

CHAPTER 412

AN ACT to repeal 20.551 (15) and 66.919 (4) (b) ; to amend 20.408 (42) (b) ; and to create 66.919 (4) (g) and (15) of the statutes, relating to group life insurance for the personnel of political subdivisions.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 20.408 (42) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

20.408 (42) (b) Any excess * * * may be used to reimburse the respective funds for contributions made * * * *in the ratio in which the contributions were made or may be applied for the benefit of employes continuing to be insured under the contract or contracts, or to the reduction of premium payments in the following contract year, or to establish reserves to stabilize the costs in subsequent years, or to purchase * * * additional * * * insurance to be in effect during the following contract year.*

SECTION 2. 20.551 (15) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 3. 66.919 (4) (b) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 4. 66.919 (4) (g) of the statutes is created to read:

66.919 (4) (g) "Board" means the group life insurance board.

SECTION 5. 66.919 (15) of the statutes is created to read:

66.919 (15) AVAILABLE TO MUNICIPALITIES. (a) The board shall make the group life insurance provided pursuant to this section available to any municipality as defined in s. 66.901 (2) for the purpose of providing the employes thereof with group life insurance in amounts based upon their annual earnings under a plan contributed to by such municipality, thereby improving morale and efficiency in the public service. The board shall have the option of providing such insurance under a separate contract. Any company authorized to sell life insurance in the state may provide such insurance.

(b) All provisions of this section pertaining to the state and to state employes with respect to group life insurance shall be applicable to such municipalities as act to be included hereunder and to the employes thereof. Service for the state and for each municipality shall be treated independently, including the 25-year requirement in sub. (7) (c), except that an aggregate of 25 years service under the state teachers' retirement system shall meet the 25-year requirement.

(c) The governing body of any municipality may elect to provide group life insurance pursuant to this section for the employes thereof by the adoption of a resolution in the form prescribed by the board. A certified copy of such resolution shall be filed with the director and if received on or before November 30 in any year shall be effective as of the beginning of the ensuing calendar year.

(d) The definition of "employee" shall include:

1. The personnel of any participating municipality as defined in s. 66.901 (3) who meets the requirements of sub. (4) other than state employment, or who are included under a retirement plan pursuant to s. 61.65 or 62.13 (9) or (10).

2. In cities of the first class and counties having a population of 500,000 or more any person included under a retirement system for such city or county whose current employment or official status has continued for 6 months.

(e) Each municipality shall pay the employer cost for its personnel pursuant to sub. (7) (d). The board shall determine the method of administration including the procedure for the collection of premiums and municipality costs. The board shall provide for pooling the employer costs which shall be determined separately for all employes covered under this subsection.

(f) A resolution adopted pursuant to par. (c) shall be in effect only if the board determines that 75 per cent of the eligible personnel in that municipality shall be covered at the time such resolution is effective. If a resolution is nullified by insufficient participation another resolution may be submitted after a lapse of 6 months from the previous filing.

(g) The terms "immediate annuity" and "disability annuity" shall also include any such annuity provided under a retirement system in that municipality as determined by the board.

(h) The governing body of any municipality may repeal any resolution enacted pursuant to par. (c), to be effective at the end of the calendar year if such rescinding resolution is received by the board 90 days prior to the end of the calendar year, otherwise at the end of the next calendar year.

(i) If any covered employe enters the employment of a different municipality providing insurance hereunder, or of the state, and there is no gap between employments, then coverage shall be continuous and sub. (8) (b) and (c) shall not be applicable except if a waiver is filed.

Approved September 4, 1959.
