

RISE Delaware Update for December 27th

Additional Information on Upcoming Bills

Many of you have requested additional information about HB 281 and 282 as you write your legislators. Below is an update from Senator Karen Peterson (ret.) which details the changes proposed by Rep. Baumbach's bills. Thank you for your interest and your questions.

Lisa Diller, RISE Delaware

Legislative Report from Sen. Karen Peterson (ret.)

Two important bills are being introduced by Rep. Paul Baumbach on January 4th.

Here are summaries of those bills.

House Bill 281

HB 281 is modeled after a bill that I drafted and sent to the leadership of the House and Senate over a year ago, on December 2, 2022. This bill does four things:

- It changes Medicare “Advantage” back to Medicare “Supplement” which is what the law said prior to the administration’s “sneak attack” in last year’s budget epilogue language. [see lines 13, 22, 32, and 35]
- It repeals the State’s option of providing a “Medicare part C” plan (Medicare Advantage) to retirees. [see lines 44 and 45]
- It deletes the reference to “husband and wife” to reflect the provisions of the Marriage Equality Act. [see line 5]
- It makes technical corrections throughout the bill to reflect current requirements of the Legislative Drafting Manual.

House Bill 282

House Bill 282 re-constitutes the membership of the State Employee Benefits Committee (SEBC), the group that makes decisions about our healthcare insurance. It also adds much-needed transparency and procedural requirements to the law.

Current SEBC membership

Director, OMB -- Co-chair Secretary, Human Resources – Co-chair Lt. Governor

Controller General

Insurance Commissioner

State Treasurer

Chief Justice, Supreme Court

Secretary, DHSS

2 Employee Organization representatives Retiree representative (app’t by governor)

Proposed SEBC membership

DHSS -- Chair (non-voting member) Controller General -- Vice-chair

Lt. Governor

Director, OMB

Insurance Commissioner

State Treasurer

Chief Justice, Supreme Court

Secretary, DHR (non-voting member)

2 Employee Organization representatives

2 Retiree representatives (app’t by legislature)

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RISE Delaware: Retirees Investing in Social Equity Delaware

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Our Web site: www.risede.com

Checks may be made payable to: RISE Delaware

Address: RISE Delaware, P.O. Box 7262, Newark, DE 19714

Public Meeting Calendar: State of Delaware

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