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OGB Elects New Board Members

BATON ROUGE - Today, two newly elected members join the Group Benefits Policy and Planning Board. Kenneth Kreft, of the Department of Health and Hospitals and Luke Dimattia of the Department of Transportation Development officially take their place on the Board at the start of the fiscal year and will be sworn in at the July board meeting.

The Group Benefits Policy and Planning Board represent the interests of OGB members and serve as communications liaisons to participating agencies. The Board also reviews policy changes and makes recommendations as necessary.

The board is composed of sixteen members, fifteen of whom shall be voting members, as follows:

- One member of the House of Representatives appointed by the speaker of the House who shall be a voting member;
- One member of the Senate appointed by the president of the Senate who shall be a voting member;
- The commissioner of insurance or his designee, who shall be a nonvoting member;
- Five members appointed by the Governor from individuals from the private sector, who shall be voting members, as follows:
  - Three members shall be from each of the following occupations or professions:
    - An employee health care/employee benefits specialist;
    - A certified public accountant; and
    - A licensed health and life insurance agent.
  - Two members shall be appointed from the private sector at large.
  - At least one of the members shall be a member of a minority race.
- Two members who shall be elected by retired participants in the health benefits programs offered by the Office of Group Benefits and who shall be voting members, as follows:
  - One retiree member elected from among retired teachers or other retired school employees;
  - One retiree member elected from among retired state employees;
- Six members elected by participants in health benefits programs offered by the Office of Group Benefits, and who shall be voting members, as follows:
• One member elected from among the personnel of the public institutions of higher education in the state;
• One member elected from among the teachers or other school employees of the elementary and secondary schools of the state;
• One member elected from among the personnel of the Department of Health and Hospitals and the Department of Social Services;
• One member elected from among the personnel of the Department of Transportation and Development;
• One member elected from among the personnel of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections; and
• One member elected from among all other personnel of state government.

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