STATE OF NEW YORK

5889

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

February 24, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. FORREST -- read once and referred to the Committee on Health

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to enacting the worker health care protection act

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "worker health care protection act".

§ 2. The public health law is amended by adding a new section 268-i to read as follows:

§ 268-i. Worker health care protection act. 1. On or before January first, two thousand twenty-seven, the marketplace shall establish a worker health plan access program to assist New Yorkers who lose health care coverage provided by an employer or a joint labor management trust as a result of an active strike, lockout, or other labor dispute.

2. Subject to the availability of funding, the marketplace shall provide enrollment assistance to help maintain coverage for individuals and their dependents who:

(a) provide a self-attestation regarding loss of minimum essential health care coverage from an employer or joint labor management trust fund as a result of an active strike, lockout, or other labor dispute; and

(b) are eligible for coverage offered through the marketplace.

3. The marketplace may request from an applicable employer, labor organization, or other appropriate representative information to determine the status of a strike, lockout, or labor dispute, its impact to coverage, and any other information determined by the marketplace as necessary to conduct outreach and determine eligibility for federal and state subsidies offered through the marketplace. An applicable employer, labor organization, or other appropriate representative shall provide to

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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the marketplace any such information requested by the marketplace pursuant to this subdivision.

4. The marketplace shall establish a process for providing outreach and enrollment assistance, and may establish additional procedural requirements to administer the program established pursuant to subdivision one of this section.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately.