

2020 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 284

BY SENATOR SMITH

GROUP BENEFITS PROGRAM. Provides relative to state group insurance for certain former employees. (8/1/20).

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact enact R.S. 42:808(A)(11)(a) and 851(R), relative to state group

3 insurance; to provide for certain insurance coverage through the office of group

4 benefits for certain state employees and officials after the conclusion of their state

5 service; to provide relative to the eligibility of such persons to participate in

6 programs sponsored by the office of group benefits; to provide for limitations; and

7 to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 42:808(A)(11)(a) and 851(R) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §808. Eligibility in group programs

11 A. For the purposes of participating in life, health, or other programs

12 sponsored by the Office of Group Benefits, an employee is defined as:

13 \* \* \*

14 (11)(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, persons who

15 are state employees who have completed not less than ten years of continuous

16 full-time state employment and who are terminated without cause or who ~~resign~~

17 **resigned**, and persons who have completed not less than ten years of continuous

1 service as state elected officials who are either ineligible to run for reelection, fail to  
 2 be reelected, or resign from elected office, and persons who have completed not less  
 3 than ten years of continuous service as state appointed officials and who are removed  
 4 from office without cause or who ~~resign~~ **resigned** are deemed to be a special group  
 5 for eligibility for programs sponsored by the Office of Group Benefits. Such group  
 6 shall not be subject to the provisions of Paragraph (3) of this Subsection, R.S.  
 7 42:851(E) and (H)(5), or other limitations or restrictions of law that require vesting  
 8 or a duration of continuous membership in the programs for eligibility for maximum  
 9 premium contributions, or that authorize or require the premium rates for such group  
 10 to be increased as a result of eligibility being authorized without prior participation  
 11 as an active employee, or that limit participation to either actively employed or  
 12 retired persons.

13 \* \* \*

14 §851. Authority for employee benefit programs; payroll deduction for payment of  
 15 premiums

16 \* \* \*

17 R. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, persons made  
 18 eligible as part of a special group for participation in programs sponsored by the  
 19 Office of Group Benefits pursuant to R.S. 42:808(A)(11) may elect to participate in  
 20 group health insurance programs upon the end of their state service as provided in  
 21 R.S. 42:808(A)(11) provided they participated in a program of group health  
 22 insurance sponsored by the Office of Group Benefits for not less than ten  
 23 consecutive years prior to the end of their service. One hundred percent of the  
 24 premium cost for coverage of any person in such group electing to participate shall  
 25 be paid entirely by such person and shall be risk rated by the Office of Group  
 26 Benefits. The election to continue insurance coverage pursuant to this Subsection  
 27 ~~must~~ **shall** be made by the employee on or before the termination of the employee's  
 28 service and the payment of the premiums to be paid pursuant to this Subsection shall  
 29 begin on the date of termination.

