

Senate Business and Labor Committee

January 22, 2025

Bill: 1st substitute SB 22 – State Employee Benefit Amendments

Sponsor: Senator Wayne A. Harper

Floor Sponsor: Representative Cheryl K. Acton

UASD Position: Support

This Bill modifies provisions related to public employee long-term disability benefits.

Discussion: According to Senator Harper, during the interim, he was made aware that an update to the definitions regarding monthly salary and guidelines for monthly compensation of state employees was needed. The Bill establishes a death benefit for employees receiving long-term disability benefits. The language also includes various additional long-term disability benefit guidelines. The Bill changes the definition of “gainful employment” to include any occupation or employment that would pay an equal amount to or greater than 40 hours per week at 60% of the eligible employee’s regular monthly salary in relation to the Public Employees’ Long-Term Disabilities Act. Senator Harper presented the 1st substitute to this Bill, which was adopted by the Committee. The main changes made in the substitute are found on lines 307-315. These changes reduce the initial fiscal impact. The substitute also changes the title of the Bill to “State Employee Benefit Amendments”. There was no public comment.

Yeas: 5

Nays: 0

N/V: 3

Outcome: 1st substitute SB 22 passed out of the Committee with a favorable recommendation.