

contracts other than contracts for legal services or actuarial services, including contracts modified by \$1 million or more.

Proposed law further provides that any adjustments to such contracts in the amount of one million dollars shall require review and approval of the oversight committees before implementation. Such adjustments shall show the fiscal impact to the plan of benefits as well as the rate structure, if any, over the subsequent three years or maximum contract period.

Present law establishes the Group Benefits Policy and Planning Board and provides that it shall review life and health benefit programs offered to eligible employees.

Proposed law retains present law and adds that the board shall review and recommend the proposed rate structure that supports the life and health benefit plan.

Proposed law provides that the chief executive officer shall submit any proposed changes of the rate structure to the board which shall review and make recommendations prior to final adoption of the plan.

Proposed law provides the plan submitted by the commissioner of administration shall include an estimate of the costs and an estimated rate structure for a three period.

Present law requires the board to submit a written report to the appropriate legislative oversight committees regarding modifications of the proposed benefit plans.

Proposed law retains present law and adds that the board shall submit a written report to the commissioner of administration and the chief executive officer of the Office of Group Benefits in addition to the appropriate legislative oversight committees, regarding modifications of the proposed benefit plans.

Proposed law adds that the board shall use any official information provided by the Group Benefits Estimating Conference as may be necessary in the review and recommendation of benefits plans and proposed rate structures.

Present law provides for the composition of the board as sixteen members with fifteen voting.

Proposed law changes present law in regards to the board composition from sixteen members to eleven voting members. The existing membership is as follows:

1. One member of the House appointed by the speaker.
2. One member of the Senate appointed by the president.
3. The commissioner of insurance (non-voting).
4. Five members appointed by the governor from individuals in the private sector.

5. Two members elected by retired participants in the health benefits program - one from among the retired teachers or retired school employees; one from among retired state employees.
6. Six who shall be elected by participants in health benefits programs from the following agencies - higher education, teachers, DHH and DCFS, DOTD, and DPS/Corrections.

Proposed law changes present law by providing for an eleven member voting board which retains two retiree members to be elected and nine members to be appointed as follows: three members appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives; three members appointed by the president of the Senate, and three members appointed by the governor.

Proposed law provides that each of the appointed members shall have a minimum of five years professional experience or fiscal expertise in the industries of health insurance, actuarial sciences, financial services, or banking.

Proposed law provides that terms of the members are staggered similar to existing law - legislative appointees serve four year terms; gubernatorial appointees shall serve six year terms; and the terms of the elected retiree members are six years.

Effective January 1, 2016.

(Amends R.S. 42:802(B)(7), 881, 882(A), (B), (D), and (E); adds R.S. 39:21.3(G), R.S. 42:802(D), and 881(B))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Finance to the original bill

1. Changes background requirements for House of Representatives appointee and office of Group Benefits appointee from forecasting expertise to fiscal experience.
2. Adds individual member to the Group Benefits Estimating Conference with five years professional experience or fiscal expertise in health insurance, actuarial services, financial services, or banking industries to be selected from list of names submitted by the commissioner of insurance, the commissioner of financial institutions, and the Legislative Auditor.
3. Provides for review of plan of benefits and contracts for professional, personal, and social services contracts other than contracts for legal services or actuarial services, including contracts modified by \$1 million or more.
4. Provides that the Group Benefits Policy and Planning Board will review and recommend plans of life and health benefits prior to their adoption.

5. Provides for an eleven member voting board which retains two retiree members to be elected and nine members to be appointed as follows: three members appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives; three members appointed by the president of the Senate, and three members appointed by the governor.
6. Provides that each of the appointed members shall have a minimum of five years professional experience or fiscal expertise in the industries of health insurance, actuarial sciences, financial services, or banking.
7. Provides that the terms of the members are staggered similar to existing law - legislative appointees serve four year terms; gubernatorial appointees shall serve six year terms; and the terms of the elected retiree members are six years.