

Memorandum

PREPARED FOR: Senate Committee on Rules
DATE: September 20, 2023
BY: Leslie Porter, Analyst
RE: Legislative Review of Executive Appointments



OREGON EDUCATORS BENEFIT BOARD

The Governor has appointed the following individuals to the Oregon Educators Benefit Board subject to Senate confirmation.¹

Reappointees

Susan Miller of Portland
Susan Rieke-Smith of King City
Robert Young of Sherwood

Terms

Miller: December 17, 2022 – December 16, 2026
Rieke-Smith: March 1, 2023 – February 28, 2027
Young: April 1, 2023 – March 31, 2027

Appointment/Confirmation Authority

[ORS 243.862 \(2021\)](#)

Statement of Economic Interest²

Not required.

Composition³

The board consists of at least 10 members appointed by the Governor, including:⁴

- two representatives of district boards (GRAUPP, VACANT);
- two district managers (**RIEKE-SMITH**, VACANT);
- two nonmanagement district employees from the largest labor organization representing district employees (FARRERA, **YOUNG**);
- one nonmanagement district employee from the second largest labor organization representing district employees (**MILLER**);
- one nonmanagement district employee who is not represented by labor organizations (DUBARRY);
- one health policy or risk management expert (SYLTEBO);⁵

¹ [Or. Const. art. III sect. 4](#), [ORS 171.562 \(2021\)](#) and [ORS 171.565 \(2021\)](#).

² [ORS 244.050 \(2021\)](#).

³ [ORS 182.100 \(2021\)](#) for affirmative action policy and [ORS 236.115 \(2021\)](#) for diversity criteria.

⁴ [ORS 243.862 \(2021\)](#).

⁵ This reflects the change in membership, established by [House Bill 3383](#) (Chapter 440, Oregon Laws 2023).

- one classified staff member at a public school or an education service district (VACANT);⁶
- up to three participating local government managers (VACANT); and
- up to three participating local government nonmanagement employees (VACANT).

Members serve four-year terms and at the pleasure of the Governor. The board must select one of its members as chair and another as vice chair. A majority of the members of the board constitutes a quorum.

Duties and Authority

The goal of the board is to provide high-quality health, dental, and other benefit plans for eligible employees at a cost affordable to the districts and local governments, the employees, and the taxpayers of Oregon.⁷ The board must:⁸

- contract for benefit plans best designed to meet the needs and provide for the welfare of eligible employees, the districts, and local governments;
- adopt rules and employ personnel as necessary to fulfill its duties and functions;
- study all matters connected with the provision of adequate benefit plan coverage for eligible employees on the best basis possible with regard to the welfare of the employees and affordability for the districts and local governments;
- design benefits, prepare specifications, invite bids, analyze carrier responses to advertisements for bids, and take actions necessary to award contracts for health and dental benefit plan coverage of eligible employees;
- impose a surcharge in an amount determined by the board on an eligible employee who arranges coverage for the employee's spouse or dependent if the spouse or dependent has access to medical coverage as an employee in another health benefit plan offered by the board or the Public Employees' Benefit Board;
- when appropriate, provide options under which an eligible employee may arrange coverage for family members under a benefit plan;
- use payment methodologies in self-insured health benefit plans designed to limit the growth in per-member expenditures for health services to no more than 3.4 percent per year, and adopt policies and practices designed to limit the annual increase in premium amounts paid for contracted health benefit plans to 3.4 percent;

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ [ORS 243.864 \(2021\)](#).

⁸ [ORS 243.864 and 243.866 \(2021\)](#).



- as frequently as is recommended as a commercial best practice by consultants engaged by the board, conduct an audit of the health benefit plan enrollees' continued eligibility for coverage as spouses or dependents or any other basis that would affect the cost of the premium for the plan; and
- if the board spends less than 12 percent of its total medical expenditures in self-insured health benefit plans on payments for primary care, implement a plan for increasing the percentage of total medical expenditures spent on payments for primary care by at least one percent each year and report annually to the Legislative Assembly on any plan implemented to this end.

