

ENGROSSED SENATE
BILL NO. 1227

By: Robinson of the Senate
and
Stanley of the House

[An Act relating to health care - providing an
effective date -
emergency]

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 1991, Section 1315, as amended by Section 5, Chapter 359, O.S.L. 1993 (74 O.S. Supp. 1995, Section 1315), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1315. Upon application in writing approved by a majority action of the board of county commissioners of any county or the governing body of any city, town, county hospital, the trustees of any public trust for which the state is the primary beneficiary, the board of directors of any rural water, sewer, gas or solid waste management district or nonprofit water corporation, or the Oklahoma Conservation Commission on behalf of the conservation districts participating in the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System, the Board may extend the benefits of the State and Education Employees Group Health and Life Insurance to employees who are employed in positions requiring actual performance of duty during not less than one thousand (1,000) hours per year, and to all full-time employees of such county, city, town, county hospital, public trust, rural water, sewer, gas or solid waste

management district, nonprofit water corporation, or conservation district, provided that such county, city, town, county hospital, public trust, rural water, sewer, gas or solid waste management district, nonprofit water corporation, or conservation district participating therein shall pay all costs attributable to its participation therein. The benefits of said plans for a participant provided coverage pursuant to this section shall be the same and shall include the same plan options as would be made available to a state employee participating in the plan that resided at the same location. The premium for participating counties, cities, towns, county hospitals, public trusts, rural water, sewer, gas or solid waste management districts, nonprofit water corporations, and conservation districts shall be the same as paid by the State and Education Employees Group Health and Life Insurance Plan. Such county, city, town, county hospital, public trust, rural water, sewer, gas or solid waste management district, nonprofit water corporation, or conservation district shall not be required to offer dental insurance as defined in paragraph (k) of Section 1303 of this title, or other insurance as defined in paragraph (l) of Section 1303 of this title. However, if dental insurance or any other insurance is offered, it must be provided to all eligible employees. If an employee retires and begins to receive benefits from the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System or terminates service and has a vested benefit with the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System, the employee may elect, in the manner provided in Section 1316.2 of this title, to participate in the dental insurance plan offered through the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Act, Section 1301 et seq. of this title. The employee shall pay the full cost of the dental insurance. Any employee who retires or who has a vested benefit pursuant to the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System may begin the health insurance coverage if the employer of the employee is not a participant of the State

and Education Employees Group Insurance Act if the election to begin coverage is made within thirty (30) days from the date of termination of service. For those persons who retired or terminated service with a vested benefit from the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System prior to October 1, 1988, the election shall be made prior to October 1, 1989.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 1996.

SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

Passed the Senate the 29th day of February, 1996.

President of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____, 1996.

Speaker of the House of Representatives