

To all of the members of Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen Local #537

As you may have heard, our Hartford disability insurance premiums were going to be raised immediately 350%. Our premiums were going from \$56 a month to over \$200 overnight. Basically Hartford was saying they didn't want to represent us anymore. No one in their right mind would of stayed with them and paid that premium.

At our Tuesday Union meeting Woody Taylor from Railroad Marketing that we voted to be our insurance administer brought us two different policies to choose from as an alternative to the 350% raise from Hartford. Since we were notified about the increase from Hartford we asked Mr. Taylor to shop around and try and find us something comparable to what we have and always have had. Woody brought us the best deal he could. Out of all the companies he request a quote from, Mutual of Omaha was the only one to respond with something close to what we already have.

Our premiums will go up slightly from \$56 a month to \$92 a month with this new policy from Mutual of Omaha. This new plan is basically the same plan we have had for over 10 years through other insurance companies. The only differences as of Tuesday will be an increase in the maximum payout from up too \$5,200 a month to \$5,200 a month. As of Tuesday we will have a 60 day open enrollment no questions asked for any one currently not in our disability program. They can join at anytime within the next 60 days by calling Sherrie Sampson 480-236-7740. After the 60 day period then only new members to our local will be able to join without with out questions or a physical.

All current members under the Hartford will be transferred automatically to the new Mutual of Omaha policy. Below is a brief description of the new policy guidelines. Please contact Sherrie if you have any other questions or would like to sign up if your not already in the program.

Short term and long term disability coverage

- * ***Choose up to \$1,200 weekly benefit tax free, (approx. \$5,200 per month)
60% of your gross earnings***
- * ***Annual rate guarantee for 2 years***
- * ***One rate, no age banding***
- * ***2 year benefit period options***
- * ***30 day elimination period***
- * ***3 1/2 pre existing condition. No pre existing exclusion if you had coverage
with the Hartford***
- * ***Payroll deduction***
- * ***24 hour coverage (you are covered for both on the job and off the job
disabilities - accident and illness***
- * ***Benefits are received tax free***
- * ***Guaranteed enrollment for any eligible member***
- * ***Premiums are waived while receiving benefit member payments***
- * ***Ideal plan to supplement RUIA reduction***

Woody Taylor

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