



**Service Employees International Union – Oregon State Council**

6401 SE Foster ▪ Portland, OR 97206

April 6, 2023

To: Senate Labor and Business Committee

Fr: Matt Swanson, SEIU Oregon State Council

Re: Support for HB 3140

Chair Taylor, Vice Chair Bonham and Members of the Committee:

The Public Employee Benefits Board and Oregon Educators Benefits Board contract for, design and administer medical, dental, vision, life, accident, disability and long-term care coverage in addition to flexible spending accounts, wellness and employee assistance programs. The Boards are structured to include labor and management representation to govern plan choices with an eye towards improving health, the experience of members and their quality of care while centering health equity and controlling costs.

House Bill 3140 would represent a process improvement change to ensure that PEBB and OEBC staff and board goals are met without adding unnecessary steps and overhead. The bill passed unanimously out of the House of Representatives on March 29, 2023 and we appreciate the bipartisan support for this concept.

Current law requires that, “If the board contracts for actuarial or technical support to manage the functions of the board, the board shall, no less than every three years, solicit invitations to bid and the proposals must include all of the following...”

This requirement, relating to actuarial or technical consulting, is the only contract that requires a request for proposal every three years. This is irrespective of the boards developing their strategic plans and competing priorities for requesting bids for other contracts such as medical, dental, or vision and other initiatives. House Bill 3140 would simply remove the requirement for an RFP being issued every three years for one specific contract, while allowing the board to incorporate such a review into their ongoing work at the appropriate time.

Consultants with a longer time horizon will also be able to gain more knowledge and experience with the populations and benefits that Oregon’s public sector workers rely on. We believe that this process improvement is a good choice to move forward the work of the boards.

Thank you,

Matt Swanson

SEIU Oregon State Council