CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6197

Chapter 13, Laws of 2010

61st Legislature 2010 Regular Session

GROUP LIFE INSURANCE--AVAILABILITY

EFFECTIVE DATE: 06/10/10

Passed by the Senate February 10, 2010 YEAS 46 NAYS 0

BRAD OWEN

President of the Senate

Passed by the House February 28, 2010 YEAS 96 NAYS 0

FRANK CHOPP

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Approved March 10, 2010, 2:29 p.m.

CERTIFICATE

I, Thomas Hoemann, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6197** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

THOMAS HOEMANN

Secretary

FILED

March 10, 2010

Secreta

Governor of the State of Washington

CHRISTINE GREGOIRE

Secretary of State State of Washington

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6197

Passed Legislature - 2010 Regular Session

State of Washington 61st Legislature 2010 Regular Session

By Senate Financial Institutions, Housing & Insurance (originally sponsored by Senators Berkey, Parlette, and Franklin)

READ FIRST TIME 01/20/10.

1 AN ACT Relating to group life insurance; amending RCW 48.24.030 and 2 48.21.010; and adding a new section to chapter 48.24 RCW.

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

4 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 48.24 RCW 5 to read as follows:

6 (1) Group life insurance offered to a resident of this state under 7 a group life insurance policy may be issued to a group other than one 8 described in RCW 48.24.020, 48.24.035, 48.24.040, 48.24.045, 48.24.050, 9 48.24.060, 48.24.070, 48.24.080, 48.24.090, or 48.24.095 subject to the 10 requirements in this subsection. No such group life insurance policy 11 may be delivered in this state unless the commissioner finds that:

12 (a) The issuance of the group policy is not contrary to the best13 interest of the public;

14 (b) The issuance of the group policy would result in economies of 15 acquisition or administration; and

16 (c) The benefits are reasonable in relation to the premiums 17 charged.

18 (2) No such group life insurance coverage may be offered under this19 section in this state by an insurer under a policy issued in another

state unless the commissioner or the insurance commissioner of another state having requirements substantially similar to those contained in subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this section has made a determination that the requirements have been met.

5 (3) The premium for the policy shall be paid either from the 6 policyholder's funds or from funds contributed by the covered persons, 7 or from both.

8 **Sec. 2.** RCW 48.24.030 and 2006 c 25 s 14 are each amended to read 9 as follows:

(1) Insurance under any group life insurance policy issued under 10 11 RCW 48.24.020, 48.24.050, 48.24.060, 48.24.070, ((or)) 48.24.090, or <u>section 1 of this act</u> may be extended to insure the spouse and 12 dependent children, or any class or classes thereof, of each insured 13 employee or member who so elects, in amounts in accordance with a plan 14 15 that precludes individual selection by the employees or members or by 16 the employer or labor union or trustee, and which insurance on the life 17 of any one family member including a spouse shall not be in excess of the amount on the life of the insured employee or member. 18

Premiums for the insurance on the family members shall be paid by the policyholder, either from the employer's funds, funds contributed to him or her, employee's funds, trustee's funds, or labor union funds.

(2) A spouse insured under this section has the same conversion
right as to the insurance on his or her life as is vested in the
employee or member under this chapter.

25 **Sec. 3.** RCW 48.21.010 and 1992 c 226 s 2 are each amended to read 26 as follows:

Group disability insurance is that form of disability insurance, 27 including stop loss insurance as defined in RCW 48.11.030, provided by 28 29 a master policy issued to an employer, to a trustee appointed by an 30 employer or employers, or to an association of employers formed for purposes other than obtaining such insurance, covering, with or without 31 their dependents, the employees, or specified categories of the 32 employees, of such employers or their subsidiaries or affiliates, or 33 34 issued to a labor union, or to an association of employees formed for 35 purposes other than obtaining such insurance, covering, with or without 36 their dependents, the members, or specified categories of the members,

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of the labor union or association, or issued pursuant to RCW 48.21.030. Group disability insurance ((shall also)) includes ((such other)) the following groups ((as)) that qualify for group life insurance ((under the provisions of this code)): RCW 48.24.020, 48.24.035, 48.24.040, 48.24.045, 48.24.050,

6 48.24.060, 48.24.070, 48.24.080, 48.24.090, and 48.24.095. A group

- 7 <u>under_section_1_of_this_act_does_not_qualify_as_a_group_for_the</u>
- 8 purposes of this chapter.

Passed by the Senate February 10, 2010. Passed by the House February 28, 2010. Approved by the Governor March 10, 2010. Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 10, 2010.