

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 461

BY SENATOR LUNEAU

GROUP BENEFITS PROGRAM. Provides relative to the office of group benefits. (8/1/26)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 42:808(A)(12), relative to the office of group benefits; to provide for
3 eligibility in group programs; to provide for definitions; and to provide for related
4 matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 42:808(A)(12) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 §808. Eligibility in group programs

8 A. For the purposes of participating in life, health, or other programs
9 sponsored by the Office of Group Benefits, an employee is defined as:

10 * * *

11 **(12) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Chapter to the contrary,**
12 **active employees of entities created by rule or order of the Supreme Court of**
13 **Louisiana as part of its regulatory function over the practice of law, including**
14 **the Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board and the Committee on Bar**
15 **Admissions, provided the court approves the entity's participation and the**
16 **entity pays the employer share of premiums due solely from monies generated**
17 **by the entity.**

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

DIGEST

SB 461 Original

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Luneau

Present law defines an eligible employee for participation in programs offered by the Office of Group Benefits as follows:

- (1) A classified or unclassified civil services employee.
- (2) A retiree as defined by the Office of Group Benefits.
- (3) A full-time employee of a school board, if the school board elects to pay at least one-half of employee premiums.
- (4) An active or retired district supervisor or employee of a soil and water conservation district.
- (5) Any parish judge paid in part or full by the state.
- (6) An employee of the New Orleans City Park Improvement Association.
- (7) An active or retired employee of the La. Naval War Memorial Commission.
- (8) The district attorney or a district attorney office active employee of New Orleans.
- (9) An active or retired member of the La. National Guard, provided such member agrees to pay 100% of the premium and certifies that other coverage is not available through his or her employer or the member is not eligible for Medicare.
- (10) An appointed official with the West Jefferson Levee District that had been appointed for more than eight years prior to January 1, 2007.
- (11) Persons who are state employees and certain elected officials who have completed at least 10 years of continuous full-time state employment and who are terminated without cause or who resign.

Proposed law retains present law and extends eligibility to active employees of entities created by rule or order of the La. Supreme Court, provided the court approves their participation. Requires that the entity pays the employer share of premiums due solely from monies generated by the entity.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Adds R.S. 42:808(A)(12))