

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 304 (SB 164)

2024 Regular Session

Abraham

New law provides that any person who previously participated in health coverage programs sponsored by the Office of Group Benefits as a dependent spouse of a deceased retiree immediately prior to enrolling in Office of Group Benefits health coverage as an active employee, shall, upon termination from state service, be eligible to obtain Office of Group Benefits health coverage as a surviving spouse provided all of the following conditions are met:

- (1) The person is enrolled in Office of Group Benefits health coverage as an active employee as of July 1, 2024.
- (2) The person remains enrolled in Office of Group Benefits health coverage continuously until immediately prior to the date of termination.
- (3) The person would have had surviving spouse coverage at the time of death of the retiree spouse but for his or her eligibility for coverage in a group health plan other than Medicare.
- (4) The person pays the requisite premiums.
- (5) The person complies with any other applicable Office of Group Benefits rules.

New law provides that a surviving spouse is entitled to receive, in state contribution to premiums, the percentage of the total premium as provided for in applicable Office of Group Benefits rules.

New law provides that employer premium contributions for a person eligible to obtain Office of Group Benefits coverage as a surviving spouse pursuant to new law shall be the responsibility of the school board, state agency, or political subdivision from which the deceased retiree spouse originally retired.

New law provides that dependent children of a person eligible to obtain Office of Group Benefits coverage as a surviving spouse pursuant to new law may continue coverage in accordance with applicable rules promulgated by the Office of Group Benefits.

Effective May 28, 2024.

(Adds R.S. 42:851(V))