AN ACT concerning retirement and benefits; relating to the retirement of certain state officers and employees; election of health care benefit payments or lump-sum payment.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. (a) Subject to the provisions of this act, an officer or employee of the executive branch of the state whose retirement date pursuant to the provisions of K.S.A. 74-4914, and amendments thereto, is on or after January 10, 2011, and before August 2, 2011, shall be eligible to elect either:

(1) To continue group health insurance at the same rate and plan in which such retirant was enrolled at the date of retirement. A retirant electing to receive group health insurance shall receive up to 60 months of coverage, if receiving member-only coverage, or until such retirant reaches the age of 65, whichever occurs sooner. A retirant shall receive up to 42 months of coverage, if such retirant is receiving member-plus-dependent coverage, or until such retirant reaches the age of 65, whichever occurs sooner; or

(2) to receive a one-time, lump-sum payment of $6,500. Such lump-sum payment shall not be included for the purposes of calculating final average salary under K.S.A. 74-4902, and amendments thereto.

(b) Retirants covered under K.S.A. 74-4914a through 74-4914e, and amendments thereto, retirants under the Kansas police and firemen's retirement system, K.S.A. 74-4951 et seq., and amendments thereto, retirants from the Kansas department of labor whose positions are not funded by the state general fund or fee funds and retirants who had previously retired from the state of Kansas before January 10, 2011, shall not be eligible to participate in the election.

(c) The secretary of administration shall administer the provisions of this act. Elections made pursuant to this act shall be made on a form and in a manner prescribed by the secretary. Any eligible retirant shall inform the secretary of such retirant's election option within 90 days of the effective date of this act. Any retirant who fails to make an election within the 90-day period shall forfeit any rights to either option. An election under this act, is a one-time irrevocable election.

(d) A retirant who makes an election under this act shall not be
eligible to return to employment with the state of Kansas for five years from the date of such election, including, as a contractor, unless otherwise authorized by the governor or the governor's designee. This restriction shall not apply to elected positions.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the Kansas register.