

STATE OF NEW YORK

4149

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 2, 2021

Introduced by Sen. GOUNARDES -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Civil Service and Pensions

AN ACT to amend the civil service law and the legislative law, in relation to certain benefits provided pursuant to collective bargaining agreements

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 167 of the civil service law, as
2 amended by chapter 582 of the laws of 1988, paragraph (a) as amended by
3 section 7 of part T of chapter 56 of the laws of 2010 and paragraph (b)
4 as amended by chapter 317 of the laws of 1995, is amended to read as
5 follows:

6 1. (a) The full cost of premium or subscription charges for the
7 coverage of retired state employees who are enrolled in the statewide
8 and the supplementary health benefit plans established pursuant to this
9 article and who retired prior to January first, nineteen hundred eight-
10 y-three shall be paid by the state. Nine-tenths of the cost of premium
11 or subscription charges for the coverage of state employees and retired
12 state employees retiring on or after January first, nineteen hundred
13 eighty-three and prior to October first, two thousand eleven who are
14 enrolled in the statewide and supplementary health benefit plans shall
15 be paid by the state. Three-quarters of the cost of premium or
16 subscription charges for the coverage of dependents of such state
17 employees and retired state employees shall be paid by the state.
18 Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this subdivision, the state shall
19 contribute toward the premium or subscription charges for the coverage
20 of each state employee or retired state employee who is enrolled in an
21 optional benefit plan and for the dependents of such state employee or
22 retired state employee the same dollar amount which would be paid by the
23 state for the premium or subscription charges for the coverage of such
24 state employee or retired state employee and his or her dependents if he
25 or she were enrolled in the statewide and the supplementary health bene-
26 fit plans, but not in excess of the premium or subscription charges for
27 the coverage of such state employee or retired state employee and his or

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 her dependents under such optional benefit plan. For purposes of this
2 subdivision, employees of the state colleges of agriculture, home
3 economics, industrial labor relations, and veterinary medicine, the
4 state agricultural experiment station at Geneva, and any other institu-
5 tion or agency under the management and control of Cornell university as
6 the representative of the board of trustees of the state university of
7 New York, and employees of the state college of ceramics under the
8 management and control of Alfred university as the representative of the
9 board of trustees of the state university of New York, shall be deemed
10 to be state employees whose salaries or compensation are paid directly
11 by the state.

12 (b) Effective January first, nineteen hundred eighty-nine, notwith-
13 standing any other law, rule or regulation, and where, and to the extent
14 that, an agreement between the state and an employee organization
15 entered into pursuant to article fourteen of this chapter so provides or
16 where and to the extent the employee health insurance council so directs
17 with respect to any other state employees and for retired state employ-
18 ees retiring on or after January first, nineteen hundred eighty-three
19 and prior to October first, two thousand eleven, the state shall
20 contribute nine-tenths of the cost of premiums or subscription charges
21 for coverage of each such state employee or retired state employee who
22 is enrolled in an optional benefit plan and three-fourths of such premi-
23 um or subscription charges for dependents of such state employees or
24 retired state employees enrolled in such optional benefit plan;
25 provided, however, effective January first, nineteen hundred ninety-six,
26 the contribution rates for the hospitalization and medical components of
27 each optional benefit plan shall not exceed one hundred percent of the
28 dollar amount of the state's contribution toward the hospitalization and
29 medical components of individual and dependent coverage, respectively,
30 in the Empire Plan. In the case of state employees retiring prior to
31 January first, nineteen hundred eighty-three, the state shall contribute
32 one hundred percent of the individual premium and three-fourths of such
33 premium for dependents of such retired employees enrolled in such
34 optional benefit plan; however, these contribution rates shall not
35 exceed one hundred percent of the employer dollar amount contribution
36 for individual and dependent coverage respectively in the Empire Plan.

37 (c) Effective October first, two thousand eleven, notwithstanding any
38 other law, rule or regulation, and where, and to the extent that, an
39 agreement between the state and an employee organization entered into
40 pursuant to article fourteen of this chapter so provides, the state's
41 contribution for cost of premium or subscription charges for the cover-
42 age of state employees and retired state employees enrolled in the
43 statewide and the supplementary health benefit plans established pursu-
44 ant to this article or an optional benefit plan shall be:

45 (i) For state employees employed in a title allocated or equated to
46 salary grade nine or below, the state shall contribute eighty-eight
47 percent of the cost or premium subscription charges for such employees
48 enrolled in the statewide and the supplementary health benefit plans
49 established pursuant to this article for an optional benefit plan and
50 seventy-three percent of the cost or premium subscription charges for
51 dependents of such state employees enrolled in the statewide and the
52 supplementary health benefit plans established pursuant to this article
53 or an optional benefit plan; provided, however, that the contribution
54 rates for the hospitalization, medical, and mental health and substance
55 abuse components of each optional benefit plan shall not exceed one
56 hundred percent of the dollar amount of the state's contribution toward

1 the hospitalization, medical, and mental health and substance abuse
2 components of individual and dependent coverage, respectively, in the
3 Empire Plan.

4 (ii) For state employees employed in a title allocated or equated to
5 salary grade ten or above, the state shall contribute eighty-four
6 percent of the cost or premium subscription charges for such employees
7 enrolled in the statewide and the supplementary health benefit plans
8 established pursuant to this article or an optional benefit plan and
9 sixty-nine percent of the cost or premium subscription charges for
10 dependents of such state employees enrolled in the statewide and the
11 supplementary health benefit plans established pursuant to this article
12 or an optional benefit plan; provided, however, that the contribution
13 rates for the hospitalization, medical, and mental health and substance
14 abuse components of each optional benefit plan shall not exceed one
15 hundred percent of the dollar amount of the state's contribution toward
16 the hospitalization, medical, and mental health and substance abuse
17 components of individual and dependent coverage, respectively, in the
18 Empire Plan.

