

2026 -- S 2174

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LC003911

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S T A T E O F R H O D E I S L A N D

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

A N A C T

**RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- LABOR RELATIONS ACT--NO
LIMITATION ON HEALTHCARE BENEFIT PROVIDERS**

Introduced By: Senators Bell, Murray, Ciccone, Thompson, Gallo, Burke, Gu, Ujifusa,
Quezada, and Valverde

Date Introduced: January 16, 2026

Referred To: Senate Labor & Gaming

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 28-7-49 of the General Laws in Chapter 28-7 entitled "Labor
2 Relations Act" is hereby repealed.

3 **28-7-49. No limitation on healthcare benefit providers.**

4 ~~No collective bargaining agreement covering any group or groups of state employees,~~
5 ~~public school teachers, or employees of any city or town, ratified after August 1, 2008, shall specify~~
6 ~~that an employer must procure a healthcare benefit plan from a specific provider of such plans. The~~
7 ~~technical qualifications of the healthcare benefit plan, to be contracted for, shall not be framed or~~
8 ~~constructed in a manner designed to identify an exclusive provider of said healthcare services.~~

9 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- LABOR RELATIONS ACT--NO
LIMITATION ON HEALTHCARE BENEFIT PROVIDERS

- 1 This act would repeal the law that prevents a collective bargaining agreement covering
- 2 state employees, public school teachers and municipal employees from specifying a particular
- 3 healthcare provider in it.
- 4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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