of persons retired due to disability; providing conditions on such subsidy; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraph (e) of subsection (3) of section 112.363, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

112.363 Retiree health insurance subsidy.--
(3) RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE SUBSIDY AMOUNT.--

(e)1. Beginning July 1, 2001, each eligible retiree of the defined benefit program of the Florida Retirement System, or, if the retiree is deceased, his or her beneficiary who is receiving a monthly benefit from such retiree's account and who is a spouse, or a person who meets the definition of joint annuitant in s. 121.021(28), shall receive a monthly retiree health insurance subsidy payment equal to the number of years of creditable service, as defined in s. 121.021(17), completed at the time of retirement multiplied by \$5; however, no eligible retiree or beneficiary may receive a subsidy payment of more than \$150 or less than \$30. If there are multiple beneficiaries, the total payment must not be greater than the payment to which the retiree was entitled. The health insurance subsidy amount payable to any person receiving the retiree health insurance subsidy payment on July 1, 2001, shall not be reduced solely by operation of this subparagraph.

1 2. Beginning July 1, 2002, each eligible participant
2 of the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program of the
3 Florida Retirement System who has met the requirements of this
4 section, or, if the participant is deceased, his or her spouse
5 who is the participant's designated beneficiary, shall receive
6 a monthly retiree health insurance subsidy payment equal to
7 the number of years of creditable service, as provided in this
8 subparagraph, completed at the time of retirement, multiplied
9 by \$5; however, no eligible retiree or beneficiary may receive
10 a subsidy payment of more than \$150 or less than \$30. For
11 purposes of determining a participant's creditable service
12 used to calculate the health insurance subsidy, a
13 participant's years of service credit or fraction thereof
14 shall be based on the participant's work year as defined in s.
15 121.021(54). Credit shall be awarded for a full work year
16 whenever health insurance subsidy contributions have been made
17 as required by law for each month in the participant's work
18 year. In addition, all years of creditable service retained
19 under the Florida Retirement System defined benefit program
20 shall be included as creditable service for purposes of this
21 section.

22 3. Notwithstanding other provisions of this section,
23 if a person who is retired because of disability and has not
24 continued health insurance after retirement has dependent
25 children, that person shall receive a monthly retiree health
26 insurance subsidy payment on behalf of each child for as long
27 as the child remains dependent on the retiree for financial
28 support. If there is more than one dependent child, the total
29 payment must not be greater than the payment to which the
30 retiree was entitled. The department shall require a retiree
31 to provide proof of health insurance coverage on his or her

1 dependent children as a condition of eligibility for the
2 subsidy payment authorized by this subparagraph.

3 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002.

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6 SENATE SUMMARY

7 Provides for payment of the state health insurance
8 subsidy for the benefit of dependent children of a state
9 retiree who has retired due to disability but has not
continued health insurance on his or her own behalf.

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