**An Act Regarding the Availability of Health Insurance Coverage for Dependents of Certain State Employees**

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

**Sec.** **1. 5 MRSA §285, sub-§1-C,** as enacted by PL 2005, c. 21, §1 and amended by PL 2007, c. 58, §7, is further amended to read:

**1-C.** **Status of employees who have retired and returned to covered employment** **under Maine Public Employees Retirement System.**  For purposes of participation in the state employee health insurance program pursuant to this section or in dental insurance coverage offered by the State, recipients of a service retirement benefit under the Maine Public Employees Retirement System who are retired employees and who are reemployed as state employees must be treated as retirees under subsection 1‑A for purposes of eligibility for coverage under the group plan, except that a retired employee may enroll a spouse and dependent or dependents at the time of reemployment or during any declared open enrollment period for coverage under the group health plan as provided in subsection 3-E.

**Sec.** **2. 5 MRSA §285, sub-§3-E** is enacted to read:

**3-E.** **Enrollment of spouse and dependents of employees who have retired and** **returned to covered employment.**  A retiree who is reemployed as a state employee may make an election at the time of returning to state employment or during any declared open enrollment period to enroll a spouse and dependent or dependents for coverage under the group health plan under the same terms and conditions for enrolling a spouse and dependent or dependents under the group health plan as an active employee.

**SUMMARY**

This bill allows retirees who are rehired following retirement to make an election upon being rehired or during any declared open enrollment period to enroll a spouse and dependent or dependents in coverage under the group health plan for state employees.