A bill to be entitled

An act relating to retiree health insurance subsidy; amending s. 112.363, F.S.; revising provisions for determination of the amount of the subsidy for retirees of the defined benefit program and eligible participants of the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program of the Florida Retirement System or their beneficiaries; providing that the spouse at the time of a Florida Retirement System participant's death is considered the beneficiary for purposes of the retiree health insurance subsidy unless a different beneficiary has been designated; revising the contribution paid by employers of state-administered retirement plans; providing a finding

of important state interest; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraphs (f) and (g) are added to subsection (3) of section 112.363, Florida Statutes, and paragraphs (g) and

- (h) are added to subsection (8) of that section, to read:
  - 112.363 Retiree health insurance subsidy.--
  - (3) RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE SUBSIDY AMOUNT.--
- (f)1. Beginning January 1, 2007, 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 a joint annuitant in s. 121.021 shall receive a monthly retiree health

Page 1 of 5

insurance subsidy payment equal to the number of years of creditable service, as defined in s. 121.021, completed at the time of retirement multiplied by \$6; however, an eligible retiree or beneficiary may not receive a subsidy payment of more than \$180 or less than \$36. If there are multiple beneficiaries, the total payment must not be greater than the payment to which the retiree was entitled. Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, the spouse at the time of death shall be the participant's beneficiary unless such participant has designated a different beneficiary subsequent to the participant's most recent marriage. The health insurance subsidy amount payable to any person receiving the retiree health insurance subsidy payment on January 1, 2006, may not be reduced solely by operation of this subparagraph.

2. Beginning January 1, 2007, each eligible participant of the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program of the Florida Retirement System who has met the requirements of this section or, if the participant is deceased, his or her spouse who is the participant's designated beneficiary shall receive a monthly retiree health insurance subsidy equal to the number of years of creditable service, as provided in this subparagraph, completed at the time of retirement multiplied by \$6; however, an eligible retiree or beneficiary may not receive a subsidy payment of more than \$180 or less than \$36. For purposes of determining a participant's creditable service used to calculate the health insurance subsidy, a participant's years of service credit or fraction thereof shall be based on the participant's work year as defined in s. 121.021. Credit shall be awarded for a full

57

58

59

60

61

62

63

64

65

66

67

68

69

70

71

72

73

74

75

76

77

78

79

80

81

82

83

84

work year whenever health insurance subsidy contributions have been made as required by law for each month in the participant's work year. In addition, all years of creditable service retained under the Florida Retirement System defined benefit program shall be included as creditable service for purposes of this section. Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, the spouse at the time of death shall be the participant's beneficiary unless such participant has designated a different beneficiary subsequent to the participant's most recent marriage.

(q)1. Beginning January 1, 2008, 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 a joint annuitant in s. 121.021 shall receive a monthly retiree health insurance subsidy payment equal to the number of years of creditable service, as defined in s. 121.021, completed at the time of retirement multiplied by \$7; however, an eligible retiree or beneficiary may not receive a subsidy payment of more than \$210 or less than \$42. If there are multiple beneficiaries, the total payment must not be greater than the payment to which the retiree was entitled. Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, the spouse at the time of death shall be the participant's beneficiary unless such participant has designated a different beneficiary subsequent to the participant's most recent marriage. The health insurance subsidy amount payable to any person receiving the retiree health insurance subsidy

payment on January 1, 2006, may not be reduced solely by operation of this subparagraph.

85

86

87

88

89

90

91

92

93

94

95

96

97

98

99

100

101

102

103

104

105

106

107

108

109

110

111

112

- 2. Beginning January 1, 2008, each eligible participant of the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program of the Florida Retirement System who has met the requirements of this section or, if the participant is deceased, his or her spouse who is the participant's designated beneficiary shall receive a monthly retiree health insurance subsidy equal to the number of years of creditable service, as provided in this subparagraph, completed at the time of retirement multiplied by \$7; however, an eligible retiree or beneficiary may not receive a subsidy payment of more than \$210 or less than \$42. For purposes of determining a participant's creditable service used to calculate the health insurance subsidy, a participant's years of service credit or fraction thereof shall be based on the participant's work year as defined in s. 121.021. Credit shall be awarded for a full work year whenever health insurance subsidy contributions have been made as required by law for each month in the participant's work year. In addition, all years of creditable service retained under the Florida Retirement System defined benefit program shall be included as creditable service for purposes of this section. Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, the spouse at the time of death shall be the participant's beneficiary unless such participant has designated a different beneficiary subsequent to the participant's most recent marriage.
- (8) CONTRIBUTIONS.--For purposes of funding the insurance subsidy provided by this section:

Page 4 of 5

113 (g) Beginning July 1, 2006, the employer of each member of 114 a state-administered retirement plan shall contribute 1.22 115 percent of gross compensation each pay period. 116 (h) Beginning July 1, 2007, the employer of each member of 117 a state-administered retirement plan shall contribute 1.66 118 percent of gross compensation each pay period. 119 120 Such contributions shall be submitted to the Department of 121 Management Services and deposited in the Retiree Health 122 Insurance Subsidy Trust Fund. 123 Section 2. The Legislature finds that a proper and legitimate state purpose is served when employees and retirees 124 125 of the state and of its political subdivisions, and the 126 dependents, survivors, and beneficiaries of such employees and 127 retirees, are extended the basic protections afforded by 128 governmental retirement systems that provide fair and adequate 129 benefits that are managed, administered, and funded in an 130 actuarially sound manner, as required by s. 14, Art. X of the

that this act fulfills an important state interest.Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Statutes. Therefore, the Legislature determines and declares

State Constitution and part VII of chapter 112, Florida

131

132