
ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 10—COMMITTEE ON
ELECTIONS, PROCEDURES, AND ETHICS

MARCH 24, 2003

Referred to Committee on Elections, Procedures, and Ethics

SUMMARY—Directs Legislative Commission to conduct interim study of operations of Public Employees' Benefits Program. (BDR R-1111)

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Directing the Legislative Commission to conduct an interim study of the operations of the Public Employees' Benefits Program.

- 1 WHEREAS, The Public Employees' Benefits Program was
2 established in 1999 as the state agency legislatively approved to
3 provide group life, accident or health insurance, or any combination
4 of these, for state and nonstate public active and retired employees,
5 and surviving spouses and children of certain persons formerly
6 employed by a participating public agency; and
7 WHEREAS, As of January 2003, there were 22,345 active state
8 employees and 5,105 retired state employees who rely on the
9 Program for their group health insurance coverage; and
10 WHEREAS, In addition, another 1,706 active nonstate public
11 employees and 1,570 retired nonstate public employees, and 288
12 eligible survivors rely on this health insurance coverage as well; and
13 WHEREAS, In recent months, allegations have been raised
14 regarding the effectiveness, efficiency and efficacy of the Program;
15 and
16 WHEREAS, Public employees and public employers across
17 Nevada are experiencing cost increases for this coverage and they
18 recognize that larger groups have stronger buying power when
19 seeking coverage; and
20 WHEREAS, Many public employees are covered under collective
21 bargaining agreements which need to be changed if a statewide
22 public employee insurance plan is to be established; and



1 WHEREAS, Many of the employees and retirees and their
2 families who are covered under the group health insurance provided
3 by the Program are asking for assistance in resolving an untenable
4 situation which has resulted in extraordinarily high premiums for
5 this coverage; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE
7 SENATE CONCURRING, That the Legislative Commission is hereby
8 directed to appoint a committee composed of three members of the
9 Assembly and three members of the Senate to conduct an interim
10 study of the operations of the Public Employees' Benefits Program
11 relating to the provision of group health insurance; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Commission shall designate a
13 Chairman of the committee who shall appoint an advisory
14 committee of at least seven members, who are not Legislators, at
15 least five of whom represent public employee organizations and at
16 least two of whom represent public employers; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the study must include, without limitation:

18 1. An examination of the methods used for determining
19 premiums and coverage for active and retired state and nonstate
20 public employees and their dependents;

21 2. A review of the administration and solvency of the Fund for
22 the Public Employees' Benefits Program;

23 3. A review of the financial contributions, if any, that nonstate
24 public employers have made to assist their retired employees in
25 maintaining health insurance coverage;

26 4. The feasibility of soliciting proposals for a contract that
27 would take over the entire operation of group health insurance
28 funded by public employees and public employers;

29 5. An examination of relevant facts to determine whether all
30 members of the Public Employees' Retirement System should be
31 required to participate in a statewide program of health insurance
32 funded by public employees and public employers;

33 6. The desirability of eliminating or changing the composition
34 of the Board of the Public Employees' Benefits Program;

35 7. Consideration of whether it is feasible or desirable to allow
36 voluntary participation of public employees and public employers in
37 such a Program;

38 8. The feasibility and desirability of establishing a plan for
39 minimum coverage similar to the Federal Public Employee
40 Insurance Plan; and

41 9. Consideration of how the nonstate public employers should
42 contribute to the costs of insurance for employees who retire from
43 their service; and be it further

44 RESOLVED, That any recommended legislation proposed by the
45 committee must be approved by a majority of the members of the



1 Assembly and a majority of the members of the Senate appointed to
2 the committee; and be it further
3 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Commission shall submit a
4 progress report of the results of the study and any recommendations
5 for legislation to the 73rd Session of the Nevada Legislature and a
6 final report of the results of the study and any recommendations for
7 legislation to the 74th Session of the Nevada Legislature.

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