

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5490

Chapter 15, Laws of 2023

68th Legislature
2023 Regular Session

RETIRED OR DISABLED PUBLIC EMPLOYEE HEALTH COVERAGE—SPECIAL
ENROLLMENT OPPORTUNITY

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 30, 2023

Passed by the Senate March 1, 2023
Yeas 48 Nays 0

DENNY HECK

President of the Senate

Passed by the House March 22, 2023
Yeas 97 Nays 0

Laurie Jinkins

**Speaker of the House of
Representatives**

Approved March 30, 2023 11:56 AM

JAY INSLEE

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Sarah Bannister, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5490** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

SARAH BANNISTER

Secretary

FILED

March 30, 2023

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5490

Passed Legislature - 2023 Regular Session

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2023 Regular Session

By Senate Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Rolfes, Conway, Hunt, Lovick, Saldaña, and C. Wilson)

READ FIRST TIME 02/21/23.

1 AN ACT Relating to health care coverage for retired or disabled
2 employees denied coverage for failure to timely notify the authority
3 of their intent to defer coverage; adding a new section to chapter
4 41.05 RCW; and declaring an emergency.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 41.05
7 RCW to read as follows:

8 (1) A retired or disabled employee who: (a) Is receiving a
9 retirement allowance under chapters 41.32, 41.35, 41.37, or 41.40
10 RCW; (b) was previously denied coverage solely for failure to timely
11 notify the authority of their plan to defer coverage; and (c)
12 appealed the denial of benefits to the authority on or before
13 December 31, 2022, may enroll in medical and dental plans under the
14 authority, provided they apply no later than the end of the open
15 enrollment period for the plan year beginning January 1, 2024.

16 (2) A retired or disabled employee enrolling in benefits under
17 this section may only enroll in a fully-insured medicare advantage or
18 medicare supplement plan.

19 (3) Retired or disabled employees and their dependents are
20 responsible for payment of rates developed by the authority, and must
21 include any amounts necessary for administration in accordance with

1 this chapter. Premium rates charged to retired or disabled employees
2 and their dependents shall be based on the experience of the
3 community-rated risk pools established under RCW 41.05.022 and
4 41.05.080 and must be reduced by the amount of the subsidy provided
5 under RCW 41.05.085.

6 (4) The authority may establish rules to implement the enrollment
7 opportunity under this section.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act is necessary for the immediate
9 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of
10 the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes
11 effect immediately.

Passed by the Senate March 1, 2023.
Passed by the House March 22, 2023.
Approved by the Governor March 30, 2023.
Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 30, 2023.

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