

1 State of Arkansas
2 93rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2021

A Bill

SENATE BILL 587

4
5 By: Senator Teague

For An Act To Be Entitled

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

Subtitle

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

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

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

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

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

33 (D) The following shall be presented to the House Committee on
34 Insurance and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Insurance and Commerce in
35 public meetings for review and approval before final adoption:

36 (i) A new or significantly modified cost-containment



1 measure;

2 (ii) Premium increases of more than five percent (5%) over
3 the previous year;

4 (iii) Limiting or eliminating plan benefits or
5 eligibility; or

6 (iv) Other significant changes to a plan design that will
7 take effect January 1, 2022, or thereafter.

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

20 (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

21 (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,
22 the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the
23 bill; or

24 (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is
25 overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.

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