

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES LOCAL BILL STAFF ANALYSIS**

**BILL #:** HB 517 Lee County Sheriff's Office  
**SPONSOR(S):** Kottkamp  
**TIED BILLS:** **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:** 2342 (i)

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<b>REFERENCE</b>	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>ANALYST</b>	<b>STAFF DIRECTOR</b>
1) <u>Local Affairs (Sub)</u>	<u>9 Y, 0 N</u>	<u>Sheheane</u>	<u>Highsmith-Smith</u>
2) <u>Local Government &amp; Veterans' Affairs</u>	<u>16 Y, 0 N</u>	<u>Sheheane</u>	<u>Highsmith-Smith</u>
3) _____	_____	_____	_____
4) _____	_____	_____	_____
5) _____	_____	_____	_____

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**SUMMARY ANALYSIS**

This bill revises health insurance coverage of retired persons of the Lee County Sheriff's Office. Under the bill, the Lee County Sheriff's Office proposes to pay not only the retiree's premium, but also half of the dependents' coverage contingent upon the retiree's premium having been paid at 100 percent at 20 years service. In addition, any retiree not obtaining 20 years of Florida Retirement System service may pay his or her dependents' premium. This bill also provides gender neutrality.

According to the Economic Impact Statement, the program is currently funded under local funds and there would not be any new, increased, or decreased revenues.

## FULL ANALYSIS

### I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

#### A. DOES THE BILL:

- |                                      |   |                             |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. Reduce government?                | Yes <input type="checkbox"/>            | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Lower taxes?                      | Yes <input type="checkbox"/>            | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Expand individual freedom?        | Yes <input type="checkbox"/>            | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Increase personal responsibility? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/>            | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Empower families?                 | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/>            |

For any principle that received a "no" above, please explain:

#### B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Current law provides that the Lee County Sheriff's Office pay for insurance coverage of retired members having obtained at least 15 years of service in the Florida Retirement System. At the present time, the retiree is allowed to pay for dependents' premiums. Upon the retiree's death, the surviving spouse may continue the insurance coverage.

Under the bill, the Lee County Sheriff's Office proposes to pay not only the retiree's premium, but also half of the dependents' coverage contingent upon the retirees premium having been paid at 100 percent for 20 years service. In addition, any retiree not obtaining 20 years of Florida Retirement System service may, under the bill, pay his or her dependents' premium. This bill also provides gender neutrality.

#### C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1: Paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of section 15 of chapter 74-522, Laws of Florida, as amended by chapter 99-434, Laws of Florida, is amended to revise provisions relating to the health care coverage of retirees of the Lee County Sheriff's Office.

Section 2: This act shall take effect upon becoming law.

### II. NOTICE/REFERENDUM AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

#### A. NOTICE PUBLISHED? Yes No

IF YES, WHEN? February 4, 2003

WHERE? News-Press, Fort Myers, Florida

#### B. REFERENDUM(S) REQUIRED? Yes No

IF YES, WHEN?

#### C. LOCAL BILL CERTIFICATION FILED? Yes, attached No

#### D. ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FILED? Yes, attached No

### **III. COMMENTS**

**A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:**

None.

**B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:**

Not applicable.

**C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:**

There appears to be a typographical error on the newspaper notice of intent for the bill. However, this error does not appear to be substantive as the substance of the bill appears correctly advertised.

### **IV. AMENDMENT/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES**

None.