
ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 523—COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

(ON BEHALF OF THE DIVISION OF BUDGET AND PLANNING)

MARCH 28, 2011

Referred to Committee on Ways and Means

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to the coverage of dependents under the health care plans of the State and local governments. (BDR 23-1188)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: 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 programs for public personnel; revising provisions relating to the coverage of dependents under the health care plans of the State and local governments; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

- 1 The federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, which was enacted in
2 2010, requires, with certain exceptions, that health care plans and policies that
3 provide dependent coverage continue to make such coverage available until
4 children reach 26 years of age. (Pub. L. No. 111-148) This bill carries out this
5 requirement in existing provisions governing the Public Employees' Benefits
6 Program and the health care plans of local governments that limit such coverage.
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THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

- 1 **Section 1.** NRS 287.021 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 287.021 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, the
3 surviving spouse and any surviving child of a police officer or
4 firefighter who was:
5 (a) Employed by a local governmental agency that had
6 established group insurance, a plan of benefits or medical and
7 hospital service pursuant to NRS 287.010, 287.015, 287.020 or
8 paragraph (b), (c) or (d) of subsection 1 of NRS 287.025; and



(b) Killed in the line of duty,
→ may elect to accept or continue coverage under that group insurance, plan or medical and hospital service if the police officer or firefighter was a participant or would have been eligible to participate in the group insurance, plan or medical and hospital service on the date of the death of the police officer or firefighter. If the surviving spouse or child elects to accept coverage under the group insurance, plan or medical and hospital service in which the police officer or firefighter would have been eligible to participate or to discontinue coverage under the group insurance, plan or medical and hospital service in which the police officer or firefighter was a participant, the spouse, child or legal guardian of the child must notify in writing the local governmental agency that employed the police officer or firefighter within 60 days after the date of death of the police officer or firefighter.

2. The local governmental agency that employed the police officer or firefighter shall pay the entire cost of the premiums or contributions for the group insurance, plan of benefits or medical and hospital service for the surviving spouse or child who meets the requirements set forth in subsection 1.

3. A surviving spouse is eligible to receive coverage pursuant to this section for the duration of the life of the surviving spouse. ~~[A]~~ *Except as otherwise provided in the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Public Law 111-148, a* surviving child is eligible to receive coverage pursuant to this section until the *last day of the month in which the* child reaches ~~18~~:

~~(a) The age of 18 years; or~~
~~(b) The age of 23 years, if the child is enrolled as a full-time student in an accredited university, college or trade school.]~~ *the age of 26 years.*

4. As used in this section "police officer" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 617.135.

Sec. 2. NRS 287.0477 is hereby amended to read as follows:

287.0477 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, the surviving spouse and any surviving child of a police officer or firefighter who was employed by a participating public agency and who was killed in the line of duty may join or continue coverage under the Public Employees' Benefits Program or another insurer or employee benefit plan approved by the Board pursuant to NRS 287.0479 if the police officer or firefighter was a participant or would have been eligible to participate on the date of the death of the police officer or firefighter. If the surviving spouse or child elects to join or discontinue coverage under the Public Employees' Benefits Program pursuant to this subsection, the spouse, child or legal guardian of the child must notify in writing the participating



1 public agency that employed the police officer or firefighter within
2 60 days after the date of death of the police officer or firefighter.

3 2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, the surviving
4 spouse and any surviving child of a volunteer firefighter who was
5 killed in the line of duty and who was officially a member of a
6 volunteer fire department in this State is eligible to join the Public
7 Employees' Benefits Program. If such a spouse or child elects to
8 join the Public Employees' Benefits Program, the spouse, child or
9 legal guardian of the child must notify in writing the Board within
10 60 days after the date of death of the volunteer firefighter.

11 3. The participating public agency that employed the police
12 officer or firefighter shall pay the entire cost of the premiums or
13 contributions for the Public Employees' Benefits Program or
14 another insurer or employee benefit plan approved by the Board
15 pursuant to NRS 287.0479 for the surviving spouse or child who
16 meets the requirements set forth in subsection 1. The State of
17 Nevada shall pay the entire cost of the premiums or contributions
18 for the Public Employees' Benefits Program for the surviving
19 spouse or child who elects to join the Public Employees' Benefits
20 Program pursuant to subsection 2.

21 4. A surviving spouse is eligible to receive coverage pursuant
22 to this section for the duration of the life of the surviving spouse. A
23 surviving child is eligible to receive coverage pursuant to this
24 section until the *last day of the month in which the* child reaches ~~18~~:

25 ~~—(a) The age of 18 years; or~~

26 ~~—(b) The age of 23 years, if the child is enrolled as a full-time~~
27 ~~student in an accredited university, college or trade school.]~~ *the age*
28 *of 26 years.*

29 5. As used in this section "police officer" has the meaning
30 ascribed to it in NRS 617.135.

31 **Sec. 3.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2011.

