

1 State of Arkansas  
2 93rd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2021  
4

As Engrossed: S4/5/21

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 587

5 By: Senator Teague  
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## 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.  
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## 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) All changes to a plan design that will take effect January  
34 1, 2022, or thereafter, shall be presented to the House Committee on  
35 Insurance and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Insurance and Commerce in  
36 public meetings for review and approval before final adoption, including



1 without limitation:

2 (i) A new or significantly modified cost-containment  
3 measure;

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

6 (iii) Limiting or eliminating plan benefits or  
7 eligibility.

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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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27 /s/Teague

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