LC01541

18

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012

AN ACT

RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS - HEALTH BENEFITS PREVIOUSLY NEGOTIATED

<u>Introduced By:</u> Representatives Brien, Petrarca, and Edwards

Date Introduced: February 16, 2012

Referred To: House Municipal Government

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1	SECTION 1. Title 27 of the General Laws entitled "Insurance" is hereby amended by
2	adding thereto the following chapter:
3	CHAPTER 76
4	RHODE ISLAND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE UNIFORM BENEFIT ACT
5	27-76-1. Short title - Purpose. – (a) This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the
6	"Rhode Island municipal employee uniform benefit act."
7	(b) The purpose of this chapter is to create uniform medical and prescription drug benefit
8	plan designs for Rhode Island municipal employees.
9	<u>27-76-2. Board of directors established.</u> – (a) There is established the board of directors
10	of the Rhode Island municipal employees' health care benefits program ("board").
11	(b) The board shall consist of five (5) members, as follows:
12	(1) One member shall be appointed by the president of Rhode Island council 94 of the
13	american federation of state, county and municipal employees;
14	(2) Two (2) members shall be appointed by the president of the Rhode Island league of
15	cities and towns.
16	(3) One member shall be appointed by the executive director of the Rhode Island
17	interlocal trust.

(4) One member shall be appointed by the director of the state department of revenue.

1	(c) Each appointing authority may remove or replace any member appointed by that
2	appointing authority at any time.
3	(d) Members of the board shall serve without compensation.
4	(e) The board shall review the work and report of the Rhode Island uniform school
5	employees health care benefits program board and make such recommendations and
6	modifications as it sees fit based upon the characteristics of the municipal employment
7	population.
8	(f) The board shall report to the governor, general assembly, and the executive board of
9	the Rhode Island league of cities and towns by February 1, 2012 with recommendations on the
10	means, feasibility and benefits of developing a statewide health benefit purchasing arrangement
11	for municipal employees.
12	SECTION 2. Title 28 of the General Laws entitled "LABOR AND LABOR
13	RELATIONS" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following chapter:
14	CHAPTER 9.8
15	HEALTH BENEFITS PREVIOUSLY NEGOTIATED
16	28-9.8-1. Retiree health insurance. – Retiree health benefits collectively stated pursuant
17	to chapters 28-9.1, 28-9.2, 28-9.3 and 28-9.4 of the general laws shall remain in full force and
18	effect, except that all future negotiated changes for active employees relating to cost sharing and
19	plan upon design of health insurance shall be applicable to all new and existing retirements.
20	SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage.
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EXPLANATION

BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

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RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS - HEALTH BENEFITS PREVIOUSLY NEGOTIATED

1	This act would create a board to make recommendations for the means, feasibility and
2	benefits for developing a statewide municipal employees' health benefit purchasing arrangement.
3	It would require that the negotiated medical benefits for fire fighters, municipal police, teachers
4	and municipal employee retirees remain in full force and effect, except that all future negotiated
5	changes for active employees relating to cost sharing and plan design of health insurance shall be
6	applicable to all new and existing retirees.
7	This act would take effect upon passage.
	

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