

By Mr. Smola of Palmer, petition of Todd M. Smola and Stephen M. Brewer (by vote of the town) relative to health insurance for employees of the town of Wales. Public Service. [Local Approval Received.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO HEALTH INSURANCE FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWN OF WALES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. The present health insurance plan of the town of Wales in effect for employees of the town shall continue in full force with the town paying 80 percent of premiums and the employee 20 percent. All town employees appointed or elected after July 1, 2005 shall be offered health insurance according to the following schedule of premium payments:

	Year	Town Share	Employee Share
7			
8	1	60%	40%
9	2	65%	35%
10	3	65%	35%
11	4	70%	30%
12	5	70%	30%
13	6	70%	30%
14	7	80%	20%

SECTION 2. The present health insurance plan of the town of Wales in effect for retirees of the town shall continue in full force for present retirees and for present employees of the town upon retirement with the town paying 80 percent of the premiums and the retiree paying 20 percent. Employee hired after July 1, 2005 and elected officials initially elected after said date shall upon

7 retirement be offered insurance as follows. Employees and  
8 elected officials with either 20 years of service or having reached  
9 the current early social security retirement age after at least 6  
10 years of service shall be given insurance with the town paying 80  
11 percent of premiums and the employee or official 20 percent. All  
12 other such retirees hired or initially elected after July 1, 2005 shall  
13 be offered insurance with the town paying 65 percent and the  
14 employee or official 35 percent.

1 SECTION 3. For the purpose of this act:

2 A year of service for an hourly employee must average at least  
3 20 hours per week to be counted in the formula.

4 Insurance eligibility is based on years of service, not years or  
5 participation in the insurance plan.

6 Years of service need not be contiguous.

7 Employees and elected officials not currently in the town's  
8 employ are eligible to enter the new plan based on their current  
9 years of service and are not "grandfathered".

10 Each "year" is completed based on the town's fiscal schedule,  
11 regardless of hire date.

1 SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon its passage.