

ENGROSSED SENATE
BILL NO. 852

By: Eason McIntyre of the
Senate

and

Wright of the House

An Act relating to employee benefits; amending 74 O.S. 2001, Sections 1316.2 and 1316.3, as last amended by Sections 5 and 6, Chapter 345, O.S.L. 2004 (74 O.S. Supp. 2004, Sections 1316.2 and 1316.3), which relate to the continuance of certain benefits upon retirement or termination of service; defining types of benefit plans; requiring priority of certain payments by retirement systems; modifying plans in accordance with federal requirements; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2001, Section 1316.2, as last amended by Section 5, Chapter 345, O.S.L. 2004 (74 O.S. Supp. 2004, Section 1316.2), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1316.2 ~~(1)~~ A. Any employee other than an education employee who retires pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System or who has a vested benefit pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System may continue in force the health and dental insurance benefits authorized by the provisions of the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Act, or other employer insurance benefits if the employer does not participate in the plans offered by the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board, if such election to continue in force is made within thirty (30) days from the date of termination of service. ~~Health insurance benefits offered pursuant to this section shall include the state indemnity plan, managed care plans offered in alternative to the state indemnity plan, Medicare supplements offered by the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board which shall include~~

~~prescription drug coverage, other employer plans if the employer does not participate in the plans offered by the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board, and Medicare risk-sharing contracts offered in alternative to the Board's Medicare supplement.~~

~~Provided, all Medicare risk-sharing contracts shall be subject to a risk adjustment factor, based on generally accepted actuarial principals for adverse selection which may occur.~~ Except as otherwise provided for in Section 840-2.27I of this title and subsection H of this section, health and dental insurance coverage may not be reinstated at a later time if the election to continue in force is declined. Vested employees other than education employees who have terminated service and are not receiving benefits and effective July 1, 1996, nonvested persons who have terminated service with more than eight (8) years of participating service with a participating employer, who within thirty (30) days from the date of termination of service elect to continue such coverage, shall pay the full cost of said insurance premium at the rate and pursuant to the terms and conditions established by the Board. Provided also, any employee other than an education employee who commences employment with a participating employer on or after September 1, 1991, who terminates service with such employer on or after July 1, 1996, but who otherwise has insufficient years of service to retire or terminate service with a vested benefit pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System or to elect to continue coverage as a nonvested employee as provided in this section, but who, immediately prior to employment with the participating employer was covered as a dependent on the health and dental insurance policy of a spouse who was an active employee other than an education employee, may count as part of his or her credited service for the purpose of determining eligibility to elect to continue coverage under this section, the time during which said terminating employee was covered as such a dependent.

~~(2) A retired employee other than an education employee who is receiving benefits from the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System after September 30, 1988, is under sixty-five (65) years of age and is not otherwise eligible for Medicare and pursuant to subsection (1) of this section elects to continue the health insurance plan shall pay the premium rate for the health insurance minus an amount equal to the premium rate of the Medicare supplement offered by the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board or One Hundred Five Dollars (\$105.00), whichever is less, which shall be paid by the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System to the Board or other insurance carrier if the employer does not participate in the plans offered by the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board in the manner specified in subsection (9) of this section.~~

~~(3) A B. 1. Health insurance benefit plans offered pursuant to this section shall include:~~

- ~~a. indemnity plans offered through the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board,~~
- ~~b. managed care plans offered as alternatives to the indemnity plans offered through the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board,~~
- ~~c. Medicare supplements offered pursuant to the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Act,~~
- ~~d. Medicare risk-sharing contracts offered as alternatives to the Medicare supplements offered through the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board. All Medicare risk-sharing contracts shall be subject to a risk adjustment factor, based on generally accepted actuarial principles for adverse selection which may occur, and~~
- ~~e. for the Oklahoma Public Employee Retirement System, other employer-provided health insurance benefit plans~~

if the employer does not participate in the plans offered pursuant to the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Act.

