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**SENATE BILL 5169**

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**State of Washington 68th Legislature 2023 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Hunt and C. Wilson

AN ACT Relating to health care plans administered by the health care authority that are available to medicare eligible retirees; adding a new section to chapter 41.05 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

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

The public employees' benefits board must allow medicare eligible retirees access to the uniform medical plan classic medicare.

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  (1) The legislature recognizes that the health care authority, consistent with the public employees' benefits board resolution 2022-16, will consult with active employees and retirees, by conducting listening sessions and facilitating public forums, to gather feedback about member needs and to explore more affordable government self-insured plans with benefits that are equal to or richer than uniform medical plan classic medicare. As such, the legislature intends that the results of stakeholder engagements will be used to inform future health care plan selection.

(2) By December 1, 2023, the authority must report to the legislature with its findings of the stakeholder engagements in subsection (1) of this section.

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