

The purpose of this bill is to establish the Student Success Act of 2019. This bill allows the participation of public charter schools in the West Virginia Public Employees Insurance Agency (PEIA) on a voluntary basis.

Passage of this bill would not increase any cost directly to PEIA or the State. As voluntary PEIA participating employers, the cost of public charter school participation would pass-through to the employers and employees in the Non-State Risk Pool.

There could potentially be additional costs to the respective employers and employees who participate in the PEIA Non-State Risk Pool. This potential is due to new employer groups joining the Non-State Risk Pool with higher medical care risk costs than those already participating. If this were to occur, the Non-State Risk Pool could experience higher claim utilization and costs that would be funded through increased premiums.

However, without further information regarding the employment demographics of the public charter schools, PEIA cannot provide an estimate of the fiscal impact to the Non-State Risk Pool.

It should also be noted that any employment migration by teachers employed by county boards of education to these public charter schools could impact their other post-employment benefit (OPEB) eligibility. As a Non-State employer, public charter schools could join PEIA as OPEB opt-out employers. If a county board of education employee transferred to a public charter school that opted out of the WV OPEB Plan, they could lose their OPEB.