

SENATE BILL NO. 284

INTRODUCED BY A. BLEWETT

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING LAWS RELATING TO STATE-FUNDED HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFIT FOR LEGISLATORS; REQUIRING THAT NAMES OF LEGISLATORS WHO RECEIVE A HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFIT BE MADE PUBLIC BY THE LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIVISION; AMENDING SECTION 5-2-303, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

**Section 1.** Section 5-2-303, MCA, is amended to read:

**"5-2-303. Participation in state benefits group -- employer contribution made to other plan. (1)**

Individual members of the senate and the house of representatives may enroll in the state employees benefits group during the terms to which they have been elected. The provider of benefits shall enroll and collect employee contributions directly from ~~such~~ participating legislators. The employer contribution ~~shall~~ must be paid from funds appropriated for that purpose.

(2) (a) If a member does not enroll or terminates enrollment under the state employees benefits group plan and is insured under a plan providing disability insurance as defined in 33-1-207, the department of administration, upon request of the member, shall pay to the member's insurer an amount equal to the premium required to be paid by the member for coverage of the member and any dependents under the disability insurance plan, subject to the limitation contained in subsection (2)(b).

(b) A payment made under subsection (2)(a) may not exceed the amount of the employer contribution for group benefits for members of the legislature as provided for in 2-18-703.

(3) Upon request, the department of administration shall provide the legislative services division with the current status of each legislator regarding the legislator's choice to participate under either subsection (1) or (2). The legislative services division shall post the name of each legislator and the option chosen to their website."

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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