2. Health insurance benefit plans offered pursuant to this section shall provide prescription drug benefits, except for plans designed pursuant to the Medicare Prescription Drug Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003, for which provision of prescription drug benefits is optional, and except for plans offered pursuant to subparagraph e of paragraph 1 of this subsection.

C. 1. Designated public retirement systems shall contribute a monthly amount towards the health insurance premium of certain individuals receiving benefits from the public retirement system as follows:

- a. a retired employee other than an education employee who is receiving benefits from the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System after September 30, 1988, ~~is sixty-five (65) years of age or older or who is under sixty-five (65) years of age and is eligible for Medicare and pursuant to subsection (1) of this section elects to continue the health insurance plan and elects coverage under the Medicare supplement offered by the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board or other employer plan if the employer does not participate in the plans offered by the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board shall have One Hundred Five Dollars (\$105.00), or the premium rate of the Medicare supplement health insurance benefit plan, whichever is less, paid by the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System to the Board or other insurance carrier of the employer if the employer does not participate in the plans offered by the State and Education Employees Group Insurance~~

~~Board in the manner specified in subsection (9) G of this section. If the amount paid by the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System does not cover the full cost of the Medicare supplement, the retired employee shall pay to the Board or other insurance carrier of the employer if the employer does not participate in the plans offered by the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board the remaining amount if the retired employee wants to continue coverage. If such retiree elects coverage under any Medicare risk-sharing contract, the retiree shall have One Hundred Five Dollars (\$105.00) or the premium rate of the Medicare risk-sharing contract selected by the retiree, whichever is less, paid by the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System to the Board or other insurance carrier of the employer if the employer does not participate in the plans offered by the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board in the manner specified in subsection (9) of this section. If the amount paid by the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System does not cover the full cost of the Medicare risk-sharing contract, the retired employee shall pay to the Board or other insurance carrier of the employer if the employer does not participate in the plans offered by the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board the remaining amount if the retired employee wants to continue coverage.~~

~~(4) (a) A,~~

b. a retired employee or surviving spouse other than an education employee who is receiving benefits from the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System after

September 30, 1988, is under sixty-five (65) years of age and is not otherwise eligible for Medicare and ~~pursuant to subsection (1) of this section elects to continue the health insurance plan shall pay~~ have the premium rate for the health insurance ~~minus an amount equal to the premium rate of the Non-Medicare offered by the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board benefit plan~~ or One Hundred Five Dollars (\$105.00), whichever is less, ~~which shall be paid by the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System to the Board in the manner specified in subsection (9) G of this section.~~

~~(b) For any member of the System killed in the line of duty, whether the member was killed in the line of duty prior to the effective date of this act or on or after the effective date of this act, or if the member was on a disability leave status at the time of death, the surviving spouse or dependents of such deceased member of the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System may elect to continue or commence health and dental insurance benefits provided said dependents pay the full cost of such insurance and for deaths occurring on or after July 1, 2002, such election is made within thirty (30) days of the date of death. The eligibility for said benefits shall terminate for the surviving children when said children cease to qualify as dependents.~~

~~(5) A,~~

c. a retired employee other than an education employee who is receiving benefits from the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System after September 30, 1988, is sixty-five (65) years of age or older or who

is under sixty-five (65) years of age and is eligible for Medicare and ~~pursuant to subsection (1) of this section elects to continue the health insurance plan and elects coverage under the Medicare supplement offered by the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board shall have One Hundred Five Dollars (\$105.00), or the premium rate of the Medicare supplement health insurance benefit plan, whichever is less, paid by the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System to the Board in the manner specified in subsection (9) G of this section. If the amount paid by the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System does not cover the full cost of the Medicare supplement, the retired employee shall pay to the Board the remaining amount if the retired employee wants to continue coverage. If such retiree elects coverage under any Medicare risk sharing contract, the retiree shall have One Hundred Five Dollars (\$105.00) or the premium rate of the Medicare risk sharing contract selected by the retiree, whichever is less, paid by the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System to the Board in the manner specified in subsection (9) of this section. If the amount paid by the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System does not cover the full cost of the Medicare risk sharing contract, the retired employee shall pay to the Board the remaining amount if the retired employee wants to continue coverage. Effective July 1, 2004, a retired member of the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System who retired from the System by means of a personal and traumatic injury of a catastrophic nature and in the line of duty and any surviving spouse of such retired~~