19 (iii) For retired state employees retiring on or after October first,
20 two thousand eleven and before January first, two thousand twelve, the
21 state shall contribute eighty-eight percent of the cost or premium
22 subscription charges for such employees enrolled in the statewide and
23 the supplementary health benefit plans established pursuant to this
24 article or an optional benefit plan and seventy-three percent of the
25 cost or premium subscription charges for dependents of such state
26 employees enrolled in the statewide and the supplementary health benefit
27 plans established pursuant to this article or an optional benefit plan;
28 provided, however, that the contribution rates for the hospitalization,
29 medical, and mental health and substance abuse components of each
30 optional benefit plan shall not exceed one hundred percent of the dollar
31 amount of the state's contribution toward the hospitalization, medical,
32 and mental health and substance abuse components of individual and
33 dependent coverage, respectively, in the Empire Plan.

34 (iv) For retired state employees retiring on or after January first,
35 two thousand twelve from a title allocated or equated to salary grade
36 nine or below, the state shall contribute eighty-eight percent of the
37 cost or premium subscription charges for such employees enrolled in the
38 statewide and the supplementary health benefit plans established pursu-
39 ant to this article or an optional benefit plan and seventy-three
40 percent of the cost or premium subscription charges for dependents of
41 such state employees enrolled in the statewide and the supplementary
42 health benefit plans established pursuant to this article or an optional
43 benefit plan; provided, however, that the contribution rates for the
44 hospitalization, medical, and mental health and substance abuse compo-
45 nents of each optional benefit plan shall not exceed one hundred percent
46 of the dollar amount of the state's contribution toward the hospitaliza-
47 tion, medical, and mental health and substance abuse components of indi-
48 vidual and dependent coverage, respectively, in the Empire Plan.

49 (v) For retired state employees retiring on or after January first,
50 two thousand twelve from a title allocated or equated to salary grade
51 ten or above, the state shall contribute eighty-four percent of the cost
52 or premium subscription charges for such employees enrolled in the
53 statewide and the supplementary health benefit plans established pursu-
54 ant to this article or an optional benefit plan and sixty-nine percent
55 of the cost or premium subscription charges for dependents of such state
56 employees enrolled in the statewide and the supplementary health benefit

1 plans established pursuant to this article or an optional benefit plan;
2 provided, however, that the contribution rates for the hospitalization,
3 medical, and mental health and substance abuse components of each
4 optional benefit plan shall not exceed one hundred percent of the dollar
5 amount of the state's contribution toward the hospitalization, medical,
6 and mental health and substance abuse components of individual and
7 dependent coverage, respectively, in the Empire Plan.

8 (d) Notwithstanding any other law, rule or regulation, for the premium
9 or subscription charges for the coverage of retired state employees
10 retiring on and after October first, two thousand eleven enrolled in the
11 statewide and the supplementary health benefit plans or an optional
12 benefit plan established pursuant to this article the state's contribu-
13 tion rate for individual and dependent coverage shall equal the
14 contribution rate in effect on the date that the state employee retired;
15 if, however, such retired state employee's service terminated prior to
16 retirement and such retired state employee was entitled to a vested
17 retirement allowance pursuant to the retirement and social security law
18 on the date his or her service terminated and such retired state employ-
19 ee maintained his or her enrollment in the statewide and the supplemen-
20 tary health benefit plans or an optional benefit plan established pursu-
21 ant to this article the state's contribution rate for individual and
22 dependent coverage shall equal the contribution rate in effect on the
23 date that such retired state employee's service terminated; provided,
24 however, that the contribution rates for the hospitalization, medical,
25 and mental health and substance abuse components of each optional bene-
26 fit plan shall not exceed one hundred percent of the dollar amount of
27 the state's contribution toward the hospitalization, medical, and mental
28 health and substance abuse components of individual and dependent cover-
29 age, respectively, in the Empire Plan.

30 § 2. Subdivision 8 of section 167 of the civil service law, as amended
31 by section 2 of part A of chapter 491 of the laws of 2011, is amended to
32 read as follows:

33 8. Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of law, where and to the
34 extent that an agreement between the state and an employee organization
35 entered into pursuant to article fourteen of this chapter so provides,
36 the state cost of premium or subscription charges for eligible employees
37 covered by such agreement may be modified pursuant to the terms of such
38 agreement. The president, with the approval of the director of the budg-
39 et, may extend the modified state cost of premium or subscription charg-
40 es for state employees [~~or retirees~~] not subject to an agreement refer-
41 enced above and shall promulgate the necessary rules or regulations to
42 implement this provision.

43 § 3. The legislative law is amended by adding a new section 49 to read
44 as follows:

45 § 49. Legislation implementing collective bargaining agreements.
46 Legislation which enacts or amends any provision of law for the purpose
47 of implementing an agreement between the state and an employee organiza-
48 tion entered into pursuant to article fourteen of the civil service law
49 shall be limited to the provisions necessary to implement such agree-
50 ment.

51 § 4. This act shall take effect immediately provided that sections one
52 and two of this act shall be deemed to have been in effect on October 1,
53 2011. No premiums paid by retired state employees in excess of those
54 consistent with the provisions of this act shall be refunded to such
55 retired state employees.