



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

Raised Bill No. 6608

LCO No. 3414

Referred to Committee on Labor and Public Employees

Introduced by:
(LAB)

**AN ACT EXPANDING ELIGIBILITY IN THE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES
HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (i) of section 5-259 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (i) The Comptroller may provide for coverage of municipal
4 employees under the plan or plans procured under subsection (a) of
5 this section, provided: (1) Participation by each municipal employer
6 shall be on a voluntary basis; (2) where an employee organization
7 represents employees in a municipality, participation in a plan or plans
8 to be procured under subsection (a) of this section shall be by mutual
9 agreement of the municipal employer and the employee organization
10 only and neither party may submit the issue of participation to binding
11 arbitration except by mutual agreement; (3) no group of employees
12 shall be refused entry into the plan by reason of past or future health
13 care costs or claim experience; (4) rates paid by the state for its
14 employees under subsection (a) of this section are not adversely
15 affected by this subsection; (5) administrative costs to the plan or plans
16 provided under this subsection shall be paid by the participating

17 municipality at no additional cost to the state; and (6) participation in
18 the plan or plans in an amount determined by the state shall be for the
19 duration of the period of the plan or plans, or for such other period as
20 mutually agreed by the municipality and the Comptroller. For the
21 purposes of this subsection, "municipality" means any town, city,
22 borough, school district, taxing district, fire district, district department
23 of health, probate district, housing authority, regional work force
24 development board established under section 31-3k, flood commission
25 or authority established by special act, regional planning agency,
26 transit district formed under chapter 103a, [or] the Children's Center
27 established by number 571 of the public acts of 1969, or group
28 organized as a nonprofit corporation under 26 USC 501 (c)(3).

29 Sec. 2. Section 5-259 of the general statutes is amended by adding
30 subsection (m) as follows:

31 (NEW) (m) The Comptroller may provide for coverage of
32 employees of community action agencies, as defined in section 17b-
33 885, under the plan or plans procured under subsection (a) of this
34 section, provided: (1) Participation by each such agency shall be on a
35 voluntary basis; (2) where an employee organization represents
36 employees in such agency, participation in a plan or plans to be
37 procured under subsection (a) of this section shall be by mutual
38 agreement of the agency and the employee organization only and
39 neither party may submit the issue of participation to binding
40 arbitration except by mutual agreement; (3) no group of employees
41 shall be refused entry into the plan by reason of past or future health
42 care costs or claim experience; (4) rates paid by the state for its
43 employees under subsection (a) of this section are not adversely
44 affected by this subsection; (5) administrative costs to the plan or plans
45 provided under this subsection shall be paid by the participating
46 agency at no additional cost to the state; and (6) participation in the
47 plan or plans in an amount determined by the state shall be for the
48 duration of the period of the plan or plans, or for such other period as
49 mutually agreed by the agency and the Comptroller. Not later than

50 February 1, 2002, and annually thereafter, the Comptroller shall submit
51 to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
52 cognizance of matters relating to insurance and real estate a review of
53 the coverage of community action agency employees under the state
54 health plan.

55 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

Statement of Purpose:

To extend eligibility for the Municipal Employees Health Insurance Program (MEHIP) to nonprofit corporations.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]