HOUSE BILL 1025

State of Washington 69th Legislature 2025 Regular Session

By Representatives Abbarno, Schmick, Burnett, Jacobsen, Eslick, Couture, McClintock, Orcutt, and Dufault

Prefiled 12/10/24. Read first time 01/13/25. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & Human Services.

AN ACT Relating to reopening the exemption from the long-term services and supports trust program for employees who have purchased long-term care insurance; and amending RCW 50B.04.085.

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

5 Sec. 1. RCW 50B.04.085 and 2021 c 113 s 5 are each amended to 6 read as follows:

7 (1) An employee who attests that the employee has long-term care 8 insurance purchased before November 1, ((2021)) 2027, may apply for 9 an exemption from the premium assessment under RCW 50B.04.080. An 10 exempt employee may not become a qualified individual or eligible 11 beneficiary and is permanently ineligible for coverage under this 12 title.

13 (2)(a) The employment security department must accept 14 applications for exemptions only from October 1, 2021, through 15 December 31, ((2022)) 2028.

16 (b) Only employees who are ((eighteen)) <u>18</u> years of age or older 17 may apply for an exemption.

18 (3) The employment security department is not required to verify 19 the attestation of an employee that the employee has long-term care 20 insurance. 1 (4) Approved exemptions will take effect on the first day of the 2 quarter immediately following the approval of the exemption.

3 (5) Exempt employees are not entitled to a refund of any premium 4 deductions made before the effective date of an approved exemption.

5 (6) An exempt employee must provide written notification to all 6 current and future employers of an approved exemption.

7 (7) If an exempt employee fails to notify an employer of an 8 exemption, the exempt employee is not entitled to a refund of any 9 premium deductions made before notification is provided.

10 (8) Employers must not deduct premiums after being notified by an 11 employee of an approved exemption.

12 (a) Employers must retain written notifications of exemptions13 received from employees.

(b) An employer who deducts premiums after being notified by the employee of an exemption is solely responsible for refunding to the employee any premiums deducted after the notification.

17 (c) The employer is not entitled to a refund from the employment 18 security department for any premiums remitted to the employment 19 security department that were deducted from exempt employees.

20 (9) The department must adopt rules necessary to implement and 21 administer the activities specified in this section related to the 22 program, including rules on the submission and processing of 23 applications under this section.

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