

2018 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 480

BY SENATOR JOHNS

GROUP BENEFITS PROGRAM. Provides with respect to the Office of Group Benefits.
(8/1/18)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 42:802(D) and 881(B), relative to the Office of Group Benefits;
3 to eliminate the requirement that all programs be adopted through the Administrative
4 Procedure Act; to eliminate the necessity for the Policy and Planning Board to
5 approve benefits plans or proposed rate structures; to provide for an effective date;
6 and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 42:802(D) and 881(B) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as
9 follows:

10 §802. Powers and duties; Office of Group Benefits

11 * * *

12 D.(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section to the contrary,
13 ~~any new plan of benefits or the annual plan of benefits submitted under the direction~~
14 ~~of the commissioner of administration for~~ **any change to** the life, health, or other
15 benefit programs **program** offered through the Office of Group Benefits **that would**
16 **increase the cost to the state by one million dollars or more annually,** or any
17 professional, personal, ~~and or~~ social services ~~contracts~~ **contract** other than ~~contracts~~

1 **a contract** for legal services or actuarial services negotiated through the Office of
 2 Group Benefits under the provisions of Chapter 17 of Subtitle III of Title 39 of the
 3 Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 as provided in Subsection A and Paragraph
 4 (B)(8) of this Section or any ~~contracts~~ **contract** in connection therewith shall be
 5 subject to review and final approval ~~by the appropriate standing committees of the~~
 6 ~~legislature having jurisdiction over review of agency rules by the Office of Group~~
 7 ~~Benefits as designated by R.S. 49:968(B)(21)(c), or the subcommittees on oversight~~
 8 ~~of such standing committees, and the office of state procurement of the division of~~
 9 ~~administration~~ **by the Senate Committee on Finance and the House Committee**
 10 **on Appropriations.**

11 (2) ~~The implementation of these programs or contracts in connection~~
 12 ~~therewith shall constitute a rule as defined by R.S. 49:951(6) and shall be adopted~~
 13 ~~and implemented through the procedures set forth in the Administrative Procedure~~
 14 ~~Act.~~

15 (3) Additionally, any adjustments to such contracts in the amount of one
 16 million dollars or more shall require the review and approval of the oversight
 17 committees before the modified contracts may be implemented. Such adjustments
 18 shall indicate the fiscal impact to the plan of benefits as well as the rate structure, if
 19 any, over the subsequent three years or maximum contract period.

20 * * *

21 §881. Establishment of the Group Benefits Policy and Planning Board

22 * * *

23 B. The Group Benefits Policy and Planning Board shall use any official
 24 information provided by the Group Benefits Estimating Conference as may be
 25 necessary in the review ~~and approval~~ of benefits plans and proposed rate structures
 26 required by this Section.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Cheryl Cooper.

SB 480 Original DIGEST 2018 Regular Session Johns

Present law provides for the powers and duties of the Office of Group Benefits (OGB).

Present law requires any new plan of benefits or the annual plan of benefits submitted under the direction of the commissioner of administration for the life, health, and other benefit programs offered through OGB or any professional, personal, and social services contracts other than contracts for legal services or actuarial services to be subject to review and final approval by the appropriate standing committees of the legislature having jurisdiction over review of agency rules for OGB.

Proposed law requires any change to the life, health, and other benefit programs offered through OGB that would increase the cost to the state by one million dollars or more annually and any contract for professional, personal, or social services, other than a contract for legal or actuarial services, to be subject to review and final approval by the Senate Committee on Finance and the House Committee on Appropriations.

Present law requires the implementation of programs or contracts offered through OGB to be adopted and implemented through the procedures set forth in the Administrative Procedure Act.

Proposed law deletes present law.

Present law requires OGB Policy and Planning Board to use any official information provided by OGB Estimating Conference as may be necessary in the review and approval of benefits plans and proposed rate structures required by present law.

Proposed law retains present law except that OGB is required to use official information provided by the OGB Estimating Conference as may be necessary only in the review of benefit plans and proposed rate structures required by present law.

Effective August 1, 2018.

(Amends R.S. 42:802(D) and 881(B))