

State and Public School
Life and Health Insurance Program
Legislative Task Force

Senator Jim Hendren
Chair

Representative Bill Gossage
Vice Chair

August 17, 2015

Senator Jonathan Dismang
President Pro Tempore
Arkansas Senate
Room 320, State Capitol
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Senator Dismang,

I am writing to advise you of my intention to step aside as the Chair of the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Program Legislative Task Force. The press of other commitments, both legislative and non-legislative, necessitates that I step down so that I may devote the time and attention required to these obligations. My resignation will be effective immediately upon the selection of a new Chair, which will be discussed at the next meeting of the Task Force. It is anticipated that the Task Force will meet again during the month of September.

It has been a privilege to serve as the Chair of the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Program Legislative Task Force. In the span of two (2) years, the Task Force has taken a Public School Employee Health Insurance Program that was on the verge of collapse and restored it to both fiscal and administrative sustainability. The Task Force has also worked to ensure the sustainability of the Arkansas State Employee Health Insurance Program. As you are aware, this required difficult and sometimes contentious changes. However, the end result is an employee health insurance benefits system for both state employees and public school employees that will serve the needs of its participants into the foreseeable future.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to discussing the transition with you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,


Senator Jim Hendren
Chair