

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1061

BY REPRESENTATIVE GREEN

INSURANCE/GROUP-STATE: Provides with respect to participation by certain retirees in insurance programs sponsored by the state's Office of Group Benefits

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 42:808(A)(12), relative to participation in insurance programs sponsored by  
3 the state's Office of Group Benefits; to authorize participation by certain retirees; to  
4 provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 42:808(A)(12) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 §808. Eligibility in group programs

8 A. For the purposes of participating in life, health, or other programs  
9 sponsored by the Office of Group Benefits, an employee is defined as:

10 \* \* \*

11 (12) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a retired  
12 employee who meets all of the following criteria:

13 (a) Prior to retirement, the retiree participated in the Office of Group  
14 Benefits as an employee pursuant to any provision of Paragraphs (1) through (11) of  
15 this Subsection for at least one year.

16 (b) The retiree's aggregated years of participation in Office of Group  
17 Benefits plans between participation as an employee and as a spouse of an employee  
18 are greater than or equal to twenty years.

19 (c) After retirement, the retiree experiences a qualifying life event that  
20 triggers conditions for special enrollment pursuant to 29 CFR 2590.701-6.

21 \* \* \*

22 Section 2. This Act shall become effective January 1, 2027.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HB 1061 Original

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Green

**Abstract:** Authorizes a retiree who meets certain criteria to participate in group insurance plans sponsored by the state's Office of Group Benefits (OGB).

Present law establishes OGB to sponsor and administer group life, health, and other insurance programs on behalf of participating employers for the benefit of their employees. Authorizes not only state employees to participate in these programs, but also employees of specifically enumerated local employers, including school boards that elect this participation, the district attorney for the city of New Orleans and active employees of his office, and parish judges paid in full or in part by the state. Authorizes coverage not only for employees of these employers, but also for the employee's dependents, as defined by present law, which includes a spouse.

Beginning Jan. 1, 2027, proposed law authorizes participation by a retired employee who meets all of the following criteria:

- (1) Prior to retirement, the retiree participated as an employee in an OGB sponsored plan.
- (2) The retiree's aggregate years of participation in OGB sponsored plans as both an employee and the spouse of an employee are greater than or equal to 20 years.
- (3) After retirement, the retiree experiences a qualifying life event.

Effective January 1, 2027.

(Adds R.S. 42:808(A)(12))