

Amend Floor Amendment No. 50 to **CSHB 7** by striking the added SECTION and substituting the following SECTION, appropriately numbered, and renumbering the existing sections appropriately:

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

Sec. 1551.109. CONTINUING ELIGIBILITY OF CERTAIN MEMBERS OF BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION. (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.

(b) A participant described by Subsection (a) ~~[this section]~~ may not receive a state contribution for premiums. The governing body of an institution of higher education may pay from local funds part or all of the contributions the state would pay for similar coverage of other participants in the group benefits program.

(c) The participant's contribution for coverage under a health benefit plan may not be greater than the contribution for continuation coverage under the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (Pub. L. No. 99-272).

(d) Subject to Section 1551.351, a current or former member of the State Board of Education is eligible to participate in and receive a state contribution for coverage in a health benefit plan offered under this chapter.