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AN ACT in relation to public employee benefits.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,represented in the General Assembly:

- 4 Section 5. The Illinois Pension Code is amended by
 5 adding Section 16-153.5 as follows:
- 6 (40 ILCS 5/16-153.5 new)

7 <u>Sec. 16-153.5. Election of medicare coverage.</u>

8 <u>(a) The System shall conduct a divided medicare coverage</u> 9 <u>referendum, open to teachers continuously employed by the</u> 10 <u>same employer since March 31, 1986. The referendum shall be</u> 11 <u>conducted in accordance with the applicable provisions of</u> 12 <u>federal law and Article 21 of this Code.</u>

13 (b) A teacher's election to participate in the federal
14 medicare program is irrevocable.

15 (c) Employers shall pay the necessary employer
16 contributions and make the necessary deductions from salary
17 for teachers who elect to participate in the federal medicare
18 program under this Section, as required by the System,
19 Article 21 of this Code, and federal law.

20 Section 90. The State Mandates Act is amended by adding 21 Section 8.26 as follows:

(30 ILCS 805/8.26 new)
 Sec. 8.26. Exempt mandate. Notwithstanding Sections 6
 and 8 of this Act, no reimbursement by the State is required
 for the implementation of any mandate created by this
 amendatory Act of the 92nd General Assembly.

27 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon28 becoming law.