

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 46th Legislature (1998)

HOUSE BILL NO. 2531

By: Mitchell

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to state and education employee group insurance; amending Section 4, Chapter 400, O.S.L. 1992, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 48, O.S.L. 1997 (74 O.S. Supp. 1997, Section 1364), which relates to the Oklahoma State Employees Benefits Council; changing membership of the Council; providing an exception from lobbying prohibition; changing quorum requirement; providing for an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 4, Chapter 400, O.S.L. 1992, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 48, O.S.L. 1997 (74 O.S. Supp. 1997, Section 1364), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1364. A. There is hereby created the Oklahoma State Employees Benefits Council. The powers, duties and responsibilities of the Council that relate to the purchase of health care benefits shall be made under the direction and with the approval of the Oklahoma Health Care Authority in accordance with the plan adopted pursuant to Section 5006 of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

B. The Oklahoma State Employees Benefits Council shall be composed of the ~~five (5)~~ six (6) following individuals:

1. The Administrator of the Office of Personnel Management;

2. The Executive Director of the Oklahoma Public Employee Association or a designee of the Director;

3. Two members appointed by the Governor;

~~3.~~ 4. One member appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate; and

~~4.~~ 5. One member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

C. The members 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. The members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the State Senate shall serve a term of office of four (4) years.

D. ~~No~~ Except for the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Public Employee Association, no member of the Council shall be a lobbyist registered in this state as provided by law, or be employed, directly or indirectly, by any firm or health care provider under contract to the Council or Board, or any benefit program under its jurisdiction, for any goods or services whatsoever.

E. Any vacancy that occurs on the Council shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as the office was previously filled.

F. The general administration and responsibility for the proper design, selection or operation of the benefits offered under the plan and for making effective the provisions of Section 1361 et seq. of this title are hereby vested in the Council.

G. The Council shall elect one of its members as chair. The chair shall preside over meetings of the Council and perform such other duties as may be required by the Council. The Council shall

elect one of its members to serve as vice-chair who shall perform the duties of the chair in the absence of the latter or upon the inability or refusal of the chair to act. The Council shall elect one of its members to serve as secretary.

H. The Council and staff shall act in accordance with the provisions of the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act, the Oklahoma Open Records Act and the Administrative Procedures Act. The Council shall, in July of each year, hold a regular meeting which shall be the annual meeting, at which meeting it shall elect officers.

I. Special meetings may be called upon written notice by the chair or by agreement of any three members of the Council. Notice of a special meeting shall be delivered to all members in person or by registered or certified United States mail not less than seven (7) days prior to the date fixed for the meeting; provided, however, that notice of such meeting may be waived by any member either before or after such meeting and attendance at such meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting, unless a member participates therein solely to object to the transaction of any business because the meeting has not been legally called or convened.

J. The majority of the members of the Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Each Council member shall be entitled to one vote on the Council. Any official action of the Council must have ~~three~~ four votes of the members of the Council present.

K. All resolutions, proceedings, acts and determinations of the Council shall be recorded and all such records, together with such documents and instruments as may be necessary for the administration of the plan, shall be preserved in the custody of the executive director.

L. Each member of the Council shall serve without compensation except that each of the Council members shall receive travel expenses in accordance with the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

M. The Council shall not be subject to the provisions of the Oklahoma Sunset Law, Section 3901 et seq. of this title.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 1998.

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.

46-2-8653

KB