



REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

ITEM NO. 15.

DATE OF MEETING: December 6, 2010

REQUESTED BY: Commissioner George Brown

SHORT TITLE: Resolution Authorizing Board of Education Elected Officials Participation in the Pender County Government Employee Health Insurance Plan

BACKGROUND: Traditionally Pender County's health insurance plan is available to county employees and Board of Commissioners, and their families. Members of the Pender County Board of Education have requested Board consideration to allow them and their families to participate in the County's health insurance plan. The health insurance plan is self-funded by Pender County. The County provides the annual premium set aside in the trust fund for employees (\$6,600 per employee for FY 10-11), and employees pay premiums for family coverage. The County purchases reinsurance to cover claims in excess of \$75,000 for individuals covered in the plan. The proposal is to allow School Board elected officials to participate in the plan in the same manner as Commissioners. The County pays the plan premiums for the Commissioners who participate, and the Commissioner must pay for dependent coverage.

Statutory authority to allow school board elected officials to participate in the plan should be assured either through existing statute clarification or potentially a local bill authorizing such. As well, an amendment to the Health Plan will be necessary, and will be subject to approval and requirements of the plan's reinsurance carrier.

SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED: To consider a resolution authorizing participation of Pender County Board of Education elected officials in the County's health insurance plan subject to statutory authorization and approval of the reinsurance carrier; and to authorize the County Manager and County attorney to collaborate with the County's legislative delegation to seek statutory authority via a local bill in the 2011 session of the General Assembly.

COUNTY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

The Board should assure statutory authority is provided for this if approved, either via existing statutes or via drafting and introduction of a local bill to the General Assembly. Attorney Thurman and I recommend a local bill be sought. As well, a formal amendment of the Health Plan Document will be necessary, requiring approval of the reinsurance carrier. Normally plan amendments are made effective with each new fiscal year, thus July 1, 2011 would be the target date for this change should the Board approve the request.

MB
Initial

RESOLUTION

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Pender County Board of Commissioners that:

the Board hereby authorizes participation of Pender County Board of Education elected officials in the Pender County Government Employee Health Insurance Plan in the same manner as provided for Board of Commissioner members, subject to assurance of statutory authority and approval of the Plan's reinsurance carrier. Further, the County Manager and Attorney are authorized to collaborate with the County's legislative delegation to seek statutory authority via a local bill to be considered for the 2011 legislative session of the General Assembly authorizing this proposal. The Chairman/County Manager is authorized to execute any/all documents necessary to implement this resolution.

AMENDMENTS:

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____

APPROVED _____ DENIED _____ UNANIMOUS

YEA VOTES: Brown ___ Rivenbark ___ Tate ___ Ward ___ Williams ___

Chairman 12-06-10

ATTEST Date