

HOUSE BILL NO. 53

INTRODUCED BY H. KLOCK

BY REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT CONSOLIDATING MANDATED BENEFITS FOR THE STATE EMPLOYEE GROUP BENEFIT PLAN AND MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM BENEFIT PLAN UNDER TITLE 2, MCA; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 2-18-704, 33-1-102, 33-22-129, 33-22-134, AND 33-22-136, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**Section 1.** Section 2-18-704, MCA, is amended to read:

**"2-18-704. Mandatory provisions.** (1) An insurance contract or plan issued under this part must contain provisions that permit:

(a) the member of a group who retires from active service under the appropriate retirement provisions of a defined benefit plan provided by law or, in the case of the defined contribution plan provided in Title 19, chapter 3, part 21, a member with at least 5 years of service and who is at least age 50 while in covered employment to remain a member of the group until the member becomes eligible for medicare under the federal Health Insurance for the Aged Act, 42 U.S.C. 1395, ~~as amended~~, unless the member is a participant in another group plan with substantially the same or greater benefits at an equivalent cost or unless the member is employed and, by virtue of that employment, is eligible to participate in another group plan with substantially the same or greater benefits at an equivalent cost;

(b) the surviving spouse of a member to remain a member of the group as long as the spouse is eligible for retirement benefits accrued by the deceased member as provided by law unless the spouse is eligible for medicare under the federal Health Insurance for the Aged Act or unless the spouse has or is eligible for equivalent insurance coverage as provided in subsection (1)(a);

(c) the surviving children of a member to remain members of the group as long as they are eligible for retirement benefits accrued by the deceased member as provided by law unless they have equivalent coverage as provided in subsection (1)(a) or are eligible for insurance coverage by virtue of the employment of a surviving parent or legal guardian.

(2) An insurance contract or plan issued under this part must contain the provisions of subsection (1)

1 for remaining a member of the group and also must permit:

2 (a) the spouse of a retired member the same rights as a surviving spouse under subsection (1)(b);

3 (b) the spouse of a retiring member to convert a group policy as provided in 33-22-508; and

4 (c) continued membership in the group by anyone eligible under the provisions of this section,  
5 notwithstanding the person's eligibility for medicare under the federal Health Insurance for the Aged Act.

6 (3) (a) A state insurance contract or plan must contain provisions that permit a legislator to remain a  
7 member of the state's group plan until the legislator becomes eligible for medicare under the federal Health  
8 Insurance for the Aged Act, ~~42 U.S.C. 1395, as amended~~, if the legislator:

9 (i) terminates service in the legislature and is a vested member of a state retirement system provided  
10 by law; and

11 (ii) notifies the department of administration in writing within 90 days of the end of the legislator's  
12 legislative term.

13 (b) A former legislator may not remain a member of the group plan under the provisions of subsection  
14 (3)(a) if the person:

15 (i) is a member of a plan with substantially the same or greater benefits at an equivalent cost; or

16 (ii) is employed and, by virtue of that employment, is eligible to participate in another group plan with  
17 substantially the same or greater benefits at an equivalent cost.

18 (c) A legislator who remains a member of the group under the provisions of subsection (3)(a) and  
19 subsequently terminates membership may not rejoin the group plan unless the person again serves as a  
20 legislator.

21 (4) (a) A state insurance contract or plan must (a) contain provisions that permit continued membership in  
22 the state's group plan by a member of the judges' retirement system who leaves judicial office but continues to  
23 be an inactive vested member of the judges' retirement system as provided by 19-5-301. The judge shall notify  
24 the department of administration in writing within 90 days of the end of the judge's judicial service of the judge's  
25 choice to continue membership in the group plan.

26 (b) A former judge may not remain a member of the group plan under the provisions of this subsection  
27 (4) if the person:

28 (i) is a member of a plan with substantially the same or greater benefits at an equivalent cost;

29 (ii) is employed and, by virtue of that employment, is eligible to participate in another group plan with  
30 substantially the same or greater benefits at an equivalent cost; or

1 (iii) becomes eligible for medicare under the federal Health Insurance for the Aged Act, ~~42 U.S.C. 1395,~~  
2 ~~as amended.~~

3 (c) A judge who remains a member of the group under the provisions of this subsection (4) and  
4 subsequently terminates membership may not rejoin the group plan unless the person again serves in a position  
5 covered by the state's group plan.

