

**Resolution of AFSCME Council 79 Retirees for the Creation of an  
Annual Cost Of Living Adjustment (COLA) to the Health Insurance  
Subsidy (HIS) Benefit**

**WHEREAS** the Health Insurance Subsidy (HIS) benefit was instituted in the late 1970s to assist retirees in offsetting their health insurance premiums;

**WHEREAS** the cost of health insurance has skyrocketed in the past decade, making it extremely hard for retirees to afford the premiums at a time in their lives when healthcare is essential;

**WHEREAS** the Health Insurance Subsidy (HIS) has not been increased since its inception, (eg. 30 years of service X \$5 per year of service X 12 calendar months = the maximum monthly payment of \$150 for a total maximum annual subsidy of \$1,800);

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Health Insurance Subsidy (HIS) is a benefit that state employees who retire need to offset their health insurance premiums and this benefit should be increased and protected and any endorsement of candidates should carry a promise to protect and increase this worthwhile benefit;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that an analysis of the annual increase in health insurance premiums be reported so that recommendations can be made as to how to minimize the rising cost of health insurance premiums;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** some type of cost of living allowance be instituted to ensure that retirees be fairly compensated as the cost of health insurance continues to rise.

**AFSCME Retirees Sub-Chapter 43** approved on March 3, 2022.

**WE HEREBY** move the submission of this resolution to the Convention, for approval and adoption \_\_\_\_\_.