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**SENATE BILL 5469**

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**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2019 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Hunt, Hasegawa, and Kuderer

Read first time 01/22/19. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

1 AN ACT Relating to premium reduction for medicare-eligible  
2 retiree participants in the public employees' benefits board program;  
3 and amending RCW 41.05.085.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 41.05.085 and 2018 c 260 s 16 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (1) Beginning with the appropriations act for the 2005-2007  
8 biennium, the legislature shall establish as part of both the state  
9 employees' and the school and educational service district employees'  
10 insurance benefit allocation the portion of the allocation to be used  
11 to provide a prescription drug subsidy to reduce the health care  
12 insurance premiums charged to retired or disabled school district and  
13 educational service district employees, or retired state employees,  
14 who are eligible for parts A and B of medicare. The legislature may  
15 also establish a separate health care subsidy to reduce insurance  
16 premiums charged to individuals who select a medicare supplemental  
17 insurance policy option established in RCW 41.05.195.

18 (2) The amount of any premium reduction shall be (~~established by~~  
19 ~~the public employees' benefits board. The amount established shall~~  
20 ~~not result in a premium reduction of more~~) no less than fifty  
21 percent of the premium cost, except as provided in subsection (3) of

1 this section. The public employees' benefits board may also determine  
2 the amount of any subsidy to be available to spouses and dependents.

3 (3) The amount of the premium reduction in subsection (2) of this  
4 section may exceed fifty percent, if the director, in consultation  
5 with the office of financial management, determines that it is  
6 necessary in order to meet eligibility requirements to participate in  
7 the federal employer incentive program as provided in RCW 41.05.068.

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