
OLR Bill Analysis

HB 7238

AN ACT CONCERNING ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES TO THE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM.

SUMMARY

The bill makes changes to the Municipal Employee Health Insurance Plan (MEHIP), which is a health plan the state comptroller administers that is open to municipalities and other groups (see BACKGROUND).

The bill requires the comptroller to establish procedures to determine (1) eligibility requirements; (2) enrollment procedures, for the plan or plans; (3) the duration of payment requirements; and (4) procedures regarding withdrawal from and termination of the plan or plans. Presumably, these procedures have already been adopted as this is a long established plan enacted in 1996. It also requires the comptroller to administer the plan or plans within available appropriations.

The bill specifies that (1) the General Assembly may allocate funds to offset any financial cost or risk associated with administering the plan or plans and (2) administrative costs must be paid by participating entities.

It also makes technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2019

BACKGROUND

MEHIP

By law, the comptroller has authority to arrange coverage under MEHIP for (1) employees of municipalities, nonprofit corporations, community action agencies, and small employers (businesses with one to 100 employees); (2) people eligible for a health coverage tax credit

under federal law; (3) members of a personal care assistants association; and (4) people eligible for a retirement benefit from the Connecticut municipal employees' retirement system ("retired members"). This law defines municipality to include, among other entities, a town, city, borough, school district, taxing district, fire district, housing authority, regional workforce development board, regional council of government, or a transit district.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Labor and Public Employees Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 9 Nay 5 (03/14/2019)