

CHAPTER 71

AN ACT increasing the membership of the State Health Benefits Commission and amending P.L.1961, c.49.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

1. Section 3 of P.L.1961, c.49 (C.52:14-17.27) is amended to read as follows:

C.52:14-17.27 State Health Benefits Commission.

3. There is hereby created a State Health Benefits Commission, consisting of five members: the State Treasurer; the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance; the Commissioner of Personnel; a State employees' representative chosen by the Public Employees' Committee of the AFL-CIO; and a representative chosen by the New Jersey Education Association, which represents the largest number of employees of employers other than the State participating in the State Health Benefits Program.

The treasurer shall be chairman of the commission and the health benefits program authorized by P.L.1961, c.49 shall be administered in the Treasury Department. The Director of the Division of Pensions and Benefits shall be the secretary of the commission. The commission shall establish a health benefits program for the employees of the State, the cost of which shall be paid as specified in section 6 of P.L.1961, c.49. The commission shall establish rules and regulations as may be deemed reasonable and necessary for the administration of P.L.1961, c.49.

The Attorney General shall be the legal advisor of the commission.

The members of the commission shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for any necessary expenditures. The public employee members shall not suffer loss of salary or wages during service on the commission.

The commission shall publish annually a report showing the fiscal transactions of the program for the preceding year and stating other facts pertaining to the plan. The commission shall submit the report to the Governor and furnish a copy to every employer for use of the participants and the public.

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved May 5, 2003.