

CHAPTER 117

PUBLIC SELF-FUNDED POOLS

§2251. Intent

The Legislature finds that: [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

1. Insurance protection necessary. Insurance protection is essential to the proper functioning of this State's political subdivisions;

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

2. Burden on political subdivisions. The resources of political subdivisions are burdened by the securing of that protection through standard carriers;

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

3. Political subdivision services are vital. The services provided by this State's political subdivisions are vital to the people of the State; and

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

4. Contributions to pool are public purpose. All financial and administrative contributions made by a political subdivision to a public self-funded pool, as authorized by chapter 115 and section 3001 and created under this chapter, are made for a public and governmental purpose and that the contributions benefit each contributing political subdivision.

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD).

§2252. "Political subdivision" defined

"Political subdivision" means any municipality, plantation, county, quasi-municipal corporation and special purpose district, including, but not limited to, any water district, sanitary district, hospital district, municipal transmission and distribution utility and school administrative unit. "School administrative unit" has the same meaning as found in Title 20-A, section 1, subsection 26. [PL 1999, c. 657, §11 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD). PL 1999, c. 657, §11 (AMD).

§2253. Public self-funded pools; powers; limitations

1. Coverage. Any public self-funded pool formed by 10 or more municipalities or school administrative districts or an organization representing 10 or more political subdivisions may provide risk management and coverage for pool members and employees of pool members, for acts or omissions arising out of the scope of their employment, including any of the following:

A. Casualty insurance, including general and professional liabilities coverage, but excluding workers' compensation insurance provided under Title 39-A; [PL 1991, c. 885, Pt. E, §40 (AMD); PL 1991, c. 885, Pt. E, §47 (AFF).]

B. Property insurance, including marine insurance and inland navigation, transportation, boiler and machinery insurance coverage; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

C. Automobile insurance and protection against other liability and loss associated with the ownership of motor vehicles; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

D. Surety and fidelity insurance coverage; and [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

E. Environmental impairment insurance coverage. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

[PL 1991, c. 885, Pt. E, §40 (AMD); PL 1991, c. 885, Pt. E, §47 (AFF).]

1-A. Self-funded pool for medical expenses incurred by county jails. A public self-funded pool formed by 5 or more counties or by an organization representing 5 or more counties may provide risk management and coverage for pool members for medical expenses incurred by county jails for prisoners. A self-funded pool established pursuant to this subsection may collect a premium from pool members to cover 80% of medical expenses totaling \$10,000 or more incurred for any one prisoner. [PL 2001, c. 97, §1 (NEW).]

2. Limitations. A public self-funded pool may not provide for hospital, medical, surgical or dental benefits to the employees of the member political subdivisions in the pool except when those benefits arise from the obligations and responsibilities of the pool in providing automobile insurance coverage and protection against other liability and loss associated with the ownership of motor vehicles. [PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. A, §15 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

3. Excess insurance; reinsurance. A public self-funded pool shall obtain excess insurance or reinsurance. Aggregate excess insurance to be purchased by the pool under its plan shall be bound before the effective date of the plan. The insurance shall limit the exposure of the pool to a defined level both as to ultimate claims values and loss ratio at which recovery from the insurer will be realized. The attachment point of continuing aggregate excess coverage shall provide risk relief to the plan adequate to its financing needs. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

4. Amounts to be paid when coverage issued. Any member joining the pool before the effective date of the plan or during the first year of operation must pay at least 25% of the first year's annual contribution before coverage becomes effective. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

5. Underwriting guidelines. Prior to the operation of the pool's plan, underwriting guidelines shall be adopted which embody rate charges to prospective members at a level adequate to its financial needs as certified by the pool's actuary. Fixed costs of operations shall likewise be covered for the first prospective fund year and an overlay sufficient to reasonably meet immediate claims costs shall be held in a separate account to be used solely for this purpose.

