



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

DIOCESE OF SACRAMENTO

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DECREE OF PROMULGATION

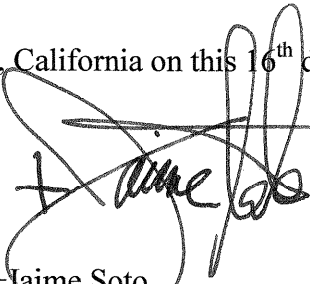
Medical Benefits for Priests Retiring in Foreign Countries

Whereas, retired priests of the Diocese of Sacramento who choose to reside outside the United States of America are not eligible for health coverage under the Diocese of Sacramento Supplemental Health Plan, and

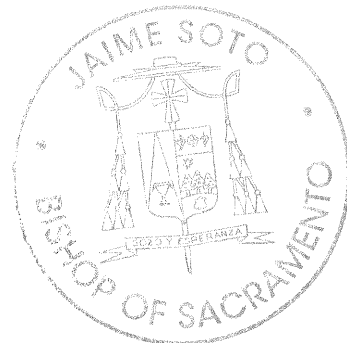
Whereas, it remains the responsibility of the Bishop of Sacramento to provide for their social assistance in a fair and equitable manner,

I, the undersigned Bishop of Sacramento, do hereby promulgate the attached policy, "Medical Benefits for Priests Retiring in Foreign Countries" as particular law for the Diocese of Sacramento, and order it to be published as part of the Parish Financial Management Handbook.

Given at the Diocesan Pastoral Center in Sacramento, California on this 16th day of February, in the year of our Lord, two thousand ten.


+Jaime Soto
Bishop of Sacramento


Kathy Conner
Chancellor



Medical Benefits for Priests Retiring in Foreign Countries

Retired Priests who choose to reside outside the United States are not eligible for health coverage under the Diocese of Sacramento Supplemental Health Plan. However, the Diocese of Sacramento provides a financial contribution toward the health costs of those retired priests who choose to reside outside the U.S. The individual Retired Priest will need to sign a formal waiver of participation in the Diocese of Sacramento Supplemental Health Plan, including prescription, dental, and vision coverage, in order to be eligible for any financial contribution toward their health costs in a foreign country.

The contribution for retired priests residing in a foreign country is made via reimbursement for medical expenses up to those amounts paid for retired priests residing in the states. Medical expenses that qualify for this benefit are: premiums for health insurance, prescriptions, vision care, aural and dental. Only expenses that are fully documented with original receipts will be considered for reimbursement.

All expenses stated in foreign currency denominations will be calculated in U.S. dollars and reimbursed until the maximum allowed in U.S. dollars is reached. Once the maximum is met, all remaining expenses are the responsibility of the retiree.

Some countries provide national insurance plans with options to various levels of care. Some countries may not offer national plans and health coverage may be obtained by purchasing an individual policy.

If the retired priest purchases a policy or becomes a member of a national medical plan in that country, then the retiree would pay for all expenses for the insurance, co-pays and other out-of-pocket expenses. The retiree would then forward proof of payment for these expenses with original receipts to the Priests Personnel Office. The diocese would then send reimbursements to the retired priest, up to the amounts described above.

Lastly, if a retired priest returns to the U.S. to live, he may re-enter Medicare and the diocesan supplemental medical plan provided for retired priests in the diocese. Note that there are late penalties assessed when enrolling in Medicare B beyond the Initial Enrollment Period.

Other Reimbursements for Priests Retiring in Foreign Countries

In addition to the medical expenses described above, reimbursements will be made for expenses for auto insurance and continuing education in an amount not to exceed the amounts provided in U.S. dollars to current retirees from the Diocese of Sacramento for these same benefits.

All expenses stated in foreign currency denominations will be calculated in U.S. dollars and reimbursed until the maximum allowed in U.S. dollars is reached. Once the maximum is met, all remaining expenses are the responsibility of the retiree.

It is strongly recommended that careful planning by the retiring priest take place well in advance of the retirement date. Full consideration should be given to the costs of medical coverage that includes hospital, general practitioner visits, eye, dental, prescriptions, and the costs for auto insurance, housing and food.