

Bill No. SB 2978

Barcode 264054

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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The Committee on Governmental Operations (King) recommended
the following amendment:

Senate Amendment

On page 13, line 16, through
page 18, line 8, delete those lines
and insert:

Section 15. (1) It shall be and is hereby made the
duty of the Sheriff of Lee County to provide annually in his
budget, a sufficient sum of money to enable the board to
properly carry out the purposes of this act.

(2) Effective October 1, 1986 and thereafter, it is
the duty of the Sheriff of Lee County to provide annually in
his budget a sufficient sum of money to pay a percentage of
the cost of the health insurance of members of the Lee County
Sheriff's Office who retire from active service after having
accumulated at least 15 years of creditable service under the
Florida Retirement System. The health insurance costs payable
pursuant to this section include premiums for major medical
and hospitalization insurance, but do not include premiums for

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1 dental insurance. When a retiree receiving this health
2 insurance benefit becomes eligible for Medicare, his health
3 coverage will convert to the Medicare Supplement health
4 insurance.

5 (a) In order to receive this benefit, the retiree must
6 have served with the Lee County Sheriff's Office for the 10
7 years immediately preceding his retirement. The retiree may
8 claim up to 5 years of creditable service earned while in the
9 employ of another member agency within the Florida Retirement
10 System. The Lee County Sheriff's Office shall verify all years
11 of creditable service claimed through the Division of
12 Retirement of the Department of Administration.

13 (b) If an employee retires from the Lee County
14 Sheriff's Office after at least 10 years of service with the
15 department, but before reaching retirement age, and has
16 participated in the Florida Retirement System for at least 15
17 years, he may pay his and his dependent's health insurance
18 costs until he begins to receive retirement benefits under the
19 Florida Retirement System. The Lee County Sheriff's Office
20 shall begin to pay a percentage of the employee's health
21 insurance costs when he begins to receive such retirement
22 benefits. The retiree shall give the sheriff's office written
23 notice of the date of payment of his initial retirement
24 benefit. The Lee County Sheriff's Office shall verify this
25 date through the Division of Retirement of the Department of
26 Administration.

27 (c) The Lee County Sheriff's Office shall base the
28 percentage of a retiree's health insurance costs it will pay
29 upon the number of years of creditable service that the
30 retiree has accumulated in the Florida Retirement System.
31 Fifteen years of creditable service entitles the retiree to

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1 have 75 percent of his health insurance premiums paid by the
2 sheriff's office. The sheriff's office shall pay an additional
3 5 percent of the insurance premiums for each year of service
4 in excess of 15 years until reaching a maximum of 100 percent
5 of the premium at 20 years of service. The Lee County
6 Sheriff's Office shall pay an additional one-twelfth of 1
7 percent of the premium for each month served until the full
8 100 percent is paid.

9 (d) If an employee has health insurance coverage
10 through a previous employer, the Lee County Sheriff's Office
11 will be the secondary payor.

12 (e) If an employee receives a retiree health insurance
13 subsidy from the state, the Lee County Sheriff's Office shall
14 reduce the amount it pays of the employee's health insurance
15 premiums by the amount of the subsidy.

16 (f) The Lee County Sheriff's Office shall pay for the
17 health insurance coverage of the retiree and 50 percent of his
18 or her dependents' health insurance coverage only if the
19 retiree's health insurance is paid at 100 percent of the
20 premium at 20 years of service. A retiree who obtains benefits
21 without attaining 20 years of service may pay for the health
22 insurance of his or her dependents. Upon a retiree's death,
23 his or her spouse may continue the health insurance coverage
24 previously provided by the retiree. Premiums must be paid to
25 the Lee County Sheriff's Office.

26 (g) This retiree health insurance benefit is only
27 available to an employee when he retires. If the employee does
28 not elect to receive the insurance benefit upon retiring, he
29 does not have the option of receiving the benefit at a later
30 date.

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