

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
93rd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2021

As Engrossed: S4/5/21 S4/8/21
A Bill

SENATE BILL 587

By: Senator Teague

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE STATE AND
PUBLIC SCHOOL LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE BOARD; TO
DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE STATE AND
PUBLIC SCHOOL LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE
BOARD; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 21-5-403(b), concerning the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Board as a policy-making body and reports, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The Director of the Employee Benefits Division and the board shall report ~~upon request~~ quarterly to the House Committee on Insurance and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Insurance and Commerce regarding the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Program.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 21-5-404(1), concerning the powers, functions, and duties of the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Board, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

(D) All changes to a plan design that will take effect January 1, 2022, or thereafter, shall be presented to the House Committee on Insurance and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Insurance and Commerce in public meetings for review before final adoption, including without



limitation:

- (i) A new or significantly modified cost-containment measure;
- (ii) Premium increases of more than five percent (5%) over the previous year; or
- (iii) Limiting or eliminating plan benefits or eligibility.

SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the decisions made by the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Board are made in the months preceding the start of the state fiscal year on July 1; that review of the decisions of the board by the General Assembly is required to ensure state employees and teachers have adequate health insurance coverage and employee benefits; and that this act is immediately necessary because the plan decisions made by the board affect the health and welfare of state employees and public school teachers. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

- (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;
- (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill; or
- (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.

/s/Teague