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HOUSE BILL 2188

State of Washington 68th Legislature 2024 Regular Session

By Representative Bronoske; by request of Office of Financial Management

- AN ACT Relating to changing the health insurance subsidy rate for retired state employees and retired or disabled school employees; amending RCW 41.05.085; and providing an effective date.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 41.05.085 and 2018 c 260 s 16 are each amended to 6 read as follows:
 - (1) Beginning with the appropriations act for the 2005-2007 biennium, the legislature shall establish as part of both the state employees' and the school and educational service district employees' insurance benefit allocation the portion of the allocation to be used to provide a prescription drug subsidy to reduce the health care insurance premiums charged to retired or disabled school district and educational service district employees, or retired state employees, who are eligible for parts A and B of medicare. The legislature may also establish a separate health care subsidy to reduce insurance premiums charged to individuals who select a medicare supplemental insurance policy option established in RCW 41.05.195.
 - (2) The amount of any premium reduction shall be established by the public employees' benefits board. The amount established shall not result in a premium reduction of more than ((fifty)) 60 percent, except as provided in subsection (3) of this section. The public

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employees' benefits board may also determine the amount of any subsidy to be available to spouses and dependents.

- (3) The amount of the premium reduction in subsection (2) of this section may exceed ((fifty)) 60 percent, if the director, in consultation with the office of financial management, determines that it is necessary in order to meet eligibility requirements to participate in the federal employer incentive program as provided in RCW 41.05.068.
- 9 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 2.** This act takes effect January 1, 2025.

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