

RISE Delaware Update for July 13, 2023

RISE Update: Important information regarding the RHBA (Retiree Healthcare Benefits Advisory) Subcommittee meetings

Good evening RISE Delaware:

Here is the RISE position regarding healthcare choice for current and future retirees:

RISE supports Medicfill, or an identical Medicare Supplemental plan, for all current and future State retirees. The recently approved codification by the State legislature of an annual 1% budget contribution puts "Medicfill for All State Retirees" on fiscally sound footing.

In light of the annual 1% budget contribution approved by the State Legislature that addresses retiree healthcare funding issues, RISE supports only the Medicfill plan or an identical Medicare Supplemental plan to what we have now for current and future retirees.

This is a lengthy email message. Please read the entire message! Sections of the message include the need for some RISE members to attend the next three RHBA Subcommittee meetings in person, a sample email message to RHBA Subcommittee members, and a list of subcommittee members with email addresses.

Many thanks for your continued support of RISE!

All the best,
Lisa Diller

Section 1: RHBAS upcoming meeting dates

As the Retiree Healthcare Benefits Advisory Subcommittee (RHBAS) gets ready to make recommendations about our healthcare benefits to the governor and legislature, it's important that retirees have a "presence" at their final meetings.

- WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE AT LEAST A DOZEN RETIREES AT EACH MEETING IN PERSON.
- It's not necessary that you speak at the meeting, just be present so they know that we are watching them.
- Also, our presence will lend moral support to the members who are fighting for us
- The RHBAS is scheduled to meet on the following dates (although they might add one more meeting to the list):
- **Thursday, July 20th at 10:00 AM.;**
- **Thursday, August 10th at 1:00 PM.;** and
- **Thursday, August 24th at 10:00 AM.**
- Meetings are held at the Statewide Benefits Office, 97 Commerce Way, Suite 201 (Large Conference Room) in Dover.
- PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND ONE OR MORE OF THE REMAINING MEETINGS.

Section 2: Sample Letter

We are encouraging RISE members to send letters to subcommittee members whether they attend in person or not. Please send a version of the email message below. If you are an out-of-

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state retiree, feel free to let the members know where you are living so that they can see this is a concern of many retirees living in many places:

Dear _____:

I am a State of Delaware retiree who is covered by the State of Delaware's Medicfill Medicare Supplemental program. I am asking that the RBHA Subcommittee not include Medicare Advantage as a possible choice for retirees. I am aware of the many problems with Medicare Advantage (MA) plans and I see no reason to burden retirees, who may be unaware of the many pre-authorizations for services and prescriptions required, out-of-network charges, and co-pays that may be incurred when using MA plans. I do not think that you are doing retirees a favor by providing a low-cost option that will be more expensive to them in the long run than purchasing the Medicfill plan. Please vote no to including MA as a possible option for retirees.

I support providing only the Medicfill plan or an identical Medicare Supplemental plan to what we have now for current and future retirees.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter which is important to retirees.

Sincerely yours,
Your name

Section 3: Email addresses

RHBA Subcommittee members are listed below. With a little luck, you will be able to clip and paste these addresses to send your variation on the sample message above:

- Paul Baumbach (LegHall): paul.baumbach@delaware.gov.
- Bill Oberle: william.oberle@comcast.net
- Cerron Cade (OMB): cerron.cade@delaware.gov
- David Craik: dcraik674@aol.com
- Claire DeMatteis (DHS): claire.dematteis@delaware.gov
- Denise Allen: pastabeach503@comcast.net
- Rick H. Geisenberger (Finance): rick.geisenberger@delaware.gov
- Bethany Hall-Long (Lt. Governor): bethany.hall-long@delaware.gov
- Jeff Taschner: jeff.taschner@dsea.org
- Michael Begatto: mbegatto@council81.org
- Trinidad Navarro (DOI): Trinidad.navarro@delaware.gov
- Brian Pettyjohn (LegHall): brian.pettyjohn@delaware.gov
- Michael Ramone (LegHall): michael.ramone@delaware.gov
- Bryan Townsend (LegHall): bryan.townsend@delaware.gov

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RISE Delaware: Retirees Investing in Social Equity Delaware

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<https://www.gofundme.com/f/rise-delaware-round-2-legal-and-other-costs>

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

<https://publicmeetings.delaware.gov/#/>