~~member and any surviving spouse of a member who was killed in the line of duty shall have one hundred percent (100%) of the retired member's or surviving spouse's health care premium cost, whether the member or surviving spouse elects coverage under the Medicare supplement or Medicare risk-sharing contract, paid by the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System to the Board in the manner specified in subsection (9) of this section.~~

~~(6) A retired employee other than an education employee who is receiving benefits from the Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges after September 30, 1988, is under sixty-five (65) years of age and is not otherwise eligible for Medicare and pursuant to subsection (1) of this section elects to continue the health insurance plan shall pay the premium rate for the health insurance minus an amount equal to the premium rate of the Medicare supplement offered by the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board or One Hundred Five Dollars (\$105.00), whichever is less, which shall be paid by the Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges to the Board in the manner specified in subsection (9) of this section.~~

~~(7) A, and~~

~~d. a retired employee other than an education employee who is receiving benefits from the Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges after September 30, 1988, is sixty-five (65) years of age or older or who is under sixty-five (65) years of age and is eligible for Medicare and pursuant to subsection (1) of this section elects to continue the health insurance plan and elects coverage under the Medicare supplement offered by the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board shall have One Hundred Five Dollars~~

~~(\$105.00), or the premium rate of the Medicare supplement health insurance plan, whichever is less, paid by the Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges to the Board in the manner specified in subsection (9) G of this section. If the amount paid by the Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges does not cover the full cost of the Medicare supplement, the retired employee shall pay to the Board the remaining amount if the retired employee wants to continue coverage. If such retiree elects coverage under any Medicare risk sharing contract, the retiree shall have One Hundred Five Dollars (\$105.00) or the premium rate of the Medicare risk sharing contract selected by the retiree, whichever is less, paid by the Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges to the Board in the manner specified in subsection (9) of this section. If the amount paid by the Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges does not cover the full cost of the Medicare risk sharing contract, the retired employee shall pay to the Board the remaining amount if the retired employee wants to continue coverage.~~

~~(8) 2. Premium payments made pursuant to this section shall be made subject to the following conditions:~~

- ~~a. the health plan shall be authorized by the provisions of the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Act, except that if an employer from which an employee retired or with a vested benefit pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System does not participate in the plans authorized by the provisions of the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Act, the health plan will be the~~

health insurance benefits of the employer from which the individual retired or vested,

- b. for plans offered by the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Act, the amount to be paid shall be determined pursuant to the provisions of this subsection and shall first be applied in whole or in part to the prescription drug coverage premium. Any remaining amount shall be applied toward the medical coverage premium,
- c. for all plans, if the amount paid by the public retirement system does not cover the full cost of the elected coverage, the individual shall pay the remaining premium amount, and
- d. payment shall be made by the retirement systems in the manner specified under subsection G of this section.

D. For any member of the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System killed in the line of duty, whether the member was killed in the line of duty prior to the effective date of this act or on or after the effective date of this act, or if the member was on a disability leave status at the time of death, the surviving spouse or dependents of such deceased member of the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System may elect to continue or commence health and dental insurance benefits provided said dependents pay the full cost of such insurance and for deaths occurring on or after July 1, 2002, such election is made within thirty (30) days of the date of death. The eligibility for said benefits shall terminate for the surviving children when said children cease to qualify as dependents.

E. Effective July 1, 2004, a retired member of the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System who retired from the System by means of a personal and traumatic injury of a catastrophic nature and in the line of duty and any surviving spouse of such retired member and

any surviving spouse of a member who was killed in the line of duty shall have one hundred percent (100%) of the retired member's or surviving spouse's health care premium cost, whether the member or surviving spouse elects coverage under the Medicare supplement or Medicare risk-sharing contract, paid by the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System to the Board in the manner specified in subsection ~~(9)~~ H of this section. For plans offered by the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board, such contributions will first be applied in whole or in part to the prescription drug coverage premium, if any.

