



STATE OF WISCONSIN
Department of Employee Trust Funds
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CORRESPONDENCE MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 2, 2011
TO: Group Insurance Board
FROM: Shawn Smith, Director, Office of Communications and Legislation
SUBJECT: Member Correspondence

This memo is for informational purposes only. No Board action is required.

Other governing boards associated with the Department of Employee Trust Funds (ETF) -- primarily, the ETF Board -- routinely review communications to ETF from members or stakeholders who want their messages shared. The Department recently received correspondence from members who requested dissemination to the Group Insurance Board (Board).

Attached to this memo are three emails. The first two concern recent legislative changes regarding the 5% reduction in benefits. They are representative of previous feedback ETF has received and discussed with the Board.

The third email is a member complaint concerning coverage for a member who, due to processing delays, appears to have experienced prescription drug coverage problems. This member has been contacted and we are addressing the issue.

I will be available at the Board meeting to answer any questions you may have.

Enclosures

Reviewed and approved by Rhonda Dunn, Executive Assistant.

Rhonda Dunn 8-10-11
Signature Date

Board	Mtg Date	Item #
GIB	8.23.11	10D

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2011 1:34 PM
To: Walk, Sharon
Subject: WRS retiree health care initiation

Please pass to members of the GIB.

Members of the Group Insurance Board,

I retired as of May 31 this year. I received the Accumulated Leave Certification (form ET-4306 rev 0/2006) on June 17th from the University of Wisconsin's HR department.

I was informed that I would have HMO premiums paid for from my accumulated leave account.

I recently received notice from GHC-SCW that my HMO coverage ended on June 30th. I talked someone at UW's OHR this morning.

He said all necessary forms were sent to ETF. An agent at ETF told me that yes, all forms were in my file but were not yet processed.

I should be expecting new HMO cards soon and coverage would be retroactive to July 1.

Well this is a bit of a Catch 22. My wife's prescription wasn't filled this week and I can't blame GHC.

I suspect this situation is partly a result of only having one month prepaid health care (rather than two months as was the case prior to last November).

Form ET-4307 couldn't be submitted until after I retired and then within 30 days of the retirement date and it was (June 17th).

This results in really tight window for ETF to complete the new HMO coverage and issue new HMO cards (especially given the volume of retirees).

I would assume I am not likely the only one with this situation.

This needs to be addressed.

[REDACTED]
Researcher (retired)

Gilles, Cindy

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2011 7:47 AM
To: Gilles, Cindy
Subject: Slow Things Down...Please

As an almost 72 year old retiree, I am being challenged with health issues as things are.

Isn't It time that the health plans share some of the pain?

Thanks for your help.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Department of Revenue retiree

Esther –

██████████ here, a voice from the past! I understand that you are a member of the Group Insurance Board, which meets tomorrow to figure out how to make the mandated cuts. I would strongly encourage you folks NOT to eliminate dental coverage and to make the cuts in a different manner.

Eliminating dental coverage would be penny wise and pound foolish as there is no cure for dental disease other than treatment – delayed care means that the problem will only get worse; it cannot cure itself. Unlike medicine, of course, dentistry is focused on prevention, which is also the most cost-effective health care.

Please let me know if you need any additional information. I represent the Wisconsin Dental Association and will get you anything you need!
Thanks!

6/27/2011 4:19 PM