ENROLLED HOUSE
BILL NO. 2189

By: Begley of the House

and

Williams (Don) of the Senate

An Act relating to state government; amending 74 O.S. 1991, Section 1304, as last amended by Section 3, Chapter 359, O.S.L. 1993 (74 O.S. Supp. 1995, Section 1304), which relates to the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board; requiring certain payment by the Board to out-of-state hospitals; providing certain criteria for payment; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 1991, Section 1304, as last amended by Section 3, Chapter 359, O.S.L. 1993 (74 O.S. Supp. 1995, Section 1304), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1304. (1) There is hereby created the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board which shall consist of eight (8) members as follows: The State Insurance Commissioner, or his or her designee who shall be an employee of the Insurance Department, the Director of the Office of State Finance, two members appointed by the Governor, two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and two members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. The appointed members shall each receive compensation of Five Hundred Dollars ($500.00) per month. Appointed members who fail to attend a regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Board shall not receive the related monthly compensation. In the event an appointed member does not attend at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the regularly scheduled monthly meetings of the Board during a calendar year, the appointing authority may remove said member. A member may also be removed for any other cause as provided by law. A vacancy in the office of the appointed member shall be filled for the unexpired term of office in the same manner as the original appointment.

(2) The initial term of office of the members appointed by the Governor shall expire on January 14, 1991. The members thereafter appointed by the Governor shall serve a term of office of four (4) years which is coterminous with the term of office of the office of the appointing authority.

(3) The initial term of office of one of the members appointed each by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall be for the period ending June 30, 1992. The initial term of office of the other member appointed each by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall be for the period ending June 30, 1994. Thereafter, the term of office of the members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall be four (4) years.

(4) The appointed members shall:

(a) have demonstrated professional experience in investment or funds management, public funds management, public or private group health or pension fund management, or group health insurance management; or

(b) be licensed to practice law in this state and have demonstrated professional experience in commercial matters; or

(c) be licensed by the Oklahoma State Board of Public Accountancy to practice in this state as a public accountant or a certified public accountant.

In making appointments that conform to the requirements of this subsection, at least one (1) but not more than three (3) members shall be appointed each from paragraphs (b) and (c) of this subsection by the combined appointing authorities.

(5) No appointed member of the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board shall be a lobbyist registered in this state as provided by law, a health care provider, a plan participant, be employed, directly or indirectly, by any insurance company or carrier, or health care provider, or be employed directly or indirectly, by any firm under contract to the Board for any goods or services whatsoever. Provided however, if an appointed member of the Board was a plan participant of any insurance plans offered by the Board at the time he or she was appointed to serve as a member of the Board, and the appointed member of the Board forfeited participation in the insurance plans in order to serve on the Board, the member of the Board may resume participation in said insurance plans upon leaving the Board.

(6) The State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board shall not be subject to the provisions of the Oklahoma Sunset Law, Section 3901 et seq. of this title.

(7) The Attorney General shall furnish the Board with legal representation.

(8) The Court Administrator shall designate grievance panel members as shall be necessary. The members of the grievance panel shall consist of two attorneys licensed to practice law in this state and one state licensed health care professional or health care administrator who has at least three (3) years practical experience, has had or has admitting privileges to a State of Oklahoma hospital, has a working knowledge of prescription medication, or has worked in an administrative capacity at some point in their career. The state health care professional shall be appointed by the Governor.

(9) The Board shall at its first meeting elect one of its members as chairman. He shall preside over meetings of the Board and perform such other duties as may be required by the Board.

(10) The Board shall elect another member to serve as vice-chairman who shall perform the duties of the chairman in the absence of the latter or upon his inability or refusal to act.

(11) The Board shall also elect a secretary who shall keep minutes of all meetings and who shall certify to actions of the Board.

(12) The Board shall adopt rules ~~and regulations~~ requiring payment for medical and dental services and treatment rendered by duly licensed hospitals, physicians and dentists. Unless the Board has otherwise contracted with the out-of-state health care provider, the Board shall reimburse for medical services and treatment rendered and charged by an out-of-state health care provider at the least at the same percentage level as the network percentage level of the fee schedule established by the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board if the insured employee was referred to the out-of-state health care provider by a physician or it was an

emergency situation and the out-of-state provider was the closest in proximity to the place of residence of the employee which offers the type of health care services needed. For purposes of this paragraph, health care providers shall include but not be limited to physicians, dentists, hospitals and special care facilities.

(13) The State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board may enter into a contract with out-of-state providers in connection with any PPO or hospital or medical network plan which shall include, but not be limited to, special care facilities and hospitals outside the borders of the State of Oklahoma. The contract for out-of-state providers shall be identical to the in-state provider contracts.

(14) The Board shall contract with the Oklahoma Medical Center and the George Nigh Rehabilitation Institute for the provision of their services, on the same basis as other hospitals and providers in the state network, provided however the Board shall have discretion to reduce the co-payment and the deductibles up to fifty percent (50%) at the Oklahoma Medical Center and the George Nigh Rehabilitation Institute, and their medical staffs. For purposes of this subsection, the phrase "Oklahoma Medical Center" shall be limited to the Oklahoma Memorial Hospital, the Children's Hospital of Oklahoma, the O'Donaghue Rehabilitation Institute, and the Child Study Center.

(15) The Administrator shall appoint an advisory committee to the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board. The advisory committee shall consist of seven (7) members. Of the members appointed to the advisory committee, at least one member must be an active state employee, at least one member must be a retired state employee, at least one member must be an active education employee, at least one member must be a retired education employee, and at least one member must be either an active county employee or a retired county employee.

SECTION 2. 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 House of Representatives the 30th day of May, 1996.

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Passed the Senate the 30th day of May, 1996.

President of the Senate