F. Dependents of a deceased employee who was on active work status or on a disability leave at the time of death or of a participating retardant or of any person who has elected to receive a vested benefit under the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System, the Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges or the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System may continue the health and dental insurance benefits in force provided said dependents pay the full cost of such insurance and they were covered as eligible dependents at the time of such death and such election is made within thirty (30) days of date of death. The eligibility for said benefits shall terminate for the surviving children when said children cease to qualify as dependents.

~~(9)~~ G. The amounts required to be paid by the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System, the Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges and the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System pursuant to this section shall be forwarded no later than the tenth day of each month following the month for which payment is due by the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System Board of Trustees or the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement Board to the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board for deposit in the Health, Dental and Life Insurance Reserve Fund or to another insurance

carrier as provided for in subsection H of Section 1315 of this title.

~~(10)~~ H. Upon retirement from employment of the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma, any person who was or is employed at the George Nigh Rehabilitation Institute and who transferred employment pursuant to Section 3427 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes, any person who was employed at the Medical Technology and Research Authority and who transferred employment pursuant to Section 7068 of this title, and any person who is a member of the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System pursuant to the authority of Section 2-314 of Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes may participate in the benefits authorized by the provisions of the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Act for retired participants, including health, dental and life insurance benefits, if such election to participate is made within thirty (30) days from the date of termination of service. Life insurance benefits for any such person who transferred employment shall not exceed the coverage the person had at the time of such transfer. Retirees who transferred employment and who participate pursuant to this paragraph shall pay the premium for elected benefits less any amounts paid by a state retirement system pursuant to this section.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2001, Section 1316.3, as last amended by Section 6, Chapter 345, O.S.L. 2004 (74 O.S. Supp. 2004, Section 1316.3), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1316.3 ~~(1)~~ A. Any person who retires pursuant to the provisions of the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma with at least ten (10) years of creditable service or who has a vested benefit with at least ten (10) years of creditable service, pursuant to the provisions of the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma may continue in force the health and dental insurance benefits authorized by the provisions of the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Act if such election to continue in force or begin

is made within thirty (30) days from the date of termination of service. ~~Health insurance benefits offered pursuant to this section shall include the state indemnity plan, managed care plans offered in alternative to the state indemnity plan, Medicare supplements offered by the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board which shall include prescription drug coverage, and Medicare risk-sharing contracts offered in alternative to the Board's Medicare supplement. Provided, all Medicare risk-sharing contracts shall be subject to a risk adjustment factor, based on generally accepted actuarial principals for adverse selection which may occur.~~ Except as provided in subsection E of Sections 5-117.5 and 14-108.1 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes and Section 840-2.27I of this title and subsection ~~(10)~~ K of this section, health and dental insurance coverage may not be reinstated at a later time if the election to continue in force or begin coverage is declined. Vested persons who have terminated service and are not receiving benefits and effective July 1, 1996, nonvested persons who have terminated service with more than ten (10) years of participating service with a qualifying employer, who within thirty (30) days from the date of termination of service, elect to continue such coverage, shall pay the full cost of said insurance premium at the rate and pursuant to the terms and conditions established by the Board.

~~(2)~~ (a) B. 1. Health insurance benefit plans offered pursuant to this section shall include:

- a. indemnity plans offered through the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board,
- b. managed care plans offered as alternatives to the indemnity plans,
- c. Medicare supplements offered through the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board,
- d. Medicare risk-sharing contracts offered as alternatives to the Medicare supplements offered

through the State and Education Employees Group
Insurance Board, and

- e. any other employer-provided health insurance benefit
plans if the employer does not participate in the
plans offered pursuant to the State and Education
Employees Group Insurance Act.

