

# I.B.E.W. Local No. 640 and Arizona Chapter N.E.C.A.

HEALTH & WELFARE • PENSION • ANNUITY • TRUST FUND OFFICE

2001 W. Camelback Road • Suite B350 • Phoenix, Arizona 85015 • 602-248-8434 • Fax 602-248-8301

To: All Self-Pay Retirees  
From: Board of Trustees  
Subject: Opportunity to Opt Out in 2016

October 7, 2015

As Trustees, our objective is to make sure that industry employees and retirees are offered suitable health coverage. The health coverage options available to retirees has significantly improved over the last several years. The Affordable Care Act (commonly referred to as healthcare reform) and Medicare may provide the opportunity for some of you to find more affordable coverage through individual policies.

**This letter is to inform you that you may opt out of Plan coverage for 2016, and opt back in beginning January 1, 2017. To be eligible to come back on the Plan you will have to provide proof of continued health insurance coverage through 2016.** This opportunity to come back onto the Plan depends, of course, on the Plan's continuation of retiree coverage, and is not available to retirees that previously elected to opt out of Plan coverage.

*For those of you that are eligible for Medicare*, the Medicare open enrollment period runs October 15, 2015 through December 7, 2015, for coverage that begins January 1, 2016. If you are eligible for Medicare, you can log on to [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) to select and compare health plans and Medigap policies in your area. If you do not have access to a computer, you can contact 1-800-MEDICARE, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for assistance.

The current self-pay rates for Medicare retirees are shown in the table below.

<b>Years of Participation</b>	<b>Medicare Retiree Self-Pay Rates</b>
40+ years	<b>\$237.00</b>
35 years up to 40 years	<b>\$251.00</b>
30 years up to 35 years	<b>\$267.00</b>
25 years up to 30 years	<b>\$296.00</b>
20 years up to 25 years	<b>\$326.00</b>
15 years up to 20 years	<b>\$356.00</b>
10 years up to 15 years	<b>\$385.00</b>

*For those of you that are not yet eligible for Medicare*, the Health Insurance Marketplace is a key part of the Affordable Care Act (healthcare reform) that went into effect in 2014. The Marketplace is designed to help you find health insurance that meets your needs and fits your budget. The Marketplace should provide “one-stop shopping” to compare private health insurance options. Depending on your income, you may also be eligible for a tax credit if you select a policy through the Marketplace.

If you have coverage under the I.B.E.W. Local No. 640 and Arizona Chapter N.E.C.A. Health and Welfare Trust Fund, you will not receive these tax credits.

Open enrollment for coverage through the Marketplace begins November 1, 2015, and runs through January 31, 2016. You must enroll by December 15, 2015 if you want new coverage that begins on January 1, 2016. We know that some of you will pay less through the Marketplace than the Plan charges for Retiree coverage. If you are interested in getting more information about the Health Insurance Marketplace, you can visit the website at [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov). Click on the link for “*Individuals and Families*” to find plans available in your area. If you do not have access to a computer, you can contact 1-800-318-2596, assistance is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The current self-pay rates for Early retirees are shown in the table below. You can compare these rates to premiums charged by insurance companies for individual policies available in your area on [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov).

<b>Years of Participation</b>	<b>Early Retire Self-Pay Rates</b>
40+ years	<b>\$564.00</b>
35 years up to 40 years	<b>\$599.00</b>
30 years up to 35 years	<b>\$634.00</b>
25 years up to 30 years	<b>\$705.00</b>
20 years up to 25 years	<b>\$775.00</b>
15 years up to 20 years	<b>\$845.00</b>
10 years up to 15 years	<b>\$917.00</b>

This information should assist you in making a decision as to which combination of rates and benefits best fits your particular needs. **You will have a choice between remaining covered through the I.B.E.W. Local No. 640 and Arizona Chapter N.E.C.A. Health and Welfare Trust Fund or to access the Marketplace coverage available under the Affordable Care Act. If you try a plan offered through the Marketplace and are unhappy with it, you may return to the Plan with coverage to begin January 1, 2017. To be eligible to come back on the Plan you will have to provide proof of continued health insurance coverage through 2016.** This opportunity to come back onto the Plan depends, of course, on the Plan’s continuation of retiree coverage, and is not available to retirees that previously elected to opt out of Plan coverage.

We appreciate your understanding in our effort to serve the Plan and its Participants. Should you have any questions regarding the new rates, please contact the Administrative office at (602) 248-8434 or (800) 553-2801.

Sincerely,

Board of Trustees

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