

As an adjunct professor, I do not have the time to spare for a separate full time position that would offer health benefits and fulfill my teaching obligations. This leaves me in the precarious position of shopping for health insurance coverage as an individual. While the healthcare exchanges do provide an opportunity for subsidized care, the prices available there are still steeper than collectively bargained plans available to state employees.

Even if the state is unwilling to share the cost of health insurance coverage with adjunct faculty (though given that the university system would be unable to fulfill its teaching obligations without them, this seems a reasonable cost to bear), allowing adjunct faculty to purchase plans bargained for by the state would make a noticeable difference in the cost of healthcare for these essential employees. This is the bare minimum the state should be expected to provide its workers.