2. Health insurance benefit plans offered pursuant to this
section shall provide prescription drug benefits, except for plans
designed pursuant to the Medicare Prescription Drug Improvement and
Modernization Act of 2003, which may or may not contain prescription
drug benefits, for which provision of prescription drug benefits is
optional, and except for plans offered pursuant to subparagraph e of
paragraph 1 of this subsection.

C. A retired person who ~~is~~:

1. Is receiving benefits from the Teachers' Retirement System
of Oklahoma after September 30, 1988, is under sixty-five (65) years
of age and is not otherwise eligible for Medicare and pursuant to
subsection ~~(1)~~ A of this section elects to begin or to continue the
health insurance plan shall ~~pay the premium rate for the health
insurance minus an amount equal to the premium rate of the Medicare
supplement offered by the State and Education Employees Group
Insurance Board or the amount determined pursuant to subsection (4)~~
of this section, whichever is less, which shall be paid by the
Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma to the Board in the manner
specified in subsection ~~(8)~~ of this section.;

~~(b) A retired person who is~~ 2. Is receiving benefits from the
Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma after June 30, 1993, is
under sixty-five (65) years of age and is not otherwise eligible for
Medicare and participates in a health insurance plan provided by a
participating education employer of the Teachers' Retirement System
of Oklahoma other than a health insurance plan offered pursuant to
the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Act or an

~~alternative health plan offered pursuant to the Oklahoma State Employees Benefits Act shall pay the premium rate for the health insurance minus an amount equal to the premium rate of the Medicare supplement offered by the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board or the amount determined pursuant to subsection (4) of this section, whichever is less, which shall be paid by the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma to said education employer that provides the health insurance plan to said retired person.;~~

~~(3) (a) A retired person who is 3. Is receiving benefits from the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma after September 30, 1988, made contributions to the system and is sixty-five (65) years of age or older, or who is under sixty-five (65) years of age and is eligible for Medicare and is a participant in the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Act and elects coverage under the Medicare supplement offered by the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board, shall have the amount determined pursuant to subsection (4) of this section, or the premium rate of the Medicare supplement, whichever is less, paid by the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma to the Board in the manner specified in subsection (8) of this section. If the amount paid by the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma does not cover the full cost of the Medicare supplement, the retired person shall pay to the Board the remaining amount if the retired person wants to continue the coverage. If such retiree elects coverage under any Medicare risk-sharing contract, the retiree shall have the amount determined pursuant to subsection (4) of this section or the premium rate of the Medicare risk-sharing contract selected by the retiree, whichever is less, paid by the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma to the Board in the manner specified in subsection (8) of this section. If the amount paid by the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma does not cover the full cost of the Medicare risk-sharing contract, the retired employee shall pay to the Board the~~

~~remaining amount if the retired employee wants to continue coverage.; or~~

~~(b) A retired person who is 4. Is receiving benefits from the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma after June 30, 1993, made contributions to the system and is sixty-five (65) years of age or older, or who is under sixty-five (65) years of age and is eligible for Medicare and participates in a health insurance plan provided by a participating education employer of the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma other than a health insurance plan offered pursuant to the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Act or an alternative health plan offered pursuant to the Oklahoma State Employees Benefits Act and elects coverage under the Medicare supplement offered by the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board,~~

shall have the amount determined pursuant to subsection ~~(4)~~ E of this section, or the premium rate of the ~~Medicare supplement~~ health insurance benefit plan, whichever is less, paid by the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma ~~to the education employer that provides the health insurance plan to said retired person.~~ If the amount paid by the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma does not cover the full cost of the ~~Medicare supplement~~ health insurance premium, the retired person shall pay ~~to said employer~~ the remaining amount if the retired person wants to continue the coverage. ~~If such retiree elects coverage under any Medicare risk-sharing contract, the retiree shall have the amount determined pursuant to subsection (4) of this section or the premium rate of the Medicare risk-sharing contract selected by the retiree, whichever is less, paid by the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma to the Board in the manner specified in subsection (8) of this section. If the amount paid by the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma does not cover the full cost of the Medicare risk-sharing contract, the~~

~~retired employee shall pay to the Board the remaining amount if the retired employee wants to continue coverage.~~

(4) D. The Teachers' Retirement System shall pay the amount due pursuant to the provisions of subsection C of this section as follows:

1. For those individuals participating in plans provided through the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Act, payment shall be made to the Board pursuant to the provisions of subsection I of this section; or

2. For those individuals participating in plans provided through a participating education employer of the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma other than a health insurance plan offered pursuant to the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Act, payment shall be made to the education employer.

