

CHAPTER 191

EDUCATION - UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

SENATE BILL 06-144

BY SENATOR(S) Tupa, Bacon, Tapia, Williams, Windels, Boyd, Keller, and Shaffer;
 also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Plant and Paccione, Benefield, Buescher, Cerbo, Decker, Frangas, Gallegos, Madden, Massey,
 McFadyen, McKinley, Merrifield, Pommer, Solano, Todd, Weissmann, White, Carroll M., and McGihon.

AN ACT**CONCERNING HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS FOR INSTRUCTORS AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. Article 5 of title 23, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to read:

23-5-133. Instructors - health benefits study - report. (1) THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL CONDUCT A STUDY TO DETERMINE THE IMPACT OF PROVIDING HEALTH AND DENTAL BENEFITS TO PERSONS WHO ARE EMPLOYED BY ONE OR MORE STATE COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES, OR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND WHO TEACH AN AGGREGATE OF FIFTEEN OR MORE CREDIT HOURS AT ONE OR MORE STATE COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES, OR COMMUNITY COLLEGES IN A CONSECUTIVE TWELVE-MONTH PERIOD. IN THE COURSE OF CONDUCTING THE STUDY, THE COMMISSION SHALL DETERMINE BUT SHALL NOT BE LIMITED TO DETERMINING THE FOLLOWING:

(a) THE NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO ARE EMPLOYED BY ONE OR MORE STATE COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES, OR COMMUNITY COLLEGES WHO TEACH AN AGGREGATE OF FIFTEEN OR MORE CREDIT HOURS IN A CONSECUTIVE TWELVE-MONTH PERIOD AND WHO ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO ENROLL IN A HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFIT PLAN AND A DENTAL INSURANCE BENEFIT PLAN PROVIDED THROUGH A STATE COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, OR COMMUNITY COLLEGE;

(b) THE NUMBER OF PERSONS SPECIFIED IN PARAGRAPH (a) OF THIS SUBSECTION (1) WHO ARE TEACHING AT EACH STATE COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, OR COMMUNITY COLLEGE;

Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.

(c) THE ESTIMATED ANNUAL COST OF PROVIDING HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS AND DENTAL INSURANCE BENEFITS TO THE PERSONS SPECIFIED IN PARAGRAPH (a) OF THIS SUBSECTION (1), INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE COST OF PAYING THE EMPLOYER'S SHARE OF THE PREMIUM FOR SUCH BENEFITS AND ANY ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS; AND

(d) ANY OTHER INFORMATION DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION IN ORDER TO DETERMINE THE IMPACT OF PROVIDING HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS AND DENTAL INSURANCE BENEFITS TO THE PERSONS SPECIFIED IN PARAGRAPH (a) OF THIS SUBSECTION (1).

(2) THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL WORK WITH EACH STATE COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE THAT EMPLOYS ONE OR MORE PERSONS WHO TEACH AN AGGREGATE OF FIFTEEN OR MORE CREDIT HOURS AT ONE OR MORE STATE COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES, OR COMMUNITY COLLEGES IN ORDER TO COLLECT THE INFORMATION REQUIRED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

(3) IN CONNECTION WITH THE STUDY REQUIRED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION, EACH STATE COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE SHALL, WHEN IT NEXT NEGOTIATES ITS HEALTH INSURANCE AND DENTAL INSURANCE BENEFIT PLANS, EVALUATE THE OPTIONS FOR AND COSTS OF INCLUDING PERSONS WHO TEACH LESS THAN FULL TIME AT THE STATE COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, OR COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN SUCH BENEFIT PLANS. EACH STATE COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE SHALL TRANSMIT ITS FINDINGS TO THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION, AND THE COMMISSION SHALL INCLUDE THE FINDING IN THE REPORT REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION.

(4) THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEES, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, DETAILING THE RESULTS OF THE STUDY CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION AND INCLUDING THE FINDINGS OF EACH STATE COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION, NO LATER THAN JANUARY 15, 2007.

SECTION 2. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

Approved: May 4, 2006