

SENATE, No. 2031

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MAY 8, 1997

By Senator MATHEUSSEN

1 AN ACT concerning coverage under the State Health Benefits Program  
2 and supplementing P.L.1961, c.49 (C.52:14-17.25 et seq.).

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

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7 1. Notwithstanding any law, rule or regulation to the contrary, any  
8 retiree receiving a retirement allowance from a State-administered  
9 retirement system who, at the time of retirement, opted not to  
10 continue coverage under the State Health Benefits Program may opt  
11 to enroll in the program. The cost of the premiums or periodic  
12 charges for the health benefits provided to such a retiree and the  
13 retiree's covered dependents shall be paid by the retiree. The retiree  
14 shall not be allowed to discontinue coverage during the lifetime of the  
15 retiree or the retiree's covered dependents.

16 A retiree who retired prior to the effective date of this act is eligible  
17 for the coverage under the State Health Benefits Program if the retiree  
18 applies to the program for such coverage within one year after the  
19 effective date of this act.

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21 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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26 This bill allows retirees who had opted not to continue coverage  
27 under the State Health Benefits Program (SHBP) upon retirement to  
28 enroll in the program. It provides that any retiree receiving a  
29 retirement allowance from a State-administered retirement system  
30 who, at the time of retirement, opted not to continue SHBP coverage  
31 may opt to enroll in the program. The cost of the premiums or  
32 periodic charges for the health benefits provided to such a retiree and  
33 the retiree's covered dependents shall be paid by the retiree. The  
34 retiree shall not be allowed to discontinue coverage during the lifetime  
35 of the retiree or the retiree's covered dependents.

36 A retiree who retired prior to the effective date of this act is eligible  
37 for SHBP coverage if the retiree applies to the program for such

1 coverage within one year after the effective date of this act.

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6 Allows retirees who had opted not to continue SHBP coverage to  
7 enroll in the program.