

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to the state group insurance program;
 3 amending s. 110.123, F.S.; deleting a provision that
 4 prohibits the state from making a contribution toward the
 5 premium for coverage under the program for a retiree or
 6 surviving spouse; providing a declaration of important
 7 state interest; providing an effective date.

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

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 11 Section 1. Paragraph (e) of subsection (4) of section
 12 110.123, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

13 110.123 State group insurance program.--

14 (4) PAYMENT OF PREMIUMS; CONTRIBUTION BY STATE; LIMITATION
 15 ON ACTIONS TO PAY AND COLLECT PREMIUMS.--

16 (e) ~~No state contribution for the cost of any part of the~~
 17 ~~premium shall be made for retirees or surviving spouses for any~~
 18 ~~type of coverage under the state group insurance program.~~

19 However, Any state agency that employs a full-time law
 20 enforcement officer, correctional officer, or correctional
 21 probation officer who is killed or suffers catastrophic injury
 22 in the line of duty as provided in s. 112.19, or a full-time
 23 firefighter who is killed or suffers catastrophic injury in the
 24 line of duty as provided in s. 112.191, shall pay the entire
 25 premium of the state group health insurance plan selected for
 26 the employee's surviving spouse until remarried, and for each
 27 dependent child of the employee, subject to the conditions and
 28 limitations set forth in s. 112.19 or s. 112.191, as applicable.

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29 Section 2. The Legislature finds that a proper and
30 legitimate state purpose is served when employees and retirees
31 of the state and its political subdivisions, and the dependents,
32 survivors, and beneficiaries of such employees and retirees, are
33 extended the basic protections afforded by governmental
34 retirement systems. These persons must be provided benefits that
35 are fair and adequate and that are managed, administered, and
36 funded in an actuarially sound manner, as required by Section
37 14, Article X of the State Constitution, and part VII of chapter
38 112, Florida Statutes. Therefore, the Legislature determines and
39 declares that this act fulfills an important state interest.

40 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.