
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC EMPLOYEES.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 87A-30, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "§87A-30 Hawaii employer-union health benefits trust fund;
4 establishment. (a) There is established outside the state
5 treasury, a trust fund to be known as the "Hawaii Employer-Union
6 Health Benefits Trust Fund". The fund shall consist of
7 contributions, interest, income, dividends, refunds, rate
8 credits, and other returns. It is hereby declared that any and
9 all sums contributed or paid from any source to the fund created
10 by this part, and all assets of the fund including any and all
11 interest and earnings on the same, are and shall be held in
12 trust by the board for the exclusive use and benefit of the
13 employee-beneficiaries and dependent-beneficiaries and shall not
14 be subject to appropriation for any other purpose whatsoever.
15 The fund shall be under the control of the board and placed
16 under the department of budget and finance for administrative
17 purposes.



1 (b) The fund shall also consist of contributions received
2 on behalf of retirees and beneficiaries from the board of
3 trustees of the employees' retirement system that represent the
4 difference between the monthly contributions by the State or
5 county to the fund and the actual costs of health benefits
6 plans, under sections 87A-33, 87A-33.5, 87A-34, 87A-35, and
7 87A-36. The amounts shall be based upon copayment billing
8 information submitted by the trustees to the board of trustees
9 of the employees' retirement system."

10 SECTION 2. Section 88-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
11 amended to read as follows:

12 "§88-6 Payment of refunds [and], retirement benefits[-],
13 and Hawaii employer-union health benefits trust fund
14 contributions. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this
15 chapter:

16 (1) All retirees and beneficiaries of the state retirement
17 system or county pension funds shall be paid
18 semimonthly; provided that:

19 (A) All retirees and beneficiaries of the state
20 retirement system who either retire or become



1 beneficiaries after January 1, 2003, shall be
2 paid monthly; and

3 (B) Effective July 1, 2011, all retirees and
4 beneficiaries of the state retirement system
5 shall be paid monthly; provided that this
6 subparagraph shall not apply to any retiree or
7 beneficiary who:

8 (i) Became a retiree or beneficiary prior to
9 January 1, 2003;

10 (ii) Is eighty years of age or older on
11 January 1, 2011; and

12 (iii) Receives \$800 or less of pension benefits
13 each month; and

14 (2) Any retiree or beneficiary of the state retirement
15 system whose benefit commences after June 30, 2001,
16 shall designate a financial institution account into
17 which the system shall be authorized to deposit their
18 retirement benefit; and effective April 1, 2011, all
19 retirees and beneficiaries of the state retirement
20 system shall designate a financial institution account
21 into which the system shall be authorized to deposit



1 their state retirement system benefits. This method
2 of payment may be waived by the system.

3 (b) Any member, former employee, retirant, or beneficiary
4 to whom accumulated contributions or a hypothetical account
5 balance, as defined in section 88-311, is payable after June 30,
6 2008, shall, if the payment will be greater than \$250 and the
7 member, former employee, retirant, or beneficiary does not elect
8 to rollover the payment into an eligible retirement plan,
9 designate a financial institution account into which the system
10 shall be authorized to deposit the payment. This method of
11 payment may be waived by the system if another method is
12 determined to be more appropriate.

13 (c) Contributions by retirees and beneficiaries to the
14 Hawaii employer-union health benefits trust fund that represent
15 the difference between the monthly contributions by the State or
16 county to the Hawaii employer-union health benefits trust fund
17 and the actual costs of health benefits plans, under sections
18 87A-33, 87A-33.5, 87A-34, 87A-35, and 87A-36, shall be paid by
19 the board of trustees of the employees' retirement system
20 through the withholding of the payment amounts to which retirees
21 and beneficiaries would otherwise be entitled to receive under



1 this section; provided that beginning after June 30, 2016, the
2 Hawaii employer-union health benefits trust fund shall authorize
3 automatic electronic payment in lieu of withholdings. The
4 amounts shall be based upon copayment billing information
5 received from the board of trustees of the employer-union health
6 benefits trust fund. The board of trustees of the employees'
7 retirement system shall submit an annual report to the
8 legislature on the contribution amounts paid to the Hawaii
9 employer-union health benefits trust fund under this section.

10 A retiree or beneficiary may make a one-time election to
11 opt out of the requirement that the board withhold and pay over
12 health benefits co-payment amounts to the board of trustees of
13 the employer-union health benefits trust fund established under
14 this subsection. Any opt out election made pursuant to this
15 subsection shall be final and irrevocable."

16 SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
17 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
18 begun before its effective date.

19 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
20 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

21 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2016.



Report Title:

ERS; EUTF; Retiree Co-payments; Automatic Payments

Description:

Requires public retiree contributions to the EUTF to be paid through withholdings of retirement benefit amounts from the ERS. Beginning after June 30, 2016, requires the Hawaii employer-union health benefits trust fund to authorize automatic electronic payments in lieu of withholdings. (SD1)

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