

STATE OF NEW YORK

2823

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 23, 2017

Introduced by M. of A. ABBATE -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Employees

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

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

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1 or she were enrolled in the statewide and the supplementary health bene-
2 fit plans, but not in excess of the premium or subscription charges for
3 the coverage of such state employee or retired state employee and his or
4 her dependents under such optional benefit plan. For purposes of this
5 subdivision, employees of the state colleges of agriculture, home
6 economics, industrial labor relations, and veterinary medicine, the
7 state agricultural experiment station at Geneva, and any other institu-
8 tion or agency under the management and control of Cornell university as
9 the representative of the board of trustees of the state university of
10 New York, and employees of the state college of ceramics under the
11 management and control of Alfred university as the representative of the
12 board of trustees of the state university of New York, shall be deemed
13 to be state employees whose salaries or compensation are paid directly
14 by the state.

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

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

48 (i) For state employees employed in a title allocated or equated to
49 salary grade nine or below, the state shall contribute eighty-eight
50 percent of the cost or premium subscription charges for such employees
51 enrolled in the statewide and the supplementary health benefit plans
52 established pursuant to this article for an optional benefit plan and
53 seventy-three percent of the cost or premium subscription charges for
54 dependents of such state employees enrolled in the statewide and the
55 supplementary health benefit plans established pursuant to this article
56 or an optional benefit plan; provided, however, that the contribution

1 rates for the hospitalization, medical, and mental health and substance
2 abuse components of each optional benefit plan shall not exceed one
3 hundred percent of the dollar amount of the state's contribution toward
4 the hospitalization, medical, and mental health and substance abuse
5 components of individual and dependent coverage, respectively, in the
6 Empire Plan.

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

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

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

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

ant to this article or an optional benefit plan and sixty-nine percent of the cost or premium subscription charges for dependents of such state employees enrolled in the statewide and the supplementary health benefit plans established pursuant to this article or an optional benefit plan; provided, however, that the contribution rates for the hospitalization, medical, and mental health and substance abuse components of each optional benefit plan shall not exceed one hundred percent of the dollar amount of the state's contribution toward the hospitalization, medical, and mental health and substance abuse components of individual and dependent coverage, respectively, in the Empire Plan.

(d) Notwithstanding any other law, rule or regulation, for the premium or subscription charges for the coverage of retired state employees retiring on and after October first, two thousand eleven enrolled in the statewide and the supplementary health benefit plans or an optional benefit plan established pursuant to this article the state's contribution rate for individual and dependent coverage shall equal the contribution rate in effect on the date that the state employee retired; if, however, such retired state employee's service terminated prior to retirement and such retired state employee was entitled to a vested retirement allowance pursuant to the retirement and social security law on the date his or her service terminated and such retired state employee maintained his or her enrollment in the statewide and the supplementary health benefit plans or an optional benefit plan established pursuant to this article the state's contribution rate for individual and dependent coverage shall equal the contribution rate in effect on the date that such retired state employee's service terminated; provided, however, that the contribution rates for the hospitalization, medical, and mental health and substance abuse components of each optional benefit plan shall not exceed one hundred percent of the dollar amount of the state's contribution toward the hospitalization, medical, and mental health and substance abuse components of individual and dependent coverage, respectively, in the Empire Plan.

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

8. Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of law, where and to the extent that an agreement between the state and an employee organization entered into pursuant to article fourteen of this chapter so provides, the state cost of premium or subscription charges for eligible employees covered by such agreement may be modified pursuant to the terms of such agreement. The president, with the approval of the director of the budget, may extend the modified state cost of premium or subscription charges for state employees [~~or retirees~~] not subject to an agreement referenced above and shall promulgate the necessary rules or regulations to implement this provision.

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

§ 49. Legislation implementing collective bargaining agreements. Legislation which enacts or amends any provision of law for the purpose of implementing an agreement between the state and an employee organization entered into pursuant to article fourteen of the civil service law shall be limited to the provisions necessary to implement such agreement.

§ 4. This act shall take effect immediately provided that sections one and two of this act shall be deemed to have been in effect on October 1, 2011. All premiums paid by retired state employees in excess of those

1 consistent with the provisions of this act shall be returned to such
2 retired state employees, or to their estate, as the case may be, by the
3 comptroller as soon as practicable, but in no event later than sixty
4 days after such effective date, provided, however, that no interest
5 shall be paid thereon.