6 (5) A person electing to remain a member of the group under subsection (1), (2), (3), or (4) shall pay the  
7 full premium for coverage and for that of the person's covered dependents.

8 (6) An insurance contract or plan issued under this part that provides for the dispensing of prescription  
9 drugs by an out-of-state mail service pharmacy, as defined in 37-7-702:

10 (a) must permit any member of a group to obtain prescription drugs from a pharmacy located in Montana  
11 that is willing to match the price charged to the group or plan and to meet all terms and conditions, including the  
12 same professional requirements that are met by the mail service pharmacy for a drug, without financial penalty  
13 to the member; and

14 (b) may only be with an out-of-state mail service pharmacy that is registered with the board under Title  
15 37, chapter 7, part 7, and that is registered in this state as a foreign corporation.

16 (7) An insurance contract or plan issued under this part must include coverage for treatment of inborn  
17 errors of metabolism, as provided for in 33-22-131.

18 ~~(8) An insurance contract or plan issued under this part must include substantially equivalent or greater~~  
19 ~~coverage for outpatient self-management training and education for the treatment of diabetes and certain diabetic~~  
20 ~~equipment and supplies as provided in 33-22-129.~~

21 ~~(9)~~(8) (a) An insurance contract or plan issued under this part that provides coverage for an individual  
22 in a member's family must provide coverage for well-child care for children from the moment of birth through 7  
23 years of age. Benefits provided under this coverage are exempt from any deductible provision that may be in  
24 force in the contract or plan.

25 (b) Coverage for well-child care under subsection ~~(9)(a)~~ (8)(a) must include:

26 (i) a history, physical examination, developmental assessment, anticipatory guidance, and laboratory  
27 tests, according to the schedule of visits adopted under the early and periodic screening, diagnosis, and treatment  
28 services program provided for in 53-6-101; and

29 (ii) routine immunizations according to the schedule for immunization recommended by the immunization  
30 practice advisory committee of the U.S. department of health and human services.

1 (c) Minimum benefits may be limited to one visit payable to one provider for all of the services provided  
2 at each visit as provided for in this subsection ~~(9)~~ (8).

3 (d) For purposes of this subsection ~~(9)~~ (8):

4 (i) "developmental assessment" and "anticipatory guidance" mean the services described in the  
5 Guidelines for Health Supervision II, published by the American academy of pediatrics; and

6 (ii) "well-child care" means the services described in subsection ~~(9)(b)~~ (8)(b) and delivered by a physician  
7 or a health care professional supervised by a physician.

8 ~~(10)(9)~~ (a) ~~Except as provided in subsection (10)(b), upon~~ Upon renewal, an insurance contract or plan  
9 issued under this part under which coverage of a dependent terminates at a specified age must, ~~as provided in~~  
10 ~~33-22-152~~, continue to provide coverage for any unmarried dependent, as defined in ~~33-22-140(5)(b)~~ the  
11 insurance contract or plan, until the dependent reaches ~~25~~ 26 years of age ~~or marries, whichever occurs first~~. For  
12 insurance contracts or plans issued under this part, the premium charged for the additional coverage of a  
13 dependent, as defined in ~~33-22-140(5)(b)~~ the insurance contract or plan, may be required to be paid by the  
14 insured and not by the employer.

15 ~~———— (b) An insurance contract or plan issued under this part for the state employee group insurance program~~  
16 ~~and the university system group insurance program is not subject to subsection (10)(a).~~

17 ~~(11)(10)~~ Prior to issuance of an insurance contract or plan under this part, written informational materials  
18 describing the contract's or plan's cancer screening coverages must be provided to a prospective group or plan  
19 member.

20 (11) The state employee group benefit plans and the Montana university system group benefits plans  
21 must provide coverage for hospital inpatient care for a period of time as is determined by the attending physician  
22 and, in the case of a health maintenance organization, the primary care physician, in consultation with the patient  
23 to be medically necessary following a mastectomy, a lumpectomy, or a lymph node dissection for the treatment  
24 of breast cancer.

