

1-1 By: Bell of Montgomery, Bailes, Toth H.B. No. 3849  
 1-2 (Senate Sponsor - Creighton)  
 1-3 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 3, 2023;  
 1-4 May 4, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on Local  
 1-5 Government; May 19, 2023, reported favorably by the following  
 1-6 vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; May 19, 2023, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12			X	
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17	X			

1-18 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-19 AN ACT

1-20 relating to the eligibility of certain retired firefighters, police  
 1-21 officers, and emergency medical services providers to purchase  
 1-22 continued health benefits coverage.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. Section 175.001, Local Government Code, is  
 1-25 amended to read as follows:

1-26 Sec. 175.001. APPLICABILITY. (a) In this section,  
 1-27 "township" means a special district with territory that only  
 1-28 includes a census designated place, as designated by the United  
 1-29 States Bureau of the Census.

1-30 (b) This chapter applies to a person who:

1-31 (1) retires from:

1-32 (A) county employment in a county with a  
 1-33 population of 75,000 or more;

1-34 (B) employment by an appraisal district in a  
 1-35 county with a population of 75,000 or more;

1-36 (C) municipal employment in a municipality with a  
 1-37 population of 25,000 or more; ~~or~~

1-38 (D) employment as a firefighter or emergency  
 1-39 medical services provider by an emergency services district located  
 1-40 wholly or partly in a county with a population of 150,000 or more;  
 1-41 or

1-42 (E) employment as a firefighter, police officer,  
 1-43 or emergency medical services provider by a township with a  
 1-44 population of 110,000 or more; and

1-45 (2) is entitled to receive retirement benefits from a  
 1-46 county, appraisal district, or municipal retirement plan, ~~or~~  
 1-47 emergency services district, or township.

1-48 SECTION 2. (a) Chapter 175, Local Government Code, as  
 1-49 amended by this Act, applies according to its terms to all eligible  
 1-50 persons who leave employment with a township on or after January 1,  
 1-51 2024.

1-52 (b) A township that is required by Chapter 175, Local  
 1-53 Government Code, as amended by this Act, to provide continued  
 1-54 health benefits coverage but that is not allowed to provide the  
 1-55 coverage under the terms of the township's existing group health  
 1-56 plan shall ensure that the required continued health benefits  
 1-57 coverage is provided for in any new plan that is adopted by the  
 1-58 township on or after January 1, 2024, unless the township is  
 1-59 exempted under Section 175.007, Local Government Code.

1-60 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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