
SENATE BILL 5275

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Senators Hunt, Randall, Wilson, C., Conway, and Das

Read first time 01/16/19. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

1 AN ACT Relating to adding a nonvoting representative from the
2 office of the insurance commissioner to the public employees'
3 benefits board; amending RCW 41.05.055; and providing an effective
4 date.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 41.05.055 and 2018 c 260 s 11 are each amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (1) The public employees' benefits board is created within the
9 authority. The function of the public employees' benefits board is to
10 design and approve insurance benefit plans for employees and to
11 establish eligibility criteria for participation in insurance benefit
12 plans.

13 (2) The public employees' benefits board shall be composed of
14 nine members (~~through December 31, 2019, and of eight members~~
15 ~~thereafter~~), appointed by the governor as follows:

16 (a) Two representatives of state employees, one of whom shall
17 represent an employee union certified as exclusive representative of
18 at least one bargaining unit of classified employees, and one of whom
19 is retired, is covered by a program under the jurisdiction of the
20 public employees' benefits board, and represents an organized group
21 of retired public employees;

1 (b) (~~(Through December 31, 2019, two)~~) While retired school
2 employees are served by the public employees' benefits board, one
3 representative((s)) of school district employees((, one of whom shall
4 represent an association of school employees as a nonvoting member,
5 and one of whom)) who is retired, and represents an organized group
6 of retired school employees((. Thereafter, and only while retired
7 school employees are served by the public employees' benefits board,
8 only the retired representative shall serve on the public employees'
9 benefits board));

10 (c) Four members with experience in health benefit management and
11 cost containment, one of whom shall be a nonvoting member; (~~and~~)

12 (d) The insurance commissioner, or the commissioner's designee,
13 who shall be a nonvoting member; and

14 (e) The director.

15 (3) The governor shall appoint the initial members of the public
16 employees' benefits board to staggered terms not to exceed four
17 years. Members appointed thereafter shall serve two-year terms.
18 Members of the public employees' benefits board shall be compensated
19 in accordance with RCW 43.03.250 and shall be reimbursed for their
20 travel expenses while on official business in accordance with RCW
21 43.03.050 and 43.03.060. The public employees' benefits board shall
22 prescribe rules for the conduct of its business. The director shall
23 serve as chair of the public employees' benefits board. Meetings of
24 the public employees' benefits board shall be at the call of the
25 chair.

26 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. This act takes effect December 31, 2019.

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