The board may:⁹

- adopt rules to determine the terms and conditions of eligible employee participation in and coverage under benefit plans;
- retain consultants, brokers, or other advisory personnel when necessary;
- approve more than one carrier for each type of benefit plan offered;
- provide an option of additional coverage for eligible employees and family members at an additional premium;
- contract with carriers to provide other benefit plans including, but not limited to, insurance or other benefits based on life, supplemental medical, supplemental dental, supplemental vision, accidental death, or disability insurance plans;
- make available to eligible employees and family members one or more fully insured long term care benefit plans;
- provide and administer flexible benefit plans under which eligible employees may choose among taxable and nontaxable benefits as provided in the federal Internal Revenue Code;
- employ whatever means are reasonably necessary to carry out the purposes of the board, including, not limited to, authority to self-insure and to seek clarification, amendment, modification, suspension, or termination of any agreement or contract; and
- terminate the participation of a district or a local government in a benefit plan if, within three months, the district or local government fails to perform an action required by law.

⁹ [ORS 243.864 to 243.878 \(2021\)](#).



Educators Benefit Board, Oregon

Agency: **Health Authority, Oregon**

Authorization: **ORS 243.862; HB 2279**

Min Members: **12** Max Members: **12**

Term Length: **4** Term Limit: **2**

Senate Confirmation Required?: **Yes**

Policy Area: **Education**

Board Admin: **Rose Mann**

Address:

500 Summer St NE MS E-88

Salem, OR 97301-4281

503-373-0800

Rose.MANN@dhsosha.state.or.us

Current Appointments

DuBarry, Michelle Labor Organization Position Number: 1	Term(s): 3/1/2022 - 2/28/2026
Dr Syltebo, Thomas F 2(f) Health Policy Position Number: 2	Term(s): 6/1/2020 - 5/31/2024 6/1/2016 - 5/31/2020
Mr Graupp, William "Bill" B 2(a) District Board Representative Position Number: 3	Term(s): 10/1/2021 - 9/30/2025 10/1/2017 - 9/30/2021
Luisi, Bonita "Bonnie" K 2(a) District Board Representative Position Number: 4	Term(s): 9/23/2019 - 9/22/2023
Mr Farrera, Enrique Largest Labor Organization (1c) Position Number: 5	Term(s): 3/1/2022 - 6/30/2024
Mr Brown, Geoffrey N 2(f) Health Policy Position Number: 6	Term(s): 10/1/2019 - 9/30/2023 10/1/2015 - 9/30/2019
Mr Young, Robert W 1(c) Largest Labor Organization Representative Position Number: 7	Term(s): 4/1/2023 - 3/31/2027 4/1/2019 - 3/31/2023 5/25/2018 - 3/31/2019
Miller, Susan R 2(d) Second Largest Labor Organization Position Number: 8	Term(s): 12/17/2022 - 12/16/2026 12/17/2018 - 12/16/2022

Mr. Stewart, Robert C	Term(s):	10/1/2016 - 9/30/2020
2(b) District Management Representative		6/1/2014 - 9/30/2016
Position Number: 9		
Dr Rieke-Smith, Susan "Sue" R Ed.D.	Term(s):	3/1/2023 - 2/28/2027
1(b) District Management Representative		3/1/2019 - 2/28/2023
Position Number: 10		
Mr Scofield, Jonian "JJ" J	Term(s):	10/1/2023 - 9/30/2027
2(a) Local Government Management		10/1/2019 - 9/30/2023
Position Number: 12		10/1/2015 - 9/30/2019

Vacant Positions

Pos	Former Member	Appointed By	Term Begin	Term End
11	Mr Gisbert, Antonio	Governor	9/25/2017	9/24/2021
11	Ms Sorenson, Jaimie A	Governor	9/19/2014	9/18/2018