

STATE OF NEW YORK

4489

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 13, 2019

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 education law, in relation to deductions of benefits of certain retired members

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

1 Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 396-a
2 to read as follows:

3 § 396-a. Deductions from benefits of certain retired members. 1.
4 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an electing employee who is
5 retired from the optional retirement system shall have the right, at any
6 time after such electing employee's retirement, to execute and file a
7 deduction authorization card with the designated insurer or insurers
8 upon audit and warrant of the comptroller for employees of the state
9 university and by the appropriate fiscal officer for employees of an
10 electing employer authorizing the deduction from such electing employ-
11 ee's retirement allowance of membership dues and such electing employ-
12 ee's share of the cost for employee organization-sponsored benefit plans
13 and the payment thereof to a retiree organization of which the electing
14 employee is then a member and which is then affiliated with either an
15 employee organization certified or recognized as the collective bargain-
16 ing representative of all employees in the negotiating unit of which the
17 electing employee was a part prior to his or her retirement or with an
18 employee organization with which such employee organization is then
19 affiliated. The designated insurer or insurers upon audit and warrant of
20 the comptroller for employees of the state university and by the appro-
21 priate fiscal officer for employees of an electing employer shall there-
22 after deduct from the retirement allowance of such electing employee the
23 amount of membership dues and such amounts required to be paid by such
24 electing employee for such authorized employee organization-sponsored
25 benefit plans, and shall transmit the sum so deducted to said retiree

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

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1 organization. Such authorization shall continue in effect until revoked
2 in writing by such electing employee. For purposes of this section, the
3 term "employee organization-sponsored benefit plans" shall include any
4 and all insurance plans and/or other benefit plans sponsored by such
5 retiree organization whether provided by (a) a not-for-profit corpo-
6 ration licensed under article forty-three of the insurance law; (b) any
7 insurance company authorized to do business in this state; (c) a health
8 maintenance organization issued a certificate of authority pursuant to
9 article forty-four of the public health law; or (d) a self-insurance
10 arrangement, welfare fund or benefit fund.

11 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a retired elected
12 employee shall have the right, at any time after his or her retirement,
13 to execute and file a deduction authorization card with the designated
14 insurer or insurers upon audit and warrant of the comptroller for
15 employees of the state university and by the appropriate fiscal officer
16 for employees of an electing employer authorizing the payment of volun-
17 tary contributions to the political committee, as defined in subdivision
18 one of section 14-100 of the election law, of such electing employee's
19 employee organization, provided such organization is certified or recog-
20 nized pursuant to article fourteen of the civil service law as the
21 representative of all employees in the negotiating unit in which such
22 retired electing employee was then employed. Such authorization shall
23 continue in effect until revoked in writing by such electing employee.
24 The designated insurer or insurers upon audit and warrant of the comp-
25 troller for employees of the state university and by the appropriate
26 fiscal officer for employees of an electing employer shall determine the
27 cost of administering deductions for voluntary contributions to the
28 political committee and the cost incurred for administering such
29 contributions shall be paid from the funds of the political committee.

30 § 2. The education law is amended by adding a new section 6257 to read
31 as follows:

32 § 6257. Deductions from benefits of certain retired members. 1.
33 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a member who is retired from
34 the board of higher education optional retirement program shall have the
35 right, at any time after such member's retirement, to execute and file a
36 deduction authorization card with the designated insurer or insurers
37 upon audit and warrant of the comptroller authorizing the deduction from
38 such member's retirement allowance of membership dues and such member's
39 share of the cost for employee organization-sponsored benefit plans and
40 the payment thereof to a retiree organization of which the member is
41 then a member and which is then affiliated with either an employee
42 organization certified or recognized as the collective bargaining repre-
43 sentative of all employees in the negotiating unit of which the member
44 was a part prior to his or her retirement or with an employee organiza-
45 tion with which such employee organization is then affiliated. The
46 designated insurer or insurers upon audit and warrant of the comptroller
47 shall thereafter deduct from the retirement allowance of such member the
48 amount of membership dues and such amounts required to be paid by such
49 member for such authorized employee organization-sponsored benefit
50 plans, and shall transmit the sum so deducted to said retiree organiza-
51 tion. Such authorization shall continue in effect until revoked in writ-
52 ing by such member. For purposes of this section, the term "employee
53 organization-sponsored benefit plans" shall include any and all insur-
54 ance plans and/or other benefit plans sponsored by such retiree organ-
55 ization whether provided by (a) a not-for-profit corporation licensed
56 under article forty-three of the insurance law; (b) any insurance compa-

1 ny authorized to do business in this state; (c) a health maintenance
2 organization issued a certificate of authority pursuant to article
3 forty-four of the public health law; or (d) a self-insurance arrange-
4 ment, welfare fund or benefit fund.

5 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a retired member shall
6 have the right, at any time after his or her retirement, to execute and
7 file a deduction authorization card with the designated insurer or
8 insurers upon audit and warrant of the comptroller authorizing the
9 payment of voluntary contributions to the political committee, as
10 defined in subdivision one of section 14-100 of the election law, of
11 such member's employee organization, provided such organization is
12 certified or recognized pursuant to article fourteen of the civil
13 service law as the representative of all employees in the negotiating
14 unit in which such retired member was then employed. Such authorization
15 shall continue in effect until revoked in writing by such member. The
16 designated insurer or insurers upon audit and warrant of the comptroller
17 shall determine the cost of administering deductions for voluntary
18 contributions to the political committee and the cost incurred for
19 administering such contributions shall be paid from the funds of the
20 political committee.

21 § 3. This act shall take effect one year after it shall have become a
22 law.