LAWS OF DELAWARE
VOLUME 84
CHAPTER 282
152nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FORMERLY
HOUSE BILL NO. 282
AS AMENDED BY
HOUSE AMENDMENT NO. 1
AND
HOUSE AMENDMENT NO. 2
AND
SENATE AMENDMENT NO. 1

AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE STATE EMPLOYEE BENEFITS COMMITTEE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE:

- Section 1. Amend § 9602, Title 29 of the Delaware Code by making deletions as shown by strike through and insertions as shown by underline as follows:
 - § 9602. State Employee Benefits Committee.
- (a)(1) There is hereby established a The State Employee Benefits Committee ("Committee"). The Committee shall be ("Committee") is comprised of the following voting members, or a designee selected by the member serving by virtue of position:
 - a. The Lieutenant Governor, the Governor.
 - <u>b. The</u> Insurance Commissioner, the Commissioner.
 - c. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Court.
 - d. The State Treasurer, the Treasurer.
 - e. The Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Budget, who serves as chair.
 - <u>f. The Controller General, the Secretary of the Department of Human Resources, and the Resources.</u>
 - g. The Secretary of the Department of Health and Social Services, or their designees, and 1

 Delaware retiree, appointed by the Governor. In addition, 2 Committee Services.
 - h. Two residents of this State who are eligible pensioners under § 5201 of this title, 1 member appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and 1 member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

- <u>i. Two</u> members, 1 <u>member</u> appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the <u>Senate</u>, <u>Senate</u> and 1 <u>member</u> appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, <u>shall be appointed</u> from among the following <u>organizational representatives: persons:</u>
 - 1. The President of the Delaware State Education Association or his or her designee, the designee.
 - 2. The Executive Director of the American Federation of State State, County and Municipal Employees or his or her designee, the designee.
 - 3. The President of the Correctional Officers Association of Delaware or his or her designee, and the designee.
 - 4. The President of the Delaware State Troopers Association or his or her designee.
- (2) The Controller General is a non-voting member of the Committee and may designate the Deputy

 Controller General to attend meetings of the Committee or a subcommittee.
- (3)a. Except as provided under paragraph (a)(3)b. of this section, the appointment term for a member of the Committee is for 2 years. Of
 - b. For the initial 2 organizational representatives appointed, 1 members appointed under paragraph (a)(1)i. of this section, 1 member must be appointed for a 1-year term, term and 1 member must be appointed for a 2-year term. Thereafter, all members shall serve 2-year terms. Appointed members may not attend Committee meetings through a designee, but may attend subcommittee meetings through a designee, with the exception of the Retiree Healthcare Benefits Advisory Subcommittee. The Director of the Office of Management and Budget and the Secretary of Human Resources shall co-chair the Committee.
- (4) Beginning at the first meeting after [the effective date of this Act], the Committee shall annually elect a vice-chair. A member is eligible to serve as vice-chair of the Committee if all of the following apply:
 - a. The member is a voting member of the Committee.
 - b. The member does not serve as a cabinet secretary or as the equivalent rank within the executive branch.
- (b) The State Employee Benefits Committee shall have has the following powers, duties duties, and functions:

- (2) Selection of all carriers or third-party administrators necessary to provide coverages to State employees. employees and eligible pensioners.
- (d) The Committee shall hold regular meetings at least once every 6 months, which meetings shall be months. Meetings of the Committee and subcommittees are open to the public and must be in accordance with § 10004 Chapter 100 of this title.
 - (1)a. A quorum of the Committee is a majority of its voting members. If the Committee is holding a virtual meeting, the chair or vice-chair must attend the meeting at the anchor location.
 - b. A quorum of a subcommittee is a majority of its voting members.
 - 1. The chair of a subcommittee must be a voting member of the Committee.
 - 2. If a subcommittee is holding a virtual meeting, the chair or vice-chair must attend the meeting at the anchor location.
 - (2)a. Appointed members may not attend Committee meetings through a designee.
 - b. Except for meetings of the Retiree Healthcare Benefits Advisory Subcommittee under § 9604(a) of this title, appointed members may attend subcommittee meetings through a designee.
 - c. A member of the Committee with the ability to designate another individual to attend a meeting must provide the designation in writing to the chair. An individual attending a meeting for a member as a designee has the same duties and rights as the member.
 - (3)a. Official action by the Committee requires the approval of a quorum of the Committee.
 - b. Official action by a subcommittee, including making findings and recommendations, requires the approval of a quorum of the subcommittee.
 - (4) For purposes of approving a request for proposals to select a carrier or third-party administrator for the health care insurance plan for State employees or eligible pensioners, all of the following apply:
 - a. The Committee must approve the request for proposals by a vote of the Committee during a public meeting under § 10004 of this title.
 - b. The Committee must provide the meaningful opportunity for public comment required under § 10004(a)(2) of this title before the vote under paragraph (d)(4)a. of this section.

- c. The draft request for proposals prepared for the meeting under this paragraph (d)(4) is a public record under § 10002 of this title and must be included with the notice and agenda under § 10004(e)(2) of this title.
- Section 2. Amend § 9603, Title 29 of the Delaware Code by making deletions as shown by strike through and insertions as shown by underline as follows:
 - § 9603. Duties of the Secretary of the Department of Human Resources.
- (a) The duties of the Secretary of <u>the Department of Human Resources</u> under this chapter shall include: include all of the following:
 - (8)<u>a.</u> Communication to State employees of all State employee benefits <u>eoverages and coverages</u>, any additions or changes of benefits affecting State <u>employees</u>. <u>employees</u>, and all information communicated under paragraph (a)(8)b. of this section.
 - b. Communication to eligible pensioners, as defined in § 5201 of this title, of all of the following:
 - 1. All benefits coverages available to eligible pensioners.
 - 2. Any additions or changes in benefits coverages affecting eligible pensioners.
 - 3. Any proposed additions or changes in benefits coverages affecting eligible pensioners.
- Section 3. This Act is known as the "Delaware State Employee Benefits Committee (SEBC) Transparency and Accountability Act".
 - Section 4. This Act takes effect on January 1, 2025.
- NOTE: This bill became a law on June 27, 2024 without the approval of the Governor and in accordance with Section 18, Article 3 of the Constitution of Delaware.