

**Hall of the House of Representatives**  
83rd General Assembly - Regular Session, 2001  
**Amendment Form**

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**Subtitle of House Bill No. 2561**

"AN ACT CONCERNING ELIGIBILITY OF CERTAIN RETIRED EMPLOYEES OF  
INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO CONTINUE COVERAGE IN THE GROUP  
HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM."

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**Amendment No. 1 to House Bill No. 2561.**

Amend House Bill No. 2561 as originally introduced:

Page 1, line 9, delete "21-5-411(c)" and substitute "21-5-411"

AND

Page 1, delete lines 24 through 34 and substitute the following:

"SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 21-5-411(a)(1), concerning eligibility of certain retired employees to continue coverage in the group health insurance program, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) State employees who are members of:

(A) The Arkansas Public Employees' Retirement System, including the members of the legislative division and the contract personnel of the Arkansas National Guard;

(B) The Arkansas Teacher Retirement System;

(C) The Arkansas State Highway Employees' Retirement System; and

(D) An alternate retirement plan; and

~~(D)~~(E) The Arkansas Judicial Retirement System who are now retired and drawing benefits under the systems and members of those systems who hereafter retire and receive retirement benefits under the systems shall be eligible to continue coverage in the group health insurance program instituted pursuant to the provisions of this subchapter and other laws enacted to implement the program. At the time members of those systems elect to receive retirement benefits, thereby becoming "active retirees", an election shall also be made to continue coverage in the health benefit programs sponsored by the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Board. To be eligible to continue coverage, the member must have been covered on the last day of the member's employment. Any election made to decline participation in the health benefit programs is final. Any subsequent termination of health benefits by the retiree is final."

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code 21-5-411(c), concerning eligibility of certain retired employees to continue coverage in the group health insurance program, is amended to read as follows:

"(c) Eligible employees of institutions of higher education, technical institutes, the Department of Higher Education, the Department of Workforce Education, and the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services who are retired with at least ~~ten (10)~~ five (5) years of creditable service after July 1, 1983, shall be allowed to participate in the group insurance program provided for in this subchapter but shall pay the full amount of the premium or cost of the policy issued to the retired participant. All eligible participants must make an option selection of coverage within thirty-one (31) days subsequent to the date of their notification of termination or retirement."

The Amendment was read \_\_\_\_\_

By: Representative C. Johnson  
MF/RTK - 031620010917  
RTK222

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Chief Clerk