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HOUSE BILL 1284

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2007 Regular Session

By Representatives Cody, Conway, Schual-Berke, Hunt, Green, Barlow, Simpson, Moeller, Kenney and Morrell

Read first time 01/16/2007. Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to participating in insurance plans and contracts
- 2 by separated plan 2 members of certain retirement systems; and amending
- 3 RCW 41.05.011.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 41.05.011 and 2005 c 143 s 1 are each amended to read 6 as follows:
- 7 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in 8 this section shall apply throughout this chapter.
- 9 (1) "Administrator" means the administrator of the authority.
- 10 (2) "State purchased health care" or "health care" means medical and health care, pharmaceuticals, and medical equipment purchased with state and federal funds by the department of social and health services, the department of health, the basic health plan, the state health care authority, the department of labor and industries, the department of corrections, the department of veterans affairs, and local school districts.
- 17 (3) "Authority" means the Washington state health care authority.
- 18 (4) "Insuring entity" means an insurer as defined in chapter 48.01

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RCW, a health care service contractor as defined in chapter 48.44 RCW, or a health maintenance organization as defined in chapter 48.46 RCW.

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- (5) "Flexible benefit plan" means a benefit plan that allows employees to choose the level of health care coverage provided and the amount of employee contributions from among a range of choices offered by the authority.
- 7 (6) "Employee" includes all full-time and career seasonal employees of the state, whether or not covered by civil service; elected and 8 appointed officials of the executive branch of government, including 9 10 full-time members of boards, commissions, or committees; and includes any or all part-time and temporary employees under the terms and 11 12 conditions established under this chapter by the authority; justices of 13 the supreme court and judges of the court of appeals and the superior 14 courts; and members of the state legislature or of the legislative authority of any county, city, or town who are elected to office after 15 February 20, 1970. 16 "Employee" also includes: (a) Employees of a 17 county, municipality, or other political subdivision of the state if the legislative authority of the county, municipality, or other 18 political subdivision of the state seeks and receives the approval of 19 20 the authority to provide any of its insurance programs by contract with 21 the authority, as provided in RCW 41.04.205; (b) employees of employee 22 organizations representing state civil service employees, at the option of each such employee organization, and, effective October 1, 1995, 23 24 employees of employee organizations currently pooled with employees of 25 school districts for the purpose of purchasing insurance benefits, at the option of each such employee organization; and (c) employees of a 26 27 school district if the authority agrees to provide any of the school districts' insurance programs by contract with the authority as 28 provided in RCW 28A.400.350. 29
 - (7) "Board" means the public employees' benefits board established under RCW 41.05.055.
 - (8) "Retired or disabled school employee" means:
 - (a) Persons who separated from employment with a school district or educational service district and are receiving a retirement allowance under chapter 41.32 or 41.40 RCW as of September 30, 1993;
- 36 (b) Persons who separate from employment with a school district or 37 educational service district on or after October 1, 1993, and

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- 1 immediately upon separation receive a retirement allowance under 2 chapter 41.32, 41.35, or 41.40 RCW;
 - (c) Persons who separate from employment with a school district or educational service district due to a total and permanent disability, and are eligible to receive a deferred retirement allowance under chapter 41.32, 41.35, or 41.40 RCW.
 - (9) "Benefits contribution plan" means a premium only contribution plan, a medical flexible spending arrangement, or a cafeteria plan whereby state and public employees may agree to a contribution to benefit costs which will allow the employee to participate in benefits offered pursuant to 26 U.S.C. Sec. 125 or other sections of the internal revenue code.
- 13 (10) "Salary" means a state employee's monthly salary or wages.
- 14 (11) "Participant" means an individual who fulfills the eligibility 15 and enrollment requirements under the benefits contribution plan.
- 16 (12) "Plan year" means the time period established by the 17 authority.
- 18 (13) "Separated employees" means persons who separate from 19 employment with an employer as defined in:
 - (a)(i) RCW 41.32.010(11) on or after July 1, 1996; or
- 21 $((\frac{b}{b}))$ (ii) RCW 41.35.010 on or after September 1, 2000; or
- 22 (((c))) (iii) RCW 41.40.010 on or after March 1, 2002;
- and who are at least age fifty-five and have at least ten years of service under the teachers' retirement system plan 3 as defined in RCW 41.32.010(40), the Washington school employees' retirement system plan 3 as defined in RCW 41.35.010, or the public employees' retirement system plan 3 as defined in RCW 41.40.010; or
- 28 (b) For the purposes of RCW 41.05.080:

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- 29 <u>(i) RCW 41.32.010(11) on or after the effective date of this act;</u>
 30 or
- 31 (ii) RCW 41.35.010 on or after the effective date of this act; or 32 (iii) RCW 41.40.010 on or after March 1, 2002;
- and who are at least age fifty-five and have at least ten years of service under the teachers' retirement system plan 2 as defined in RCW 41.32.010, the Washington school employees' retirement system plan 2 as defined in RCW 41.35.010, or the public employees' retirement system
- 37 plan 2 as defined in RCW 41.40.010.

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- (14) "Emergency service personnel killed in the line of duty" means law enforcement officers and fire fighters as defined in RCW 41.26.030, and reserve officers and fire fighters as defined in RCW 41.24.010 who die as a result of injuries sustained in the course of employment as determined consistent with Title 51 RCW by the department of labor and industries.
 - (15) "Employer" means the state of Washington.

(16) "Employing agency" means a division, department, or separate agency of state government and a county, municipality, school district, educational service district, or other political subdivision, covered by this chapter.

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