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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

A N A C T

RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS - HEALTH BENEFITS PREVIOUSLY
NEGOTIATED

Introduced By: Senators Miller, and Gallo

Date Introduced: April 14, 2011

Referred To: Senate Labor

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 28 of the General Laws entitled "LABOR AND LABOR
2 RELATIONS" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

3 CHAPTER 9.8

4 HEALTH BENEFITS PREVIOUSLY NEGOTIATED

5 **28-9.8-1. Retiree health insurance.** – Health benefits for retirees previously negotiated
6 on the behalf of retirees as authorized by chapters 28-9.1, 28-9.2, 28-9.3, and 28-9.4 of the Rhode
7 Island general laws shall remain in full force and effect; provided, however, that all provisions
8 negotiated for active employees relating to cost sharing or plan design shall be applicable to
9 existing and new retirees.

10 SECTION 2. Title 27 of the General Laws entitled "INSURANCE" is hereby amended
11 by adding thereto the following chapter:

12 CHAPTER 75

13 RHODE ISLAND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE UNIFORM BENEFIT ACT

14 **27-75-1. Short title - Purpose.** – (a) This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the
15 "Rhode Island municipal employee uniform benefit act."

16 (b) The purpose of this chapter is to create uniform medical and prescription drug benefit
17 plan designs for Rhode Island municipal employees.

18 **27-75-2. Board of directors established.** – (a) There is established the board of directors

1 of the Rhode Island municipal employees' health care benefits program ("board").

2 (b) The board shall consist of five (5) members, as follows:

3 (1) One member shall be appointed by the president of Rhode Island Council 94 of the
4 american federation of state, county and municipal employees;

5 (2) Two (2) members shall be appointed by the president of the Rhode Island league of
6 cities and towns.

7 (3) One member shall be appointed by the executive director of the Rhode Island
8 interlocal trust.

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

10 (c) Each appointing authority may remove or replace any member appointed by that
11 pointing authority at any time.

12 (d) Members of the board shall serve without compensation.

13 (e) The board shall review the work and report of the Rhode Island uniform school
14 employees health care benefits program board and make such recommendations and
15 modifications as it sees fit based upon the characteristics of the municipal employment
16 population.

17 (f) The board shall report to the governor, general assembly, and the executive board of
18 the Rhode Island league of cities and towns by February 1, 2012 with recommendations on the
19 means, feasibility and benefits of developing a statewide health benefit purchasing arrangement
20 for municipal employees.

21 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 provide that certain health benefits previously negotiated will remain in
2 force despite negotiation for active employee benefits and would create a new chapter to create
3 uniform medical and prescription drug benefit plan designs for Rhode Island municipal
4 employees.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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