



**Tompkins County Legislature**

Governor Daniel D. Tompkins Building  
Ithaca, NY 14850

Meeting: 05/16/17 05:30 PM  
Department: County Administration  
Category: Personnel (Positions, Salaries, Benefits)  
Functional Category:

**SCHEDULED**

**RESOLUTION NO.      DOC ID: 7001 A**

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1    **Establishing the Platinum Plan/Simply Blue Plan Offered through the**  
2    **Greater Tompkins Municipal Health Insurance Consortium as an**  
3    **Option Available to Retirees Eligible for Health Coverage Provided**  
4    **by Tompkins County and Establishing a Cost Premium Sharing**  
5    **formula for the Retiree Platinum Plan**

6            WHEREAS, Tompkins County currently offers County-supported health insurance benefits to individuals who  
7    retire from the County and are eligible for pension benefits through the New York State Retirement System, and  
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9            WHEREAS, the health benefit plans offered to retirees are the same as those offered to active County  
10    employees, and  
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12            WHEREAS, most retirees currently support fifty percent (50%) of the premium cost for individual coverage  
13    and sixty-five percent (65%) of the additional premium cost for family coverage, and  
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15            WHEREAS, in 2015, the County added the Platinum Plan/Simply Blue Plan (“Platinum Plan”), offered  
16    through the Greater Tompkins Municipal Health Insurance Consortium, to the health benefit plans available to active  
17    County employees, and  
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19            WHEREAS, the Platinum Plan is now the sole health insurance option available to nearly all County  
20    employees hired after 2016, and is an optional plan available to other active employees, and  
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22            WHEREAS, the Greater Tompkins Municipal Health Insurance Consortium makes periodic adjustments to the  
23    Platinum Plan it offers in order to maintain an Actuarial Value as defined by the Patient Protection and Affordable  
24    Care Act (ACA) that is equal to an overall plan benefit for the average participant of 90% for the Platinum Plan,  
25    meaning that co-pays and deductibles may vary from year-to-year in order to preserve a 90-10 split of approved  
26    medical care costs between the insurance plan and covered member, and  
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28            WHEREAS, the County now wishes to add the Platinum Plan, or equivalent plans that may succeed it, to the  
29    options available to County retirees, thereby allowing retirees an additional choice of health coverage plans, and  
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31            WHEREAS, the County further wishes to pass the cost savings associated with the Platinum Plan to the  
32    retirees who select that plan, allowing retirees a lower premium cost without a commensurate increase in health benefit  
33    costs borne by County taxpayers, and  
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35            WHEREAS, to achieve that desire for the retiree to realize the full cost savings of the Platinum Plan option,  
36    each year the County’s contribution to the retiree’s Platinum Plan premium will be set equal to the lesser of the  
37    County’s contribution to the “Classic Blue” or equivalent successor plans or 100% of the Platinum Plan premium cost,  
38    now therefore be it  
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40            RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Budget, Capital, and Personnel Committee, That this Legislature  
41    directs the Commissioner of Human Resources to make the Platinum Plan option, or its equivalent successor plan,  
42    available to retirees, both existing and those who will enter retirement in the future, provided that opting into the  
43    Platinum Plan is a one-time election,

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RESOLVED, further, That the County’s contribution to the premium cost of the Retiree Platinum Plan shall be set and shall remain equal to lesser of the County’s contribution to the premium cost of the Retiree Classic Blue Plan, or its equivalent successor plan, or 100% of the premium cost of the Retiree Platinum Plan and that the retiree’s share of the premium cost therefore be equal to the difference between the total Platinum Plan premium and the County’s contribution to the premium.

**SEQR ACTION:** TYPE II-20