

CHAPTER 223

STATE EMPLOYEES' GROUP INSURANCE

Original Senate File No. 244

AN ACT to amend W.S. 9-3-203(a)(iv), 9-3-204(a) and (f), 9-3-205(a) by creating a new paragraph (xv), 9-3-207(a) and (b), 9-3-208(a) and (b) and 9-3-210(a) and (b) relating to state employees' group insurance; conforming language; authorizing the state employee's group insurance board to delegate duties to its executive director; authorizing compensation for certain board members as specified; reducing time period to elect enrollment; providing the state contribution for employees enrolled in the group plan as specified; and providing for an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

Section 1. W.S. 9-3-203(a)(iv), 9-3-204(a) and (f), 9-3-205(a) by creating a new paragraph (xv), 9-3-207(a) and (b), 9-3-208(a) and (b) and 9-3-210(a) and (b) are amended to read:

9-3-203. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(iv) "Employee" means any official or employee of the state of Wyoming whose salary is paid by state funds, including employees and faculty members of the University of Wyoming and various community colleges in the state, except persons employed on intermittent, irregular, or less than halftime basis;

9-3-204. State employees' and officials' group health insurance board of administration; created; composition; appointment, election and terms of members; officers; quorum; compensation.

(a) The state employees' and officials' group health insurance board of administration is created, consisting of seven (7) members. Two (2) positions on the board shall be filled by the following state officials: the state treasurer and the state auditor who shall not send designees. Three (3) members shall represent the employees of the state of Wyoming. One (1) member shall be a retired employee of the state of Wyoming and one (1) member shall be a person with a background in health insurance. The attorney general shall serve as legal advisor to the board, attend all board meetings but have no vote. The insurance commissioner shall serve as insurance advisor to the board and attend all board meetings, but have no vote.

(f) State employee members of the board shall suffer no loss of wages for the time devoted to the duties of the board. All members who are state employees and employees of the board shall be reimbursed for their expenses incurred through service on the board at the same rate provided under W.S. 9-3-102 and 9-3-103. Each board member not employed by the state shall while engaged in official board duties, receive salary and per diem allowance in the same amounts provided for members of the legisla-

ture under W.S. 28-5-101 and transportation reimbursement provided state employees under W.S. 9-3-103.

9-3-205. Administration and management of group insurance program; powers and duties; adoption of rules and regulations.

(a) The board shall administer and manage the state employees' and officials' group insurance program and, subject to the provisions of this act:

(xv) May delegate to its executive director any administrative duties as are necessary to the daily functioning of the board including the ability to authorize payments from the trust and agency fund as set forth in W.S. 9-3-213(b).

9-3-207. Eligibility for membership in plan; state employees; 31 day period to elect enrollment; new employees; later enrollment.

(a) Any state employee eligible for membership in the group insurance plan at the time the plan becomes effective shall have thirty-one (31) days to either elect to be enrolled or not be enrolled in the plan. The board shall establish the procedure by which eligible employees shall notify the board of their decision within the prescribed thirty-one (31) day period.

(b) An eligible state employee who enters state service has thirty-one (31) days from the initial date of employment to elect to be enrolled or not be enrolled in the group insurance plan.

9-3-208. State officials; 31 day period to elect enrollment; newly appointed or elected officials; later enrollment.

(a) State officials eligible for membership in the group insurance plan at the time the plan becomes effective shall have thirty-one (31) days to either elect to become enrolled or not become enrolled in the plan. The election shall be made according to procedures established by the board.

(b) Eligible state officials appointed or elected after the effective date of the group insurance plan have thirty-one (31) days after the date they officially take office to elect to become enrolled or not become enrolled in the plan.

9-3-210. Amount of state's contribution; estimates submitted to state budget officer.

(a) The state shall contribute monthly the amount established and appropriated by the legislature for each employee and official enrolled in the plan in accordance with subsections (b) and (c) of this section.

(b) Any state agency, department or institution, including the University of Wyoming and the community colleges in the state, shall pay monthly to the board the amount established and appropriated by the legislature for each eligible employee or official electing to become covered by any portion of the group insurance plan as the contribution of the state to that plan during the period the employee or official is enrolled in the plan. If the monthly premium for coverage of the employee or official is less than the amount established and appropriated by the legislature, the balance may be applied to the premium for coverage of dependents, or to the

premium for any optional group insurance coverage made available by the board, if so elected.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 1991.

Approved March 5, 1991.