

**REPORT OF THE
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS DIVISION OVERSIGHT SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE
ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

June 21, 2024

Senator Rice and Representative Wardlaw:

The Employee Benefits Division (EBD) Oversight Subcommittee met on Thursday, June 20, 2024, at 8:00 a.m., in Committee Room B-MAC Building, Little Rock, Arkansas.

The Subcommittee heard a presentation from Patrick Klein, Sarah Gunderson and Dr. Sadhna Paralkar, representatives of The Segal Group (Segal), on the history of the State of Arkansas Wellness Program, examples of successful wellness programs and possible next steps for Arkansas.

The Subcommittee discussed and adopted the Interim Diabetes Management Program Study Report to the Arkansas Legislative Council updating the Legislative Council on the status of the study and stating that the final report and recommendations will be submitted in December of this year. See the attached.

Respectfully submitted by,

Senator Jimmy Hickey, Jr., Co-Chair

Representative Aaron Pilkington, Co-Chair

Diabetes Management Program Study

ALC-EBD Oversight Subcommittee

Report to the Legislative Council
June 20, 2024

Act 113 of 2022 created the Employee Benefits Division Oversight Subcommittee of the Legislative Council (the “Subcommittee”) and included a requirement that the Subcommittee “study general diabetes management programs to evaluate the viability and sustainability of a general diabetes management program for the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Program.”

The Rules of the Legislative Council also contain the requirement that the Subcommittee conduct a study to include:

- (i) Evaluating possible general diabetes management programs for managing diabetes of members of the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Program;*
- (ii) Developing recommendations for potential legislation for the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly that are necessary to implement a general diabetes management program for the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Program; and*
- (iii) Submitting a report summarizing the results of the study to the Legislative Council no later than July 1, 2024.*

ALC Rules 5.(a)(13)(O) (the “Study”).

The ALC-Executive Subcommittee authorized the Bureau of Legislative Research to contract with The Segal Group (“Segal”) in 2022 to provide actuarial and consulting services, including assisting the Subcommittee with the study mandated by Act 113. Pursuant to the requirement of Act 113 and the ALC Rules, the Subcommittee met monthly beginning in October 2023 to hear from Patrick Klein and Dr. Sadhna Paralkar, representatives of Segal, on various topics related to the Study, as follows¹:

- October 2023: Medication Utilization and Management
- November 2023: Nutrition, Obesity, and Lifestyle Management
- December 2023: Mental Health
- January 2024: Prediabetes/Other Co-morbid Conditions
- February 2024: Initial Recommendations Report

During these presentations, the Subcommittee members also raised questions concerning wellness programs and how those programs may impact diabetes

¹ Copies of the Segal presentations and initial recommendations are available for members who would like to review them and are posted to the General Assembly website.

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management. The Subcommittee has requested additional information from both the Employee Benefits Division and Segal related to wellness programs in order to have all information necessary to finalize its recommendations to the Legislative Council. As such, the Subcommittee began hearing presentations from Segal related to wellness programs at its meeting on June 20, 2024.

The Subcommittee plans to continue to study this issue through September 2024, with the assistance of The Segal Group and EBD, and then will work to finalize and adopt recommendations and a final report, including any draft legislation, for presentation to the full Legislative Council at its December 2024 meeting.

Respectfully Submitted:

Senator Jimmy Hickey, Jr.,
Senate Co-chair

Representative Aaron Pilkington,
House Co-chair