

APPROVED AND SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR

Date 3-30-82

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 1982

— ● —

ENROLLED

Committee Substitute for
HOUSE BILL No. 1625

(By Mr. Bungerner & Mr. Gilliam)

— ● —

Passed March 13, 1982

In Effect from Passage



ENROLLED

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

H. B. 1625

(By MR. BUMGARNER and MR. GILLIAM)

[Passed March 13, 1982; in effect from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact section twelve, article sixteen, chapter five of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to the West Virginia public employees insurance act; deleting provision that employees agree to pay the cost of coverage for spouses and dependents; providing for three-month continuation of insurance coverage subsequent to date of employee's involuntary or reduction in work force termination at no additional cost to employees; limitations in case of discharge for misconduct; and providing for reemployment or recall to active employment within twelve months of termination to not be deemed new employment for again requiring employee's contributive share of premium cost, where such share had earlier been once paid.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section twelve, article sixteen, chapter five of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 16. WEST VIRGINIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES INSURANCE ACT.

§5-16-12. Payment of cost by employer and employee; coverage for employee's spouse and dependents generally; short term continuance of coverage for involuntary employee termination.

1 The board is hereby authorized to provide under any con-
2 tract or contracts entered into under the provisions of this
3 article that the costs of any such group hospital and surgical
4 insurance, group major medical insurance, group life and
5 accidental death insurance benefit plan or plans may be
6 paid by the employer and employee. In addition, each em-
7 ployee shall be entitled to have his spouse and dependents,
8 as defined by the rules and regulations of the board, included
9 in any group hospital and surgical insurance or group major
10 medical insurance coverage provided. The board shall adopt
11 rules and regulations according to chapter twenty-nine-a of
12 this code governing the discontinuance and resumption of any
13 employee's coverage for his spouse and dependents.

14 Should a participating employee be terminated from em-
15 ployment involuntarily or in reduction of work force, the
16 employee's insurance coverage provided under this article
17 shall continue for a period of three months at no additional
18 cost to the employee: *Provided*, That an employee discharged
19 for misconduct shall not be eligible for extended benefits under
20 this section: *Provided, however*, That coverage may be ex-
21 tended up to the maximum period of three months, while
22 administrative remedies contesting the charge of misconduct
23 are pursued: *Provided further*, That should the discharge for
24 misconduct be upheld, the full cost of the extended coverage
25 shall be reimbursed by the employee. If the employee is again
26 employed or recalled to active employment within twelve
27 months of his prior termination, he shall not be considered a
28 new enrollee and shall not be required to again contribute his
29 share of the premium cost, if he had already fully contributed
30 such share during the prior period of employment.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

R. P. Byler
Chairman Senate Committee

Jonny E. Whitlow
Chairman House Committee

Originating in the House.

Takes effect from passage.

Judd C. Willis
Clerk of the Senate

VA Blankenship
Clerk of the House of Delegates

Warren R. McSwain
President of the Senate

Alfred M. Seelye
Speaker House of Delegates

The within is approved this the 30
day of March, 1982.

John R. Bell
Governor

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OF THE
STATE
SECY.