

HB 1644 - S COMM AMD
By Committee on Higher Education

ADOPTED 04/12/2007

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "Sec. 1. 2006 c 308 s 1 (uncodified) is amended to read as
4 follows:

5 Part-time academic employees at community and technical colleges
6 are currently eligible for full health care benefits beginning the
7 second consecutive quarter of employment, at half-time or more of an
8 academic workload, as defined in RCW 28B.50.489. They are also
9 eligible for health benefits through the summer even if they receive no
10 work at all that quarter, if they have worked half-time or more of an
11 academic workload in each of the three (~~of the four~~) preceding
12 quarters. However, workload fluctuations below these thresholds may
13 result in the loss of employer contributions for health care benefits.
14 It is the intent of the legislature to provide for continuous health
15 care eligibility for part-time academic employees based on averaging
16 workload gained during the two preceding academic years.

17 **Sec. 2.** RCW 41.05.053 and 2006 c 308 s 2 are each amended to read
18 as follows:

19 (1) Part-time academic employees, as defined in RCW 28B.50.489, who
20 have established eligibility as determined from the payroll records of
21 the employing community or technical college districts, for employer
22 contributions for benefits under this chapter and who have worked an
23 average of half-time or more in each of the two preceding academic
24 years, through employment at one or more community or technical college
25 districts, are eligible for continuation of employer contributions for
26 the subsequent summer quarter period including the break between summer
27 and fall quarters.

28 (2) Once a part-time academic employee meets the criteria in
29 subsection (1) of this section, the employee shall continue to receive

1 uninterrupted employer contributions for benefits if the employee works
2 at least (~~((three of the four))~~) two quarters of the academic year with
3 an average academic workload of half-time or more for three quarters of
4 the academic year. Benefits provided under this section cease (~~((at the~~
5 ~~end of the academic year))~~) if this criteria is not met. Continuous
6 benefits shall be reinstated once the employee reestablishes
7 eligibility under subsection (1) of this section (~~((and will be~~
8 ~~maintained as long as the employee works at least three of the four~~
9 ~~quarters of the academic year with an average academic workload of~~
10 ~~half-time or more))~~).

11 (3) As used in this section, "academic year" means summer, fall,
12 winter, and spring quarters.

13 (4) This section does not modify rules in existence on June 7,
14 2006, adopted under this chapter regarding the initial establishment of
15 eligibility for benefits.

16 (5) This section does not preclude individuals from being eligible
17 for benefits under other laws or rules that may apply or for which they
18 may be eligible.

19 (6) The employer must notify part-time academic employees of their
20 potential right to benefits under this section.

21 (7) To be eligible for maintenance of benefits through averaging,
22 part-time academic employees must notify their employers of their
23 potential eligibility. The state board for community and technical
24 colleges shall report back to the legislature by November 15, 2009, on
25 the feasibility of eliminating the self-reporting requirement for
26 employees."

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27 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "colleges;" strike the
28 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 41.05.053; and amending
29 2006 c 308 s 1 (uncodified)."

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