

Rise Delaware Update for January 13, 2023

Dear Rise Delaware:

Included below is information regarding **SB 29**. It would be great if we had 100 RISE Delaware folks sign up to comment. This bill is scheduled to be heard in the Senate Executive Committee next **Wednesday, January 18th, at 3 o'clock**.

Those wishing to speak at the committee hearing either in person or virtually are required to pre-register online through this link: <https://legis.delaware.gov/MeetingNotice/32927>

Click on the link "Register for the meeting." After you fill out the form, you will be sent a link for the meeting.

We need to send the following message--*SB 29 is inadequate on its own to protect retiree healthcare benefits. Although adding retirees to the SEBC is a good first step, follow-up legislation needs to restore the Medicare Supplemental Plan in Delaware State Code.*

Below is the website developed by Steve LePage to assist with legislation tracking. Thanks, Steve! You can also find out who your legislators are: <https://retirees.inthefirststate.com>

SB 29 information:

<https://legis.delaware.gov/BillDetail?legislationId=129938>

SB 29: AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE STATE EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CONSOLIDATION ACT.

1/12/23: Introduced and Assigned to Executive Committee in Senate

Current Status: Senate Executive 1/12/23

What happens next? Awaiting consideration in Committee

To foster sustainability in state retiree healthcare benefits and the development of a plan for strong benefits beyond the current Medicare Supplement plan offered through January 1, 2024, this Act does all of the following:

1. Expands the membership of the State Employee Benefits Committee by adding a state retiree to the Committee and adding an additional representative from public sector union organizations;
2. Requires the Controller General to provide comprehensive biannual public reports to the General Assembly regarding the work of the State Employee Benefits Committee; and
3. Establishes the Retiree Healthcare Benefits Advisory Subcommittee of the State Employee Benefits Committee, whose membership will include three state retirees and four members of the General Assembly, and whose charge includes holding public meetings and issuing recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by May 1, 2023.

Link to SB 29:

<https://legis.delaware.gov/json/BillDetail/GeneratePdfDocument?legislationId=129938&legislationTypeId=1&docTypeId=2&legislationName=SB29>

I am sure that there will be more information to come!

All the best,
Lisa Diller