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

6. Actuarial advisory opinion. Prior to the operation of the pool's plan, the pool must obtain an independent actuarial advisory opinion report given by a member of the American Academy of Actuaries qualified as a casualty loss reserve specialist as defined by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners. Two copies of this report shall be filed with the Superintendent of Insurance; one copy shall be filed with each member of the board of directors; and one copy shall be provided to each prospective pool member. The report shall address:

A. The financial viability of the plan; and [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

B. Ultimate risk exposures attendant to each line being underwritten by the plan. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

7. General powers. A public self-funded pool, for the purposes of carrying on the business of the public self-funded pool whether or not a body corporate, may:

A. Sue or be sued; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

B. Make contracts; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

C. Hold and dispose of real property; and [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

D. Borrow money, contract debts and pledge assets in the name of the public self-funded pool. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

8. Establishment as separate legal or administrative entity. The public self-funded pool may be established as a separate legal or administrative entity for purposes of effectuating public self-funded pool agreements.

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§A15,C8,C10 (AMD). PL 1991, c. 885, §E40 (AMD). PL 1991, c. 885, §E47 (AFF). PL 2001, c. 97, §1 (AMD).

§2254. Public self-funded pool not insurance company

Any public self-funded pool operating under this chapter is not an insurance company, reciprocal insurer or insurer under the laws of the State. The development, administration and provision of public self-funded pool programs and coverages authorized by section 2253, subsection 1, by the governing authority created to administer the pool does not constitute doing an insurance business. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD).

§2255. Contract establishing public self-funded pool; provisions

Any contract entered into under this chapter must provide: [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

1. Financial plan. A financial plan setting forth in general terms:

A. The insurance coverages to be offered by the public self-funded pool; applicable deductible levels; and the maximum level of claims which the pool will self-insure; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

B. The amount of cash reserves to be set aside for the payment of claims; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

C. The amount of insurance to be purchased by the pool to provide coverage over and above the claims which are not satisfied directly from the pool's resources and the terms of that policy set forth in section 2253, subsection 3; and [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

D. The amount of aggregate excess insurance coverage to be purchased; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

2. Management plan. A plan of management which provides for all of the following:

A. The means of establishing the governing authority of the pool; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

B. The responsibility of the governing authority with regard to fixing contributions to the pool, maintaining reserves, levying and collecting assessments for deficiencies, disposal of surpluses and administering the pool in the event of termination or insolvency; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

C. The basis upon which new members may be admitted to and existing members may leave the pool; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

D. The identification of funds and reserves by exposure area; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

E. Other provisions necessary or desirable for the operation of the pool; and [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

F. The selection of a governing authority, which shall be a board of directors for the pool, a majority of whom must be elected or appointed officials of pool members and 2 of whom must be members

of the public from the areas served by the pool who are not currently serving as either elected or appointed officials; and [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

3. Assessments. A provision that, if the assets of a public self-funded pool are at any time actuarially determined to be insufficient to enable the pool to discharge its legal liabilities and other obligations and to maintain actuarially sound reserves, it shall, within 30 days of that determination, make up the deficiency or levy a prorated assessment upon its members for the amount needed to make up the deficiency.

A. Members of the pool shall be given 30 days notice of any assessment due. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

B. The contract must provide sanctions for any failure to comply with a mandatory assessment. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD).

§2256. Audit requirements

1. Filing of audited financial statements. Each public self-funded pool shall file with the members of the pool, by the last day of the 6th month following the end of the pool's fiscal year, audited financial statements certified by an independent certified public accountant. The financial statement must include, but is not limited to:

A. Actuarially certified appropriate reserves for known claims and expenses associated with those claims; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

B. Claims incurred but not reported and expenses associated with those claims; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

C. Unearned premiums; and [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

D. Reserve for bad debts. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

The audited financial statement shall include information concerning the adequacy of the plan. This report shall result from a charge by the directors to the pool's actuary and auditor and shall address excess insurance, charges for coverage to members, service agent's costs and costs of administration of the program.

The actuarial opinion must be given by a member of the American Academy of Actuaries qualified as a casualty loss reserve specialist as defined by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

Two additional copies of the audited financial statements shall be filed with the Superintendent of Insurance.

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

2. Failure to provide for audited financial statements. If a public self-funded pool fails to provide for the audited financial statements required by subsection 1, the Superintendent of Insurance shall perform or cause to be performed the audit. The public self-funded pool shall reimburse the Superintendent of Insurance for the cost of the audit.

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD).

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