Amend CSHB 7 by adding the following section, appropriately numbered, and renumbering the existing sections appropriately:

SECTION \_\_\_\_. Section 1551.109(a), Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Subject to Section 1551.351, on application to the board of trustees and arrangement for payment of contributions, an individual participating in the group benefits program on August 31, 2003, as a current or former member of a governing body with administrative responsibility over a state agency created under a statute of this state that has statewide jurisdiction and whose employees are covered by this chapter or as a current or former member of [the State Board of Education or] the governing body of an institution of higher education remains eligible for participation in a health benefit plan offered under this chapter if a lapse in coverage has not occurred.