Explosive Scandal: Politician Robert Henriquez's \$1.2 Million Pension Bonus Scheme







In a shocking revelation of political greed in Hillsborough County, Florida, Democrat Politician Robert Henriquez, 59, has orchestrated a brazen money grab from taxpayers.

Exploiting his Political Position as Property Appraiser, Henriquez shamelessly secured an exorbitant \$1,255,455 taxpayer-funded pension bonus, setting a disgraceful benchmark for personal enrichment in politics. Source documents at: <u>https://TripleDippers.org/hall-of-shame</u>

Robert Henriquesz decided his \$675,047 pension cash bonus was not enough money. On July 18, 2023, Robert Henriquez submitting paperwork, reneging on a previous promise to resign on August 31, 2026 in exchange for the \$675,047 pension bonus. This cunning maneuver allowed Henriquez to extend his pension bonus period by an additional three years, inflating his total pension cash bonus to an indefensible \$1,255,455, with a monthly taxpayer-funded pension soaring from approximately \$6,750 to \$12,330.

Dave Jaye, a researcher at <u>www.tripledippers.org</u>, remarks, "Sneaky Politician Robert Bonus Henriquez is greedy. How many lavish meals, luxury cars, and vacation homes does one person truly need?"

Pension Mastermind Robert Henriquez voted to increase Politician and Bureaucrat pension bonuses¹ when he served as a State Representative from 1998 to 2006 and earning a State Legislative Pension². Robert Henriquez voted for the Retirement system where Politicians have a greater salary pension match now 65.72% than regular Public Employees now 16.57%. Having worked for various Hillsborough Government and School jobs, Robert Henriquez may have accumulated even more taxpayer Funded Pensions³.

As County Property Appraiser Robert Henriquez draws a base paycheck of \$205,918, plus a pension for life, and approximately \$85,024 in annual benefits plus a car allowance. Henriquez does not contribute the standard 3% of his salary (\$6,177) to the Florida Pension program, unlike other public employees shifting his personal

¹ <u>https://www.nasra.org/files/State-Specific/Florida/FRS.pdf</u>

²https://myfrs.com/FRSPro_Pension.htm#:~:text=Members%20of%20the%20Elected%20Officers,seven%20years%20of%20cre_ditable%20service.

³ <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bob_Henriquez</u>

responsibility to taxpayers. As highlighted by <u>www.tripledippers.org</u>, Robert Henriquez falls under the category of Triple Dipping Politicians.

Sneaky Robert Henriquez's outrageous \$1.2 million pension cash bonus grab could be stopped by voters when he seeks re-election in 2024. There are legal questions about whether sneaky Robert Henriquez can break his contract promise to resign on August 31, 2026.

The average Tampa, FL worker earning \$40,751 per year or \$19.59 per hour⁴, would need over 30 years to match Politician Robert Henriquez's staggering pension cash bonus of \$1,255,455.

Having worked for a Hillsborough County School, Pension Plotter Robert Henriquez knows first hand that only 39% of Hillsborough County High School students are college ready, only 46% pass reading, only 32% pass math, yet 76.6% graduate with what is often viewed as a worthless Diploma⁵. Robert Henriquez's \$1.2 million pension cash bonus would be better spent on providing 53,672 tutoring hours⁶ for Hillsborough students to become more job and college ready.

Politician Robert Henriquez's pension cash bonus is formally called the "Deferred Retirement Option Program" (DROP). DROP's original intent: helping the state retain essential and rare skill sets and experience in mission-critical jobs-- not for politicians and low skill jobs. For the list of the names, employers and pension cash bonuses of approximately 28,536 Florida's Triple Dippers, visit https://tripledippers.org/fl-statewide-2023-june-28537-tripledippers/.

Governor Jim DeSantis signed SB 7024 effective July 1, 2023 allowing politicians and bureaucrats to extend pension bonuses by 60% from 5 to 8 years and up to ten year for School Employees and increased the pension bonus interest rate from 1.2 to 4% and allow many to collect pension bonuses earlier⁷. The Triple Dipper Pension Bonus system created \$39 billion in unfunded Florida Retirement obligations, amounting to a \$1,725 liability for every man, woman, and child in Florida.

State and local Politicians are entitled by law to special treatment that allows them to accrue benefits faster and retire with bigger payments than most other workers. The separate class was created and modified over the years by the Florida Legislature, whose 160 members also are covered by pension cash bonuses⁸. Check out our latest investigative Report the **Hall of Shame** <u>https://TripleDippers.org/hall-of-shame</u> where we profile the most Greedy Florida Politicians and Bureaucrats using their public positions for personal enrichment.

⁴ <u>https://www.talent.com/salary?job=&location=tampa</u>

⁵ <u>https://www.usnews.com/education/k12/florida/districts/hillsborough-108398</u>

⁶ \$1,255,455/ \$23.39 per tutor hour = 53,672 hours <u>https://www.indeed.com/career/tutor/salaries/Tampa--FL</u>

⁷ <u>https://thecapitolist.com/frs-double-dip-retirement-expansion-will-make-it-harder-for-private-sector-to-compete-with-state/</u>

⁸sentinel.com/2011/03/13/florida-pension-benefits-especially-good-for-elected-officials-judges



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