25 (12) (a) The state employee group benefit plans and the Montana university system group benefits plans  
26 must provide coverage for outpatient self-management training and education for the treatment of diabetes. Any  
27 education must be provided by a licensed health care professional with expertise in diabetes.

28 (b) Coverage must include a \$250 benefit for a person each year for medically necessary and prescribed  
29 outpatient self-management training and education for the treatment of diabetes.

30 (c) The state employee group benefit plans and the Montana university system group benefits plans must

1 provide coverage for diabetic equipment and supplies that at a minimum includes insulin, syringes, injection aids,  
2 devices for self-monitoring of glucose levels (including those for the visually impaired), test strips, visual reading  
3 and urine test strips, one insulin pump for each warranty period, accessories to insulin pumps, one prescriptive  
4 oral agent for controlling blood sugar levels for each class of drug approved by the United States food and drug  
5 administration, and glucagon emergency kits.

6 (d) Nothing in subsection (12)(a), (12)(b), or (12)(c) prohibits the state or the Montana university group  
7 benefit plans from providing a greater benefit or an alternative benefit of substantially equal value, in which case  
8 subsection (12)(a), (12)(b), or (12)(c), as appropriate, does not apply.

9 (e) Annual copayment and deductible provisions are subject to the same terms and conditions applicable  
10 to all other covered benefits within a given policy.

11 (f) This subsection (12) does not apply to disability income, hospital indemnity, medicare supplement,  
12 accident-only, vision, dental, specific disease, or long-term care policies offered by the state or the Montana  
13 university system as benefits to employees, retirees, and their dependents.

14 (13) (a) The state employee group benefit plans and the Montana university system group benefits plans  
15 that provide coverage to the spouse or dependents of a peace officer as defined in 45-2-101, a game warden as  
16 defined in 19-8-101, a firefighter as defined in 19-13-104, or a volunteer firefighter as defined in 19-17-102 shall  
17 renew the coverage of the spouse or dependents if the peace officer, game warden, firefighter, or volunteer  
18 firefighter dies within the course and scope of employment. Except as provided in subsection (13)(b), the  
19 continuation of the coverage is at the option of the spouse or dependents. Renewals of coverage under this  
20 section must provide for the same level of benefits as are available to other members of the group. Premiums  
21 charged to a spouse or dependent under this section must be the same as premiums charged to other similarly  
22 situated members of the group. Dependent special enrollment must be allowed under the terms of the insurance  
23 contract or plan. The provisions of this subsection (13)(a) are applicable to a spouse or dependent who is insured  
24 under a COBRA continuation provision.

25 (b) The state employee group benefit plans and the Montana university system group benefits plans  
26 subject to the provisions of subsection (13)(a) may discontinue or not renew the coverage of a spouse or  
27 dependent only if:

28 (i) the spouse or dependent has failed to pay premiums or contributions in accordance with the terms  
29 of the state employee group benefit plans and the Montana university system group benefits plans or if the plans  
30 have not received timely premium payments;

1 (ii) the spouse or dependent has performed an act or practice that constitutes fraud or has made an  
 2 intentional misrepresentation of a material fact under the terms of the coverage; or

3 (iii) the state employee group benefit plans and the Montana university system group benefits plans are  
 4 ceasing to offer coverage in accordance with applicable state law."

5

6 **Section 2.** Section 33-1-102, MCA, is amended to read:

7 **"33-1-102. Compliance required -- exceptions -- health service corporations -- health maintenance**  
 8 **organizations -- governmental insurance programs -- service contracts.** (1) A person may not transact a  
 9 business of insurance in Montana or a business relative to a subject resident, located, or to be performed in  
 10 Montana without complying with the applicable provisions of this code.

11 (2) The provisions of this code do not apply with respect to:

12 (a) domestic farm mutual insurers as identified in chapter 4, except as stated in chapter 4;

13 (b) domestic benevolent associations as identified in chapter 6, except as stated in chapter 6; and

14 (c) fraternal benefit societies, except as stated in chapter 7.

15 (3) This code applies to health service corporations as prescribed in 33-30-102. The existence of the  
 16 corporations is governed by Title 35, chapter 2, and related sections of the Montana Code Annotated.

