

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

State of Oklahoma

SPEAKER:

CHAIR:

I move to amend HB3817 _____
Of the printed Bill
Page _____ Section _____ Lines _____
Of the Engrossed Bill

By deleting the content of the entire measure, and by inserting in lieu thereof the following language:

AMEND TITLE TO CONFORM TO AMENDMENTS

Amendment submitted by: Chris Sneed

Adopted: _____

Reading Clerk

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

PROPOSED POLICY
COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 3817

By: Sneed

PROPOSED POLICY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to insurance; amending 74 O.S. 2021, Section 1315, as amended by Section 22, Chapter 379, O.S.L. 2025 (74 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section 1315), which relates to participation by political subdivisions in the Oklahoma Employees Insurance and Benefits Plans; permitting the Oklahoma Health Care Authority to accept applications from certain cities and towns; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2021, Section 1315, as amended by Section 22, Chapter 379, O.S.L. 2025 (74 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section 1315), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1315. A. Upon application in writing and subject to any underwriting criteria that may be established by the Oklahoma Health Care Authority, the Authority may extend the benefits of the Oklahoma Employees Insurance and Benefits Plans to employees who are employed in positions requiring actual performance of duty during

1 not less than one thousand (1,000) hours per year and to all full-
2 time employees of:

3 1. Any of the following groups which participate in the
4 Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System:

- 5 a. county,
- 6 b. city,
- 7 c. town,
- 8 d. public trust for which the state is the primary
- 9 beneficiary, or
- 10 e. conservation districts; ~~and~~

11 2. Any of the following groups:

- 12 a. county hospital,
- 13 b. rural water district, including employees and board
- 14 members,
- 15 c. sewer district,
- 16 d. gas district,
- 17 e. solid waste management district,
- 18 f. nonprofit water corporation employees and board
- 19 members,
- 20 g. conservancy district or master conservancy district
- 21 authorized by the provisions of Section 541 of Title
- 22 82 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
- 23 h. voluntary organization of Oklahoma local government
- 24 jurisdictions listed in Section 2003 of Title 62 of

1 the Oklahoma Statutes including any council created by
2 the voluntary organizations,

3 i. voluntary association designated to administer the
4 County Government Council as authorized in Section 7
5 of Title 19 of the Oklahoma Statutes,

6 j. statewide nonprofit entities representing employees of
7 the state or employees of local political subdivisions
8 who are eligible for insurance benefits authorized by
9 the provisions of the Oklahoma Employees Insurance and
10 Benefits Act, or

11 k. statewide nonprofit entities receiving state funds to
12 provide no cost legal services to low income and
13 senior citizens; and

14 3. Any city or town in Oklahoma who participates in a
15 retirement system organized under Sections 48-101 through 48-106 of
16 Title 11 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

17 B. Applications to participate in the Oklahoma Employees
18 Insurance and Benefits Plans shall be approved by majority action of
19 the governing body of the groups listed in subsection A of this
20 section.

21 C. Groups listed in subsection A of this section participating
22 in the Oklahoma Employees Insurance and Benefits Plans shall pay all
23 costs attributable to their participation. The benefits of said
24 plans for a participant provided coverage pursuant to this section

1 shall be the same and shall include the same plan options as would
2 be made available to a state employee participating in the plan that
3 resided at the same location. The premium for participating groups
4 listed in subsection A of this section shall be the same as paid by
5 state and education employees.

6 D. Participating groups listed in subsection A of this section
7 shall not be required to offer dental insurance as defined in
8 paragraph 12 of Section 1303 of this title, or other insurance as
9 defined in paragraph 13 of Section 1303 of this title. However, if
10 dental insurance or any other insurance is offered, it must be
11 provided to all eligible employees. If an employee retires and
12 begins to receive benefits from the Oklahoma Public Employees
13 Retirement System or terminates service and has a vested benefit
14 with the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System, the employee
15 may elect, in the manner provided in Section 1316.2 of this title,
16 to participate in the dental insurance plan offered through the
17 Oklahoma Employees Insurance and Benefits Act within thirty (30)
18 days from the date of termination of employment. The employee shall
19 pay the full cost of the dental insurance.

20 E. 1. Any employee of a group listed in subsection A of this
21 section who retires or who has a vested benefit pursuant to the
22 Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System may begin the health
23 insurance coverage if the employer of the employee is not a
24 participant of the Oklahoma Employees Insurance and Benefits Act and

1 does not offer health insurance to its employees. Such election by
2 the employee to begin coverage shall be made within thirty (30) days
3 from the date of termination of service.

