

By: Strama

H.B. No. 1608

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to participation in and contributions to the state employee charitable campaign by retired state employees.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 659.140(c), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c) The [~~Each member of the~~] state policy committee must:

(1) be composed of employees and retired state employees receiving benefits under Chapter 814; and

(2) [~~a state employee. The membership must~~] represent employees at different levels of employee classification.

SECTION 2. Section 659.143(b), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The presiding officer of a local employee committee shall recruit at least five but not more than 10 additional members. The members must represent different levels of employee classification. One or more members may be retired state employees receiving retirement benefits under Chapter 814.

SECTION 3. The heading to Section 814.009, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 814.009. DEDUCTION FROM ANNUITY FOR STATE EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATION.

SECTION 4. Subchapter A, Chapter 814, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 814.0095 to read as follows:

1 Sec. 814.0095. CHARITABLE DEDUCTION FROM ANNUITY. (a) A
2 person who receives an annuity under this subchapter may, on a
3 printed or electronic form filed with the retirement system,
4 authorize the retirement system to deduct from the person's monthly
5 annuity payment the amount of a contribution to the state employee
6 charitable campaign in the manner and for the same purposes for
7 which a state employee may authorize deductions to that campaign
8 under Subchapter I, Chapter 659.

9 (b) An authorization under this section must direct the
10 board of trustees to deposit the deducted funds with the
11 comptroller for distribution as required by Section 659.132(g) in
12 the same manner in which a state employee's deduction is
13 distributed.

14 (c) An authorization under this section remains in effect
15 for the period described by Section 659.137 unless the person
16 revokes the authorization by giving notice to the board of
17 trustees.

18 (d) The retirement system may adopt rules to administer this
19 section. Any rules adopted must be consistent with the
20 comptroller's rules related to the state employee charitable
21 campaign.

22 SECTION 5. (a) The board of trustees of the Employees
23 Retirement System of Texas, in cooperation with the comptroller and
24 the state policy committee established under Section 659.140,
25 Government Code, as amended by this Act, may adopt rules to
26 implement Section 814.0095, Government Code, as added by this Act.

27 (b) The board of trustees of the Employees Retirement System

1 of Texas by rule shall designate as the date on which annuity
2 deductions begin under Section 814.0095, Government Code, as added
3 by this Act, the start date of payroll deductions by state employees
4 who contribute to the first state employee charitable campaign
5 conducted in accordance with Subchapter I, Chapter 659, Government
6 Code, that occurs after the adoption of rules under Subsection (a)
7 of this section.

8 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
9 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
10 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
11 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
12 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.