DRAFT ONLY
NOT APPROVED FOR INTRODUCTION

HOUSE BILL NO.

State employees group insurance-retirees.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Sherwood

A BILL

for

AN ACT relating to State Employees' and Officials' Group Insurance Act; codifying and continuing the retiree health insurance benefits account; establishing contribution rates for group insurance plan coverage for eligible retirees as specified; making a continuous appropriation; providing for adjustments to rates; making conforming amendments; specifying the applicability of rates for fiscal year 2028; making a supplemental appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

Section 1. W.S. 9-3-203(a) by creating a new paragraph (xvii) and by renumbering (xvii) as (xviii), 9-3-210 by creating a new subsection (g) and 9-3-211(b) are amended to read:

9-3-203. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(xvii) "Retiree health insurance benefits account" means the account created by 2008 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 48, Section 303(e), which is hereby codified and continued. All funds within the account shall be invested by the state treasurer and all investment earnings from the account shall be credited to the account. Funds in the account are continuously appropriated for retiree health insurance contributions paid pursuant to W.S. 9-3-210(g). Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, unobligated, unexpended funds in the account shall not lapse or revert at the end of any fiscal period.

~~(xvii)~~ (xviii) "This act" means W.S. 9-3-202 through 9-3-220.

9-3-210. Amount of state's contribution; estimates submitted to state budget officer; specified employees participation in federal program; participating employers contributions; retiree contributions.

(g) Monthly payments shall be contributed to the group insurance plan on behalf of each eligible retiree of an executive, legislative or judicial branch agency, including retirees of the University of Wyoming and the community colleges, who participates in the group insurance plan under W.S. 9-3-218, subject to the following:

(i) Payments to the plan on behalf of eligible retirees shall be paid monthly at the rate of eighteen dollars and forty cents ($18.40) for each year of service credit up to a maximum of thirty (30) years for a retiree who is not Medicare eligible and at the rate of nine dollars and twenty cents ($9.20) for each year of service credit up to a maximum of thirty (30) years for a retiree who is Medicare eligible;

(ii) Beginning July 1, 2028 and each July 1 of each even-numbered year thereafter, the department shall increase the contribution rates specified in paragraph (i) of this subsection, as previously adjusted under this paragraph, by the percentage increase, if any, in the medical care component of the consumer price index for all urban consumers, as published by the United States bureau of labor statistics. For the adjustment made on July 1, 2028, the percentage increase shall be determined using the consumer price index from the twelve (12) month period ending December 31, 2027. For each adjustment thereafter, the percentage increase shall be determined using the twenty-four (24) month period ending December 31 of the immediately preceding calendar year. The rates adjusted under this paragraph shall be rounded to the nearest ten cents ($.10);

(iii) Contributions under this subsection for retirees whose effective date of retirement was before July 1, 2008 shall be paid from amounts appropriated by the legislature for purposes of this paragraph. The state auditor shall include in its standard budget request for each fiscal biennium an amount necessary to provide the

contributions required for retirees whose effective date of retirement was before July 1, 2008;

(iv) Contributions under this subsection for retirees whose effective date of retirement is July 1, 2008 or later shall be paid from the retiree health insurance account. The department shall establish a rate, not to exceed one percent (1%) of each benefit eligible employee's salary for each pay period, sufficient to provide the contributions required for retirees whose effective date of retirement is July 1, 2008 or later. Each state agency, including the University of Wyoming, the community colleges and the legislative and judicial branches, shall include in its standard budget request for each fiscal biennium amounts calculated at the rate established by the department under this paragraph. Amounts appropriated by the legislature for purposes of this paragraph shall be deposited into the retiree health insurance benefits account.

(v) If sufficient funds are not available from a funding source to make the contributions required under this subsection, payments on behalf of eligible retirees

funded from that funding source shall be reduced proportionally.

9-3-211. Deductions from salaries of monthly contributions by employees and officials; establishment of procedure.

(b) The department shall establish procedures for deducting and remitting monthly contributions by eligible retirees enrolled in the group insurance plan ~~which~~ after payment of the contribution required under W.S. 9-3-210(g). Procedures may include deductions from the retiree's state retirement benefits or from the retiree's checking or savings account.

Section 2.

(a) Notwithstanding 2026 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 44, Section 304(b) and (c), beginning July 1, 2027, contributions paid to the group insurance plan on behalf of eligible retirees of executive, legislative and judicial branch agencies, including retirees of the University of Wyoming and the community colleges, who participate in the

group insurance plan under W.S. 9-3-218, and contributions paid on behalf of eligible retirees of other employing entities participating in the group insurance plan pursuant to agreements under which the amount of the contribution is determined by reference to the rates established by 2026 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 44, Section 304(b) and (c), shall be paid at the applicable rates specified in W.S. 9-3-210(g), as created by this act.

(b) Amounts appropriated pursuant to 2026 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 44, Section 304(b) and (c) shall remain available and shall be used for purposes of paying contributions required under W.S. 9-3-210(g), as created by this act. In no event shall the total monthly contributions paid from all appropriated sources to the group insurance plan on behalf of an eligible retiree of an executive, legislative or judicial branch agency, including a retiree of the University of Wyoming or a community college, who participates in the group insurance plan under W.S. 9-3-218 exceed the applicable monthly contribution amount specified in under W.S. 9-3-210(g), as created by this act.

(c) For retirees whose date of retirement was before July 1, 2008, there is appropriated six hundred ten thousand dollars ($610,000.00) from the general fund to the state auditor for purposes of supplementing amounts appropriated under 2026 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 44, Section 304(b) and shall be expended only to the extent amounts appropriated under that subsection are insufficient to pay the contributions required under W.S. 9-10-210(g)(i), as created by this act. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2028. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2028.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2027.

(END)