4 2. Any employee of a group listed in subsection A of this
5 section who retires or who has a vested benefit pursuant to the
6 Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System may begin or continue
7 the health insurance coverage if the employer of the employee is a
8 participant of the Oklahoma Employees Insurance and Benefits Act and
9 the election to begin or continue coverage is made within thirty
10 (30) days from the date of termination of service.

11 F. Any county, city, town, county hospital, public trust,
12 conservation district, or rural water, sewer, gas or solid waste
13 management district, or nonprofit water corporation, any of which of
14 the aforementioned groups is not a participating employer in the
15 Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System, but which has employees
16 who are participating in the health, dental or life insurance plans
17 offered by or through the Oklahoma Employees Insurance and Benefits
18 Act on July 1, 1997, may continue to allow its current and future
19 employees to participate in such health, dental or life insurance
20 plans. Participation of such employees may also continue following
21 termination of employment if the employee has completed at least
22 eight (8) years of service with a participating employer and such an
23 election to continue in force is made within thirty (30) days
24 following termination of employment. Any retiree or terminated

1 employee electing coverage pursuant to this section shall pay the
2 full cost of the insurance.

3 G. An employee of a group listed in paragraph 2 of subsection A
4 of this section may continue in force health, dental and life
5 insurance coverage following termination of employment if the
6 employee has a minimum of eight (8) years of service with a
7 participating employer and the election to continue in force is made
8 within thirty (30) calendar days following termination of
9 employment.

10 H. Notwithstanding other provisions in this section, an
11 employer listed in subsection A of this section may cease to
12 participate in the Oklahoma Employees Insurance and Benefits Act but
13 provide health insurance coverage for its current and former
14 employees through another insurance carrier. The subsequent carrier
15 shall be responsible for providing coverage to the entity's
16 employees who terminated employment with a retirement benefit, with
17 a vested benefit, or who have eight (8) or more years of service
18 with a participating employer but did not have a vested benefit
19 through the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System, if the
20 election to retain health insurance coverage was made within thirty
21 (30) days of termination of employment. Coverage shall also be
22 provided to the eligible dependents of the employees if an election
23 to retain coverage is made within thirty (30) days of termination of
24 employment. Employees who terminate employment from an employer

1 covered by this subsection before December 31, 2001, and elect
2 coverage under the Oklahoma Employees Insurance and Benefits Act,
3 shall not be required to change insurance carriers in the event that
4 the employer changes its insurance carrier to a subsequent carrier.
5 The provisions of this subsection shall become effective January 1,
6 2002.

7 I. Employers pursuant to subsection A of this section who
8 participate in the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System and
9 who offer health insurance coverage to their active employees, shall
10 offer health insurance coverage to those employees who retire from
11 the employer and also to those employees who terminate employment
12 and are eligible to elect a vested benefit in the System. Such
13 employers shall begin offering coverage to such employees on or
14 before January 1, 2004. Such employees who wish to continue
15 coverage shall make an election to retain health insurance coverage
16 within thirty (30) days of termination of employment. However,
17 former employees of such employers who have already retired or who
18 have terminated and are eligible to elect a vested benefit under the
19 Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System, during the period
20 beginning January 1, 2002, and ending December 31, 2003, may make an
21 election to begin participation in the plans offered by the
22 Authority on or before December 31, 2003, in the same manner as
23 other participating retired or vested members. The employer,
24 assisted by the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System shall

1 notify by October 1, 2003, all members who have either retired from
2 the System or who are eligible to elect a vested benefit in the
3 System between January 1, 2002, through December 31, 2003, and who
4 were employed by an employer listed in subsection A of this section
5 of the member's potential eligibility to participate in such plans.
6 Each employer shall notify the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement
7 System when an employee is retiring and makes the election pursuant
8 to this subsection to continue coverage under a plan offered by such
9 employer and when an employee terminates employment and is eligible
10 to elect a vested benefit in the System and such employee elects to
11 continue coverage under a plan offered by such employer. Such
12 employer shall also notify the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement
13 System if a retired employee or an employee who is eligible to elect
14 a vested benefit in the System terminates such continued coverage.

15 J. Any group that begins participation in the Oklahoma
16 Employees Insurance and Benefits Plans after March 17, 1970, and
17 that is not composed of state or education employees must have one
18 hundred percent (100%) participation in the health plan offered
19 pursuant to the Oklahoma Employees Insurance and Benefits Act.

20 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2026.
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