

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill deals with the continuation health coverage that local governments are required to make available to former employees who meet certain requirements.

Section

- 1 Insurance continuation.** Current law requires former employees under the age of 65 to be pooled in the same group with active employees for purposes of their retiree health insurance coverage and premiums. This bill would make an exception to that for former employees under age 65 who are enrolled in Medicare. People under age 65 who have a disability can qualify for early Medicare, which is then the primary payer for their health care. For them, coverage from a former employer is secondary and pays medical bills, if at all, only after Medicare has paid its share. This bill would require that former employees under age 65 who have early Medicare be pooled with former employees who are over 65, so as to pay a premium that reflects the secondary status of their employer coverage.