ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 164—ASSEMBLYMEN ANDERSON, WILLIAMS, ARBERRY, DE BRAGA, LEE, SEGERBLOM, GIBBONS, GIUNCHIGLIANI, CHOWNING, PRICE, MANENDO, NEIGHBORS, CLABORN, MCCLAIN, BACHE AND FREEMAN

FEBRUARY 9, 1999

JOINT SPONSOR: SENATOR SCHNEIDER

Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Requires same rates and coverage for group insurance for officers, employees and retired employees of certain participating public agencies as are established for state employees. (BDR 23-968)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No. Effect on the State or on Industrial Insurance: No.

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EXPLANATION - Matter in bolded italics is new; matter between brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to public employees; requiring the same rates and coverage for group insurance for officers, employees and retired employees of certain participating public agencies as are established for state employees; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

- Section 1. NRS 287.043 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 2 287.043 The committee on benefits shall:
 - 1. Act as an advisory body on matters relating to group life, accident
- or health insurance, or any combination of these, *and* a program to reduce
- 5 taxable compensation or other forms of compensation other than deferred
 - compensation, for the benefit of all state officers and employees and other
- 7 persons who participate in the state's program of group insurance.
- 2. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, negotiate and
- 9 contract with the governing body of any public agency enumerated in NRS
- 287.010 which is desirous of obtaining group insurance for its officers,
- 11 employees and retired employees by participation in the state's program of

group insurance. The [committee shall establish separate] rates and coverage for those officers, employees and retired employees based on actuarial reports.] must be the same as those established for state employees.

- 3. Give public notice in writing of proposed changes in rates or coverage to each participating public employer who may be affected by the changes. Notice must be provided at least 30 days before the effective date of the changes.
- Purchase policies of life, accident or health insurance, or any combination of these, or a program to reduce the amount of taxable compensation pursuant to 26 U.S.C. § 125, from any company qualified to do business in this state or provide similar coverage through a plan of selfinsurance for the benefit of all eligible public officers, employees and retired employees who participate in the state's program.
- Consult the state risk manager and obtain his advice in the performance of the duties set forth in this section.

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- Except as otherwise provided in this Title, develop and establish other employee benefits as necessary. 18
 - Adopt such regulations and perform such other duties as are necessary to carry out the provisions of NRS 287.041 to 287.049, inclusive, including, *without limitation*, the establishment of:
- (a) Fees for applications for participation in the state's program and for 22 the late payment of premiums; 23
 - (b) Conditions for entry and reentry into the state's program by public agencies enumerated in NRS 287.010; and
- (c) The levels of participation in the state's program required for 26 employees of participating public agencies. 27
- Appoint an independent certified public accountant. The accountant 28 29 shall provide an annual audit of the plan and report to the committee and the legislative commission. 30
- For the purposes of this section, "employee benefits" includes any form of 31
- compensation provided to a state employee pursuant to this Title except 32
- federal benefits, wages earned, legal holidays, deferred compensation and 33
- 34 benefits available pursuant to chapter 286 of NRS.
- **Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 1999. 35