

TESTIMONY OF REBECCA FRICKE

Senate Bill 2171 – Third Health Plan Option

Good Morning, my name is Rebecca Fricke. I am the Chief Benefits Officer of the North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System, or NDPERS. I am here to testify in a neutral position regarding Senate Bill 2171.

SB 2171 would add a third health plan into which state employees could elect to participate. Right now there are two health plans from which they can choose, our grandfathered PPO plan and a non-grandfathered High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP). This third plan would be a non-grandfathered PPO plan that would provide increased benefits for a higher cost. That additional cost would be paid by the employee. The relative costs between the grandfathered PPO and the non-grandfathered PPO are provided below, based on the 2021-2023 premiums (not including the proposed premium increase for 2023-2025):

Pricing for Benefits Change: The table below reflects the adjusted rates based on the additional ACA benefit and utilization impact.

NDPERS State Employee Rate Comparison		
	GF PPO State Employees	NGF PPO State Employees - ACA Benefits
Single	\$ 687.66	\$ 712.11
Family	\$ 1,658.37	\$ 1,717.34
Flat Single/Family Rate	\$ 1,428.76	\$ 1,479.56

The percentage increase is 3.56%.

I have also uploaded Sanford Health Plan's estimate of costs and comparison of plans.