E. Beginning July 1, 2000, the maximum benefit payable by the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma on behalf of a retired person toward said person's monthly premium for health insurance shall be determined in accordance with the following schedule:

AVERAGE SALARY USED FOR DETERMINING RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE	LESS THAN		
	15 YEARS OF CREDITABLE SERVICE	25 YEARS BUT GREATER THAN 14.99 YEARS OF CREDITABLE SERVICE	GREATER THAN 24.99 YEARS OF CREDITABLE SERVICE
Less than \$20,000.00	\$103.00	\$104.00	\$105.00
Less than \$30,000.00 but greater than \$19,999.99	\$102.00	\$103.00	\$104.00
Less than \$40,000.00 but greater than \$29,999.99	\$101.00	\$102.00	\$103.00
\$40,000.00 or greater	\$100.00	\$101.00	\$102.00

For plans offered by the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board, the amount paid pursuant to this subsection shall

first be applied to the prescription drug coverage premium, if any.
Any remaining amounts shall be applied towards the medical coverage
premium.

~~(5)~~ F. If a person retires and begins to receive benefits from the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma or terminates service and has a vested benefit with the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma, the person may elect, in the manner provided in subsection ~~(1)~~ A of this section, to participate in the dental insurance plan offered through the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Act. The person shall pay the full cost of the dental insurance.

~~(6)~~ G. Those persons who are receiving benefits from the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma and have health insurance coverage which on the operative date of this section is being paid by the education entity from which the person retired shall make the election required in subsection ~~(1)~~ A of this section within thirty (30) days of the termination of said health insurance coverage. The person making the election shall give the Board certified documentation satisfactory to the Board of the termination date of the other health insurance coverage.

~~(7)~~ H. Dependents of a deceased education employee who was on active work status or on a disability leave at the time of death or of a participating retirant or of any person who has elected to receive a vested benefit under the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma may continue the health and dental insurance benefits in force provided said dependents pay the full cost of such insurance and they were covered as eligible dependents at the time of such death and such election is made within thirty (30) days of date of death. The eligibility for said benefits shall terminate for the surviving children when said children cease to qualify as dependents.

~~(8)~~ I. The amounts required to be paid by the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma pursuant to this section shall be

forwarded no later than the tenth day of each month following the month for which payment is due by the Board of Trustees of the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma to the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board for deposit in the Education Employees Group Insurance Reserve Fund.

~~(9)~~ J. The Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma shall provide the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board information concerning the employers of retired and vested members necessary to allow the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board to track eligibility for continued coverage.

~~(10)~~ K. Upon retirement from employment with the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma, any person who is or was employed at the George Nigh Rehabilitation Institute and who transferred employment pursuant to Section 3427 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes, any person who was employed at the Medical Technology and Research Authority and who transferred employment pursuant to Section 7068 of this title, and any person who is a member of the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System pursuant to the authority of Section 2-314 of Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes may participate in the benefits authorized by the provisions of the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Act for retired participants, including health, dental and life insurance benefits, if such election to participate is made within thirty (30) days from the date of termination of employment. Life insurance benefits for any such person who transferred employment shall not exceed the coverage the person had at the time of such transfer. Retirees who are persons transferred employment and who participate pursuant to this paragraph shall pay the premium for elected benefits less any amounts paid by the retirement system pursuant to this section.

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 8th day of March, 2005.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____,
2005.

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives