HB 0415 2005

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the retiree health insurance subsidy; amending s. 112.363, F.S.; providing a definition; revising provisions for determination of the amount of the subsidy for retirees of the defined benefit program of the Florida Retirement System or their beneficiaries; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 112.363, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (f) is added to subsection (3) of said section, to read:

112.363 Retiree health insurance subsidy. --

- ELIGIBILITY FOR RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE SUBSIDY .--
- For purposes of this section, a person is deemed retired from a state-administered retirement system when he or she terminates employment with all employers participating in the Florida Retirement System as described in s. 121.021(39) and:
- For a participant of the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program established under part II of chapter 121, the participant meets the age or service requirements to qualify for normal retirement as set forth in s. 121.021(29).
- For a member of the Florida Retirement System defined benefit program, or any employee who maintains creditable service under both the defined benefit program and the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program, the member begins drawing

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retirement benefits from the defined benefit program of the Florida Retirement System. As used in this subparagraph, the term "the member begins drawing retirement benefits" means the retired member has received his or her monthly retirement benefit at a place of his or her choosing.

(3) RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE SUBSIDY AMOUNT. --

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(f) Beginning July 1, 2005, 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, in addition to a maximum of 60 months, or if otherwise eligible under s. 121.091(13)(b)1., a maximum of 96 months, for which the retiree participated in the Deferred Retirement Option Program, multiplied by \$5; however, no eligible retiree or such 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, 2005, shall not be reduced solely by operation of this paragraph.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.