17 (4) This code does not apply to health maintenance organizations or to managed care community  
 18 networks, as defined in 53-6-702, to the extent that the existence and operations of those organizations are  
 19 governed by chapter 31 or to the extent that the existence and operations of those networks are governed by Title  
 20 53, chapter 6, part 7. The department of public health and human services is responsible to protect the interests  
 21 of consumers by providing complaint, appeal, and grievance procedures relating to managed care community  
 22 networks and health maintenance organizations under contract to provide services under Title 53, chapter 6.

23 (5) This code does not apply to workers' compensation insurance programs provided for in Title 39,  
 24 chapter 71, parts 21 and 23, and related sections.

25 (6) The department of public health and human services may limit the amount, scope, and duration of  
 26 services for programs established under Title 53 that are provided under contract by entities subject to this title.  
 27 The department of public health and human services may establish more restrictive eligibility requirements and  
 28 fewer services than may be required by this title.

29 (7) ~~Except as otherwise provided in Title 33, chapter 22, this~~ This code does not apply to the state  
 30 employee group insurance program established in Title 2, chapter 18, part 8, or the Montana university system

1 group benefits plans established in Title 20, chapter 25, part 13.

2 (8) This code does not apply to insurance funded through the state self-insurance reserve fund provided  
3 for in 2-9-202.

4 (9) (a) Except as otherwise provided in Title 33, chapter 22, this code does not apply to any arrangement,  
5 plan, or interlocal agreement between political subdivisions of this state in which the political subdivisions  
6 undertake to separately or jointly indemnify one another by way of a pooling, joint retention, deductible, or  
7 self-insurance plan.

8 (b) Except as otherwise provided in Title 33, chapter 22, this code does not apply to any arrangement,  
9 plan, or interlocal agreement between political subdivisions of this state or any arrangement, plan, or program  
10 of a single political subdivision of this state in which the political subdivision provides to its officers, elected  
11 officials, or employees disability insurance or life insurance through a self-funded program.

12 (10) (a) This code does not apply to the marketing of, sale of, offering for sale of, issuance of, making  
13 of, proposal to make, and administration of a service contract.

14 (b) A "service contract" means a contract or agreement for a separately stated consideration for a  
15 specific duration to perform the repair, replacement, or maintenance of property or to indemnify for the repair,  
16 replacement, or maintenance of property if an operational or structural failure is due to a defect in materials or  
17 manufacturing or to normal wear and tear, with or without an additional provision for incidental payment or  
18 indemnity under limited circumstances, including but not limited to towing, rental, and emergency road service.  
19 A service contract may provide for the repair, replacement, or maintenance of property for damage resulting from  
20 power surges or accidental damage from handling. A service contract does not include motor club service as  
21 defined in 61-12-301.

22 (11) (a) Subject to 33-18-201 and 33-18-242, this code does not apply to insurance for ambulance  
23 services sold by a county, city, or town or to insurance sold by a third party if the county, city, or town is liable for  
24 the financial risk under the contract with the third party as provided in 7-34-103.

25 (b) If the financial risk for ambulance service insurance is with an entity other than the county, city, or  
26 town, the entity is subject to the provisions of this code."

27

28 **Section 3.** Section 33-22-129, MCA, is amended to read:

29 **"33-22-129. Coverage for outpatient self-management training and education for treatment of**  
30 **diabetes -- limited benefit for medically necessary equipment and supplies.** (1) Each group disability policy,

1 certificate of insurance, and membership contract that is delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, extended, or  
 2 modified in this state must provide coverage for outpatient self-management training and education for the  
 3 treatment of diabetes. Any education must be provided by a licensed health care professional with expertise in  
 4 diabetes.

5 (2) (a) Coverage must include a \$250 benefit for a person each year for medically necessary and  
 6 prescribed outpatient self-management training and education for the treatment of diabetes.

7 (b) Nothing in subsection (2)(a) prohibits an insurer from providing a greater benefit.

8 (3) Each group disability policy, certificate of insurance, and membership contract that is delivered,  
 9 issued for delivery, renewed, extended, or modified in this state must provide coverage for diabetic equipment  
 10 and supplies that is limited to insulin, syringes, injection aids, devices for self-monitoring of glucose levels  
 11 (including those for the visually impaired), test strips, visual reading and urine test strips, one insulin pump for  
 12 each warranty period, accessories to insulin pumps, one prescriptive oral agent for controlling blood sugar levels  
 13 for each class of drug approved by the United States food and drug administration, and glucagon emergency kits.

