

5232

Sponsor(s): Senators Swecker, Roach, Stevens, Zarelli, Hargrove, Honeyford, T. Sheldon, Rasmussen, Oke, Rossi, West and Hewitt

Brief Description: Clarifying the eligibility for public employee benefits.

SB 5232 - DIGEST

Finds that the public employees' benefits board has extended eligibility by authorizing benefits for same sex domestic partners of state employees. In order to limit the escalation of health care costs, and to prevent the further expansion of benefit eligibility, the legislature intends by this act to reverse the board's action.

Declares an intent that eligibility for these benefits be limited to lawful spouses and dependent children of state employees.

Directs the secretary of state to submit this act to the people for their adoption and ratification, or rejection, at the next general election to be held in this state, in accordance with Article II, section 1 of the state Constitution and the laws adopted to facilitate its operation.