

Letter 1

August 22, 2019

Health Insurance Board

Wisconsin Department of Employee Trust Funds

P.O. Box 7931

Madison, WI 53707-7931

Dear Insurance Board members,

I am writing this letter to request that you open up the Local Annuitant Health Insurance option to any WRS annuitant at any open enrollment period. Currently, an annuitant only has 2 options to join – right at immediate retirement, or at age 65 (Medicare Eligibility). What about all of those years in-between, when you may desperately need the insurance.

I will likely be one of those people. I will retire soon from the Village of River Hills (Milwaukee County) after a 30 year career in Law Enforcement. The Village does not offer continued Health Insurance to retired employees (with the exception of 18 mo. COBRA). The Village also does not participate in ETF Local Health Insurance. Fortunately, my wife will continue working for several years for her private employer, and we will obtain coverage through her employer during those years. However, when she retires, I am left with only Obamacare (and the insane premiums/deductibles that go along with it) to obtain my Health Insurance.

It would be a great asset to a dedicated retired public servant if I had the opportunity to join ETF Local Annuitant Health Insurance at the time my wife retires, which will be several years after my retirement/beginning of WRS annuity. I have to believe that there are many WRS annuitants in my position. Please consider allowing us to join at any open enrollment period (not just at the time you retire). Thank You for your consideration.



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