

# House Bill 2464

Sponsored by Representative MAURER; Representatives FREEMAN, GILLIAM, HANNA, KRIEGER, RICHARDSON, SPRENGER, WINGARD

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Requires Public Employees' Benefit Board to provide eligible employees and their families with option of using health savings accounts.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to health savings accounts; amending ORS 243.135.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1.** ORS 243.135 is amended to read:

5 243.135. (1) Notwithstanding any other benefit plan contracted for and offered by the Public  
6 Employees' Benefit Board, the board shall contract for a health benefit plan or plans best designed  
7 to meet the needs and provide for the welfare of eligible employees and the state. In considering  
8 whether to enter into a contract for a plan, the board shall place emphasis on:

- 9 (a) Employee choice among high quality plans;  
10 (b) A competitive marketplace;  
11 (c) Plan performance and information;  
12 (d) Employer flexibility in plan design and contracting;  
13 (e) Quality customer service;  
14 (f) Creativity and innovation;  
15 (g) Plan benefits as part of total employee compensation; and  
16 (h) The improvement of employee health.

17 (2) The board may approve more than one carrier for each type of plan contracted for and of-  
18 fered but the number of carriers shall be held to a number consistent with adequate service to eli-  
19 gible employees and their family members.

20 (3) Where appropriate for a contracted and offered health benefit plan, the board shall provide  
21 options under which an eligible employee may arrange coverage for family members.

22 **(4) The board shall provide eligible employees and their family members the option of**  
23 **using health savings accounts, with accompanying high deductible health plans, authorized**  
24 **under the Internal Revenue Code. When an eligible employee chooses a health savings ac-**  
25 **count, the state shall contribute monthly to the employee's health savings account and ac-**  
26 **companying high deductible health plan in a total amount not less than the highest monthly**  
27 **contribution made for any other eligible employee's health benefit plan. The state shall first**  
28 **pay the premium for the high deductible health plan, then shall apply the remainder of the**  
29 **total monthly contribution to the employee's health savings account.**

30 ~~[(4)]~~ (5) Payroll deductions for such costs as are not payable by the state may be made upon  
31 receipt of a signed authorization from the employee indicating an election to participate in the plan

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 or plans selected and the deduction of a certain sum from the employee's pay.

2       ~~[(5)]~~ **(6)** In developing any health benefit plan, the board may provide an option of additional  
3 coverage for eligible employees and their family members at an additional cost or premium.

4       ~~[(6)]~~ **(7)** Transfer of enrollment from one plan to another shall be open to all eligible employees  
5 and their family members under rules adopted by the board. Because of the special problems that  
6 may arise in individual instances under comprehensive group practice plan coverage involving ac-  
7 ceptable physician-patient relations between a particular panel of physicians and particular eligible  
8 employees and their family members, the board shall provide a procedure under which any eligible  
9 employee may apply at any time to substitute a health service benefit plan for participation in a  
10 comprehensive group practice benefit plan.

11

\_\_\_\_\_