

1-1 By: Strama (Senate Sponsor - Watson) H.B. No. 1608  
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 16, 2011;  
1-3 May 16, 2011, read first time and referred to Committee on State  
1-4 Affairs; May 19, 2011, reported favorably by the following vote:  
1-5 Yeas 7, Nays 0; May 19, 2011, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to participation in and contributions to the state  
1-9 employee charitable campaign by retired state employees.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Section 659.140(c), Government Code, is amended  
1-12 to read as follows:

1-13 (c) The [Each member of the] state policy committee must:

1-14 (1) be composed of employees and retired state  
1-15 employees receiving benefits under Chapter 814; and

1-16 (2) [a state employee. The membership must] represent  
1-17 employees at different levels of employee classification.

1-18 SECTION 2. Section 659.143(b), Government Code, is amended  
1-19 to read as follows:

1-20 (b) The presiding officer of a local employee committee  
1-21 shall recruit at least five but not more than 10 additional members.  
1-22 The members must represent different levels of employee  
1-23 classification. One or more members may be retired state employees  
1-24 receiving retirement benefits under Chapter 814.

1-25 SECTION 3. The heading to Section 814.009, Government Code,  
1-26 is amended to read as follows:

1-27 Sec. 814.009. DEDUCTION FROM ANNUITY FOR STATE EMPLOYEE  
1-28 ORGANIZATION.

1-29 SECTION 4. Subchapter A, Chapter 814, Government Code, is  
1-30 amended by adding Sections 814.0095 and 814.0096 to read as  
1-31 follows:

1-32 Sec. 814.0095. CHARITABLE DEDUCTION FROM ANNUITY. (a)  
1-33 Except as provided by Section 814.0096(c), a person who receives an  
1-34 annuity under this subchapter may, on a printed or electronic form  
1-35 filed with the retirement system, authorize the retirement system  
1-36 to deduct from the person's monthly annuity payment the amount of a  
1-37 contribution to the state employee charitable campaign in the  
1-38 manner and for the same purposes for which a state employee may  
1-39 authorize deductions to that campaign under Subchapter I, Chapter  
1-40 659.

1-41 (b) An authorization under this section must direct the  
1-42 board of trustees to deposit the deducted funds with the  
1-43 comptroller for distribution as required by Section 659.132(g) in  
1-44 the same manner in which a state employee's deduction is  
1-45 distributed.

1-46 (c) An authorization under this section remains in effect  
1-47 for the period described by Section 659.137 unless the person  
1-48 revokes the authorization by giving notice to the board of  
1-49 trustees.

1-50 (d) The board of trustees may adopt rules to administer this  
1-51 section. Any rules adopted must be consistent with the  
1-52 comptroller's rules related to the state employee charitable  
1-53 campaign.

1-54 Sec. 814.0096. COORDINATION WITH STATE EMPLOYEE CHARITABLE  
1-55 CAMPAIGN POLICY COMMITTEE. (a) The board of trustees and the state  
1-56 employee charitable campaign policy committee established under  
1-57 Section 659.140 shall coordinate responsibility for the  
1-58 administration of charitable deductions from annuity payments to  
1-59 the state employee charitable campaign under Section 814.0095.

1-60 (b) The state policy committee is authorized to approve a  
1-61 budget that includes funding for as many of the expenses incurred by  
1-62 the retirement system associated with the implementation and  
1-63 administration of annuitants' participation in the state employee  
1-64 charitable campaign as is practicable, including notification of

2-1 annuitants.

2-2 (c) Except as provided by this subsection, the board of  
2-3 trustees shall charge an administrative fee to cover any costs not  
2-4 paid under Subsection (b) in the implementation of Section 814.0095  
2-5 to the charitable organizations participating in the state employee  
2-6 charitable campaign conducted under that section in the same  
2-7 proportion that the contributions to that charitable organization  
2-8 bear to the total of contributions in that campaign. The board of  
2-9 trustees shall determine the most efficient and effective method of  
2-10 collecting the administrative fee and shall adopt rules for the  
2-11 implementation of this subsection.

2-12 (d) If necessary, the board of trustees and the state policy  
2-13 committee may make the annuity deduction authorization under  
2-14 Section 814.0095(a) available in stages to subgroups of the  
2-15 retirement system's annuity recipients as money becomes available  
2-16 to cover the expenses under Subsection (b) of this section.

2-17 SECTION 5. (a) The board of trustees of the Employees  
2-18 Retirement System of Texas, in cooperation with the comptroller and  
2-19 the state employee charitable campaign policy committee  
2-20 established under Section 659.140, Government Code, as amended by  
2-21 this Act, may adopt rules to implement Sections 814.0095 and  
2-22 814.0096, Government Code, as added by this Act.

2-23 (b) The board of trustees of the Employees Retirement System  
2-24 of Texas by rule shall designate the start date on which annuity  
2-25 deductions begin under Sections 814.0095 and 814.0096, Government  
2-26 Code, as added by this Act.

2-27 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
2-28 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
2-29 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
2-30 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
2-31 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

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