

Amend SB 1370, on third reading, in ARTICLE 1 of the bill, by inserting a new SECTION, appropriately numbered, to read as follows:

(1) Section 1._____. Subchapter E, Chapter 3, Insurance Code, is amended by adding Article 3.50-10 to read as follows:

Art. 3.50-10. STUDY ON EQUALITY OF COVERAGE

Sec. 1. DEFINITION. In this article, "trustee" means the Teacher Retirement System of Texas.

Sec. 2. STUDY. (a) To the extent that funds are available to the trustee for this purpose, the trustee shall conduct a study as provided by this section regarding the health benefits provided to teachers in this state.

(b) The study must:

(1) analyze the benefits provided to state employees for health care coverage;

(2) determine the average benefits provided to active teachers in this state for health care coverage, including benefits for teachers whose employing school districts do not participate in the uniform group coverage program established under Article 3.50-7 of this code; and

(3) based on the information obtained under Subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection, compare the health benefit coverages provided to state employees with those provided to teachers.

(c) The study must include an analysis of the costs and benefits resulting to this state that would be derived from increasing the benefits provided to teachers to the level of the benefits provided to state employees.

Sec. 3. REPORT. The department shall report the results of the study conducted under this article to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the members of the 79th Legislature not later than January 15, 2005.

Sec. 4. EXPIRATION. This article expires July 1, 2005.

(2) Renumber the subsequent SECTIONS of ARTICLE 1 of the bill appropriately.