

SHBP PDC Resolution #2019-6

RESOLUTION OF THE STATE HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM PLAN DESIGN COMMITTEE TO ALLOW CERTAIN STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT EARLY RETIREES ACCESS TO MORE PLAN OPTIONS

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14-17.29 et seq. the State Health Benefits Program (SHBP) provides health coverage to qualified employees and retirees of the State and participating local employers; and

WHEREAS, the SHBP was enacted in 1961 for the purpose of providing affordable, quality health care coverage for public employees on a cost-effective basis; and

WHEREAS, all SHBP plans, with the exception of Medicare Advantage plans, are self-funded, which means that the money paid out for benefits comes directly from an SHBP fund funded by State appropriations, participating local employers, and member premiums; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the intent of 2019-4 and 2019-5, this Resolution addresses the availability of plan options for early retirees; and

WHEREAS, the SHBP Plan Design Committee (SHBP PDC) aims to provide early retirees with lower cost plan options;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the tiered network plans, currently Horizon's Omnia and Aetna's Liberty plans, the CWA PPO Plan (a/k/a the CWA Unity Direct and CWA Unity Freedom Plans), the PPO Plan (a/k/a the NJDIRECT and NJFREEDOM), as well as the PPO HD 1500 plans, without the employer HSA funding, be offered as plan options to any early retiree, defined as a person who is not yet eligible for Medicare, without regard to the date on which the early retiree accrued 25 years of non-consecutive or consecutive service credit or otherwise qualified for retiree health benefits and without regard to the date on which the early retiree retired;
2. The SHBP PDC directs the Division of Pensions and Benefits to take such steps as necessary in order to have the current vendors, Horizon and Aetna, offer the plans referenced in paragraph 1 above to early retirees as soon as practicable but no later than October 1, 2019;
3. This resolution does not apply to Chapter 330 plan participants.
4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.