RISE Delaware Update: Practical Implications of HB 281

I have gotten a number of questions about what the recent passage of Rep. Baumbach's legislation HB 281 (including his amendment) will mean in practical terms.

Keep in mind—the legislative process is still ongoing. Passing of this piece of legislation will be a major victory for both current retirees and current state employees! It will also ensure that we are not at risk of having to fight the State every two or three years as the healthcare contracts expire.

Here in brief is where we are in the legislative process – HB 281 (as amended) was passed by the Delaware House last week. The bill now moves to the Senate where we hope it will pass and then be approved by the Governor. Karen Peterson will provide more details in an email soon about the process and how you can help.

What would the passage of HB 281 mean to you?

If you are a current retiree or a current employee, HB 281 guarantees you will receive a Medicare Supplement plan (such as the current MedicFill plan), unless of course the statute changes in the future. Anyone hired after January 1, 2025 might receive a Medicare Advantage plan as an option when they retire in 2045 or later.

I hope those of you who did not already understand HB 281 found this informative.

Elisa Diller President, RISE Delaware ====

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