

SECTION 3. Any former employee of the commonwealth or any of its political subdivisions who is entitled to the increase granted by this act may waive and renounce for himself, his heirs and legal representatives his right to receive such increase by filing with the treasurer of the governmental unit paying his pension, retirement allowance or annuity a written statement wherein he waives and renounces such right as aforesaid. Nothing in this section shall be construed to otherwise affect the pension, retirement allowance or annuity payable to the person filing such a written statement.

SECTION 4. This act shall not apply to the pension to be used for reimbursement purposes under paragraph (c) of subdivision (2) of section twenty of chapter thirty-two of the General Laws on account of teachers retired by the city of Boston.

(The foregoing was laid before the governor on the second day of July, 1962, and after five days it had "the force of a law", as prescribed by the constitution, as it was not returned by him with his objections thereto within that time.)

Chap. 647. AN ACT TO EXTEND CONTRIBUTORY GROUP HOSPITAL, SURGICAL, MEDICAL INSURANCE TO ELDERLY PERSONS RETIRED FROM THE SERVICE OF THE COMMONWEALTH AND FROM CERTAIN COUNTIES, CITIES, TOWNS AND DISTRICTS AND TO THEIR DEPENDENTS.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is in part to immediately extend contributory group hospital, surgical and medical insurance to elderly persons retired from the service of the commonwealth and from certain counties, cities, towns and districts and to their dependents, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 2 of chapter 32A of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding after paragraph (e) the following paragraph: —

(f) "Elderly governmental retirees", employees of the commonwealth, housing and redevelopment authorities, mosquito control projects and technicians of the National Guard retired prior to the effective date of contracts or agreements issued under this chapter who are receiving a pension or retirement allowance from the commonwealth sufficient from which a monthly insurance premium may be withheld; and employees of counties, cities, towns and districts including "teachers" as defined in section one of chapter thirty-two, retired prior to the effective date of contracts or agreements issued under the provisions of chapter thirty-two B as, or when, adopted by the political subdivision from which they are retired, and who are receiving a pension, annuity or retirement allowance sufficient from which a monthly insurance premium may be withheld.

SECTION 2. Said chapter 32A is hereby further amended by inserting after section 10A the following section: —

Section 10B. The commission shall negotiate with and purchase on such terms as it deems to be in the best interest of the commonwealth,

certain political subdivisions that have accepted the provisions of this section, and the elderly governmental retirees and their dependents, from one or more insurance companies or non-profit hospital or medical service corporations, a policy or policies of group general or blanket insurance providing hospital, surgical and medical benefits for said retirees and their dependents. Said policy or policies shall consist of a schedule of hospital, surgical and medical benefits for elderly governmental retirees and their surviving spouse which shall be unrelated to the schedule of hospital, surgical and medical benefits purchased by the commonwealth under the provisions of section four, or the schedule of hospital, surgical and medical benefits purchased by counties, cities, towns and districts under the provisions of section three of chapter thirty-two B. The claim experience of elderly governmental retirees and the surviving spouse insured under this section shall be maintained unrelated to the claim experience applicable to the aforementioned schedules of hospital, surgical and medical benefits. The commission shall execute all agreements or contracts pertaining to said policy or policies or any amendment thereto for and on behalf and in the name of the commonwealth, for a period not less than two years nor more than five years; provided, however, that the portion of the cost of the premium to be borne by the commonwealth shall not exceed the estimated monthly cost for which funds have been appropriated by the general court for the then current fiscal year.

(a) With respect to any period of insurance which is in effect for the elderly governmental retiree, notwithstanding the provisions of section nineteen of chapter thirty-two or any other general or special law to the contrary, there shall be withheld from each monthly payment of pension, annuity or retirement allowance by the respective retirement system or by the appropriate retiring authority, fifty per cent of the premium for such insurance, and the commonwealth shall make primary payment of the remaining fifty per cent of said premium subject to reimbursement as outlined in (c) below.

(b) The retiree's premiums shall be withheld by the appropriate authority from the retiree's pension, annuity or allowance under the state employees' retirement system, the teachers' retirement system, the retirement system established in the county, city, town or district, and under any non-contributory pension or annuity, and shall be forwarded by the responsible governmental official to the commission in accordance with its rules and regulations. The commission shall make payment at least once each month of all premiums due the carrier in accordance with the terms of the policy.

(c) The commission shall determine at least annually, or sooner, the amount of premiums which shall be reimbursed to the commonwealth by agencies thereof, by housing and redevelopment authorities and counties, cities, towns and districts, having elderly governmental retirees insured under this section. The commission shall also determine, at least annually, the portion of the commission's expense of administering this hospital, surgical and medical insurance coverage for elderly governmental retirees applicable to the agency, authority or political subdivision from which they retired. After such determinations, the commission shall certify the amounts determined as aforesaid to the state treasurer for assessment. The state treasurer shall issue his warrant in the manner provided by section twenty of chapter fifty-nine requiring

the cities and towns concerned to pay into the treasury of the commonwealth the amounts of such premium and administrative expenses attributable to such cities and towns. In the case of counties, the commission on or before December fifteenth in each year shall notify the county commissioners of each county of the amount of premium and administrative expenses attributable to such county and said expenses shall be included in the estimate of county receipts and expenses of said county.

