



General Assembly

February Session, 2004

Raised Bill No. 508

LCO No. 1957

01957_____LAB

Referred to Committee on Labor and Public Employees

Introduced by:
(LAB)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN.

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, as
2 amended by section 1 of public act 03-149, section 2 of public act 03-
3 254, section 31 of public act 03-3 of the June 30 special session and
4 sections 63 and 64 of public act 03-6 of the June 30 special session, is
5 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
6 *passage*):

7 (i) The Comptroller may provide for coverage of employees of
8 municipalities, nonprofit corporations, community action agencies and
9 small employers and individuals eligible for a health coverage tax
10 credit or members of an association for personal care assistants under
11 the plan or plans procured under subsection (a) of this section,
12 provided: (1) Participation by each municipality, nonprofit
13 corporation, community action agency or small employer or eligible
14 individual or association for personal care assistants shall be on a
15 voluntary basis; (2) where an employee organization represents
16 employees of a municipality, nonprofit corporation, community action

17 agency or small employer, participation in a plan or plans to be
18 procured under subsection (a) of this section shall be by mutual
19 agreement of the municipality, nonprofit corporation, community
20 action agency or small employer and the employee organization only
21 and neither party may submit the issue of participation to binding
22 arbitration except by mutual agreement if such binding arbitration is
23 available; (3) no group of employees shall be refused entry into the
24 plan by reason of past or future health care costs or claim experience;
25 (4) rates paid by the state for its employees under subsection (a) of this
26 section are not adversely affected by this subsection; (5) administrative
27 costs to the plan or plans provided under this subsection shall not be
28 paid by the state; (6) participation in the plan or plans in an amount
29 determined by the state shall be for the duration of the period of the
30 plan or plans, or for such other period as mutually agreed by the
31 municipality, nonprofit corporation, community action agency, small
32 employer or association for personal care assistants and the
33 Comptroller; and (7) nothing in public act 03-6 of the June 30 special
34 session* shall be construed as requiring a participating insurer or
35 health care center to issue individual policies to individuals eligible for
36 a health coverage tax credit. The Comptroller may arrange and procure
37 for the employees and eligible individuals under this subsection health
38 benefit plans that vary from the plan or plans procured under
39 subsection (a) of this section. Notwithstanding any provision of law
40 the coverage provided under this subsection may be offered to
41 employees and eligible individuals under this subsection on either a
42 fully underwritten or risk-pooled basis at the discretion of the
43 Comptroller. [, except that coverage offered to small employers shall
44 be fully underwritten in accordance with part V of chapter 700c.] For
45 the purposes of this subsection, (A) "municipality" means any town,
46 city, borough, school district, taxing district, fire district, district
47 department of health, probate district, housing authority, regional
48 work force development board established under section 31-3k,
49 regional emergency telecommunications center, tourism district
50 established under section 32-302, as amended, flood commission or

51 authority established by special act, regional planning agency, transit
52 district formed under chapter 103a, or the Children's Center
53 established by number 571 of the public acts of 1969; (B) "nonprofit
54 corporation" means a nonprofit corporation organized under 26 USC
55 501(c)(3) that has a contract with the state; (C) "community action
56 agency" means a community action agency, as defined in section 17b-
57 885; (D) "small employer" means a small employer, as defined in
58 section 38a-564, as amended; (E) "individuals eligible for a health
59 coverage tax credit" means persons who are eligible for the credit for
60 health insurance costs under Section 35 of the Internal Revenue Code
61 of 1986 in accordance with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation
62 and Trade Adjustment Assistance programs of the Trade Act of 2002
63 (P.L. 107-210); and (F) "association for personal care assistants" means
64 an organization composed of personal care attendants who are
65 employed by recipients of service (i) under the home-care program for
66 the elderly under section 17b-342, (ii) under the personal care
67 assistance program under section 17b-605a, (iii) in an independent
68 living center pursuant to sections 17b-613 to 17b-615, inclusive, or (iv)
69 under the program for individuals with acquired brain injury as
70 described in section 17b-260a.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>

Statement of Purpose:

To enable the Comptroller to offer small employers and other eligible individuals coverage under the municipal employees' health insurance plan on either a fully underwritten or risk-pooled basis.

[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.]