ENGROSSED

ORIGINAL HOUSE BILL NO. 0204

ENROLLED ACT NO. 115, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FIFTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING 2007 GENERAL SESSION

AN ACT relating to state employee health insurance; providing for coverage of dependents after the work related death of an employee or official as a result of employment; amending a definition; declaring legislative intent; providing an appropriation and providing for an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

**Section 1.** W.S. 9-3-203(a)(iii) and 9-3-209 by creating a new subsection (d) are amended to read:

## 9-3-203. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

"Dependent" means an employee's spouse, (iii) each unmarried child under the age of eighteen (18), children, stepchildren including adopted and foster children, and each unmarried child between the age of eighteen (18) and twenty-three (23) years who is а accredited full-time student in an educational or vocational institution, and for whom the employee is the major source of financial support. "Dependent" includes an otherwise qualified dependent of a deceased employee as provided in W.S. 9-3-209(d);

9-3-209. Dependents; election of coverage; later election; change in number of dependents; extended coverage.

(d) The dependents of any employee or official who has elected to have his dependents covered as provided in subsection (a) of this section, and who suffers a work related death as a result of employment as an official or ORIGINAL HOUSE BILL NO. 0204

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employee, shall continue to be covered for a period of six (6) months after the date of the employee's or official's death. The state auditor shall ascertain the employing agency's contribution pursuant to W.S. 9-3-210 for the six (6) month period and shall pay the department the amount required for the coverage. The dependents shall be responsible for any portion required to be paid by the employee for coverage during the six (6) month period.

Section 2. It is the intention of the legislature that the extended health insurance coverage for the dependents of employees or officials who die while acting within the course of their employment provided for in section 1 of this act constitutes payment pursuant to a moral obligation of the state as recognized by the Wyoming Supreme Court in State v. Carter, 30 Wyo. 223 (1923).

**Section 3.** From the effective date of this act through the fiscal biennium ending June 30, 2008, there is appropriated fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) from the general fund to the state auditor for purposes of this act.

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ORIGINAL HOUSE BILL NO. <u>0204</u>

ENROLLED ACT NO. 115, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FIFTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING 2007 GENERAL SESSION

Section 4. This act is effective July 1, 2007.

(END)

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Governor

TIME APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this act originated in the House.

Chief Clerk