(d) Any dividend or refund accepted by the commission from the carrier as a result of the contract negotiated under this section, shall be deposited by the commission with the state treasurer as provided in section nine. The commission shall determine the amount of dividend or refund apportionable to the various counties, cities, towns and districts having elderly governmental retirees insured hereunder, and in the case of a city, town or district shall notify the state treasurer to reduce the premium charges and administrative expenses attributable to each such city, town or district by the amount of refund attributable thereto. In the case of counties, the commission shall notify the county commissioner of each county of the amount of refund attributable thereto and the estimate of receipts and expenditures for the ensuing year in each such county shall be reduced by the amount of such refund. If no premium is to be payable by a county, city, town or district for the succeeding year the commission shall certify the same to the state treasurer who shall pay over the amount of such refund to the political subdivision entitled thereto. The remaining portion of the dividend or refund apportionable to the commonwealth shall be applied as provided in section nine.

(e) Each elderly governmental retiree to whom this chapter applies shall furnish the commission, in such form as it shall prescribe, such information as is necessary to insure himself or himself and his dependents under the hospital, surgical, medical insurance herein provided, and shall authorize the withholding of the appropriate premium from his pension, annuity or retirement allowance by the appropriate governmental authority.

(f) Upon the death of an elderly governmental retiree, the surviving spouse may continue the group hospital, surgical and medical insurance as provided under section eleven.

(g) The rules and regulations of the commission which govern the administration of this section shall not be subject to the provisions of chapter thirty A.

SECTION 3. Chapter 32B of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 11A the following section: —

Section 11B. Any political subdivision, subject to the provisions of section ten B of chapter thirty-two A, may appropriate funds or apply therefor for the payment of group general or blanket insurance providing hospital, surgical and medical insurance for elderly governmental retirees as defined in paragraph (f) of section two of said chapter thirty-two A. This section shall take effect in a county, city, town or district upon its acceptance in the following manner: — In a county by vote of the county commissioners; in a city having a Plan D or Plan E charter by majority vote of its city council; in any other city by vote of its city council, approved by the mayor; in a district by vote of the voters of the district at a district meeting; and in a town if a majority of the votes cast in answer to the following question, which shall be printed

on the official ballot to be used at an election in said town, is in the affirmative: — “Shall the town extend contributory group hospital, surgical and medical insurance to elderly persons retired from the service of the town and to their dependents with fifty per cent of the premium cost and a portion of the administrative expense to be paid by the town?”

SECTION 4. Said chapter 32B is hereby amended by striking out section 10, as amended by chapter 150 of the acts of 1962, and inserting in place thereof the following section: — *Section 10.* This chapter, except sections nine A, eleven A and eleven B, may be accepted in a county by vote of the county commissioners; in a city by vote of the city council, approved by the mayor; in a district, except as hereinafter provided, by vote of the registered voters of the district at a district meeting; in a regional school district by vote of the regional district school committee; in a veterans’ services district by vote of the district board; in a welfare district by vote of the district welfare committee; and in a town by submission for acceptance to the registered voters in the form of the following question which shall be printed upon the official ballot to be used at an election: — “Shall certain provisions of chapter thirty-two B of the General Laws, authorizing any county, city, town or district to provide a plan of contributory group life insurance, group accidental death and dismemberment insurance, and group general or blanket hospital, surgical and medical insurance for certain persons in the service of such county, city, town or district and their dependents, be accepted by this town?” If a majority of the voters voting on the question shall vote in the affirmative, this chapter, except sections nine A, eleven A and eleven B, shall take effect in such town.

SECTION 5. Chapter 414 of the acts of 1961 is hereby amended by striking out section 2 and inserting in place thereof the following section: — *Section 2.* This act shall take effect as of January first, nineteen hundred and fifty-six.

SECTION 6. The provisions of section nine B of chapter thirty-two B of the General Laws shall, notwithstanding the effective date of said section, apply to any political subdivision of the commonwealth which accepted said chapter at any time prior to June eighth, nineteen hundred and sixty-one, and in which policies purchased under said chapter were in effect prior to said date.

Approved July 10, 1962.

Chap. 648. AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose which is to provide forthwith that certain administrative changes be made at the University of Massachusetts beginning with the year nineteen hundred and sixty-three, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 75 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out sections 1 to 15, inclusive, and inserting in place thereof the following sixteen sections: —

Section 1. The state university shall be the University of Massachusetts which shall continue as a state institution within the department of