CalPERS Health Insurance Initial Exploration 2025

Presented to the Board of Supervisors on August 19, 2025

History

2023,
Discussions
about CalPERS
Health, deemed
not a cost
savings at the
time

Winter 2025, Budget Ad Hoc direction to conduct initial analysis

Winter & Spring 2025, Staff reached out to CalPERS Summer 2025, staff returned to Budget Ad Hoc with initial analysis Today, Full
Board
discussion
before any
additional staff
time is spent
exploring this
option

Public Employees' Medical & Hospital Care Act (PEMCHA)

CalPERS Health is prescribed by Government Code 22750-22948

PART 5. THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL CARE ACT	22750-22948
CHAPTER 1. Public Employees' Health Benefits	22750-22944.6
ARTICLE 1. General Provisions	22750-22755
ARTICLE 2. Definitions	22760-22787
ARTICLE 3. The Board of Administration	22790-22797
ARTICLE 4. Eligibility	22800-22826
ARTICLE 5. Enrollment and Coverage	22830-22849
ARTICLE 6. Health Benefit Plans and Contracts	22850-22869
ARTICLE 7. State Contributions	22870-22889
ARTICLE 8. Contracting Agency Contributions	22890-22905
ARTICLE 9. Maintenance of Funds	22910-22915
ARTICLE 10. Contracting with Public Agencies	22920-22939
ARTICLE 11. Prefunding Plan for Health Care Coverage for Annuitants	22940-22944.6
CHAPTER 2. Recovery of Medical Costs	22945-22948

Process for Changing Health Plans

- Bargain all associated changes with all nine represented bargaining units
- Determine the impacts on current retirees
- Determine the administrative impacts
- Develop an implementation plan and timeline



Benefit of CalPERS Health

Based upon 2026 rates for two largest employee utilized plans, could save \$1.6 million in total annual premiums for active employees (employee and employer share).



Concerns about CalPERS Health

- Only provides Health Insurance.
- Expands Retiree Health Program by requiring a County contribution to retiree health for employees and retirees who are not currently eligible.
 - Retiree Health was discontinued for employees hired after 2011 (phased out 2009-2011).
 - Could cost the County between \$0.25 million and \$2.7 million in the first year.