14 (4) Annual copayment and deductible provisions are subject to the same terms and conditions applicable  
 15 to all other covered benefits within a given policy.

16 (5) This section does not apply to disability income, hospital indemnity, medicare supplement,  
 17 accident-only, vision, dental, specific disease, or long-term care policies.

18 (6) (a) This section does not apply to ~~the state employee group insurance program, the university~~  
 19 ~~employee group insurance program, or any employee group insurance program of a city, town, county, school~~  
 20 ~~district, or other political subdivision of this state that on January 1, 2002, provides substantially equivalent or~~  
 21 ~~greater coverage for outpatient self-management training and education for the treatment of diabetes and certain~~  
 22 ~~diabetic equipment and supplies provided for in subsection (3).~~

23 (b) ~~The state employee group insurance program, the university employee group insurance program,~~  
 24 ~~or any~~ Any employee group insurance program of a city, town, county, school district, or other political subdivision  
 25 of this state that reduces or discontinues substantially equivalent or greater coverage after January 1, 2002, is  
 26 subject to the provisions of this section."

27

28 **Section 4.** Section 33-22-134, MCA, is amended to read:

29 **"33-22-134. Postmastectomy care.** Each group and individual disability policy, certificate of insurance,  
 30 or membership contract that is delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, extended, or modified in this state must

1 provide coverage for hospital inpatient care for a period of time as is determined by the attending physician and,  
 2 in the case of a health maintenance organization, also the primary care physician, in consultation with the patient,  
 3 to be medically necessary following a mastectomy, a lumpectomy, or a lymph node dissection for the treatment  
 4 of breast cancer. This section also applies to ~~the state employee group insurance program, the university system~~  
 5 ~~employee group insurance program~~; any employee group insurance program of a city, town, county, school  
 6 district, or other political subdivision of the state, and any self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement that  
 7 is not regulated by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974."

8

9 **Section 5.** Section 33-22-136, MCA, is amended to read:

10 **"33-22-136. Insurance for spouse and dependents of deceased peace officer, game warden, or**  
 11 **firefighter.** (1) Any insurer, health service corporation, or health maintenance organization issuing group disability  
 12 coverage to the spouse or dependents of a peace officer as defined in 45-2-101, a game warden as defined in  
 13 19-8-101, a firefighter as defined in 19-13-104, or a volunteer firefighter as defined in 19-17-102 shall renew the  
 14 coverage of the spouse or dependents if the peace officer, game warden, firefighter, or volunteer firefighter dies  
 15 within the course and scope of employment. This section also applies to ~~a state employee group insurance~~  
 16 ~~program, a university system group insurance program~~; an employee group insurance program of a city, town,  
 17 county, school district, or other political subdivision of the state, and any self-funded multiple employer welfare  
 18 arrangement not regulated by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 that provides coverage for  
 19 a peace officer, game warden, firefighter, or volunteer firefighter. Except as provided in subsection (2), the  
 20 continuation of the coverage is at the option of the spouse or dependents. Renewals of coverage under this  
 21 section must provide for the same level of benefits as are available to other members of the group. Premiums  
 22 charged to a spouse or dependent under this section must be the same as premiums charged to other similarly  
 23 situated members of the group. Dependent special enrollment must be allowed under the terms of 33-22-523(2)  
 24 and (3). The provisions of this subsection are applicable to a spouse or dependent who is insured under a  
 25 COBRA continuation provision.

26 (2) A disability insurance issuer subject to the provisions of subsection (1) may discontinue or not renew  
 27 the coverage of a spouse or dependent only if:

28 (a) the spouse or dependent has failed to pay premiums or contributions in accordance with the terms  
 29 of the disability insurance coverage or if the disability insurer has not received timely premium payments;

30 (b) the spouse or dependent has performed an act or practice that constitutes fraud or has made an

1 intentional misrepresentation of a material fact under the terms of the coverage; or  
2 (c) the disability insurance issuer is ceasing to offer coverage in the group disability market in  
3 accordance with applicable state law."

4 - END -