

By: Coleman

H.B. No. 2607

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to funding of group coverage programs for certain school
3 and educational employees and their dependents.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Art. 3.50-7. Texas School Employees Uniform
6 Group Health Coverage Act, Section 9. Payment of Contributions for
7 Program, Subsections (a) and (b) are amended to read as follows:

8 (a) The state shall assist employees of participating
9 school districts and charter schools in the purchase of group
10 health coverage under this article by [~~providing for each covered~~
11 ~~employee the amount of \$900 each state fiscal year or a greater~~
12 ~~amount as provided by the General Appropriations Act.] paying each
13 fiscal year the full cost of employee only coverage and fifty
14 percent (50%) of any dependent coverage selected, for each covered
15 employee. The state cost shall be reduced by the amount of the
16 participating entity contribution as provided by Article 3.50-9 of
17 this code. The state contribution shall be distributed through the
18 school finance formulas under Chapters 41 and 42, Education Code,
19 as provided by Sections 42.2514 and 42.260, Education Code.~~

20 (b) The state shall assist employees of participating
21 regional education service centers and educational districts
22 described by Section 2(6)(B) of this article in the purchase of
23 group health coverage under this article by providing to the
24 employing service center or educational district, for each covered

1 employee, the ~~[amount of \$900 each state fiscal year or a greater~~
2 ~~amount as provided by the General Appropriations Act.]~~ full cost of
3 employee only coverage and fifty percent (50%) of any dependent
4 coverage selected, for each covered employee. The state cost shall
5 be reduced by the amount of the participating entity contribution
6 as provided by Article 3.50-9 of this code.

7 SECTION 2. Chapter 42, Subchapter E, Section 42.2514.
8 Additional State Aid for School Employee Benefits, Subsection (b),
9 Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

10 (b) For each school year, a school district, including a
11 school district that is otherwise ineligible for state aid under
12 this chapter, or a participating charter school is entitled to
13 state aid in an amount, as determined by the commissioner, equal to
14 ~~[the difference, if any, between:]~~ the full cost of employee only
15 coverage and fifty percent (50%) of any dependent coverage
16 selected, for each covered employee who participates in a group
17 health coverage plan provided by or through the district or school,
18 minus the amount of the participating entity contribution as
19 provided in Article 3.50-9, Insurance Code.

20 ~~[(1) the amount determined by multiplying the amount~~
21 ~~of \$900 or the amount specified in the General Appropriations Act~~
22 ~~for that year for purposes of the state contribution under Section~~
23 ~~9, Article 3.50-7, Insurance Code, by the number of district or~~
24 ~~school employees who participate in a group health coverage plan~~
25 ~~provided by or through the district or school, and~~

26 ~~[(2) an amount equal to 75 percent of the amount of:~~

27 ~~[(A) additional funds to which the district or~~

1 ~~school is entitled due to the increase made by H.B. No. 3343, Acts~~
2 ~~of the 77th Legislature, Regular Session, 2001, to:~~

3 ~~[(i) the equalized wealth level under~~
4 ~~Section 41.002; and~~

5 ~~[(ii) the guaranteed level of state and~~
6 ~~local funds per weighted student per cent of tax effort under~~
7 ~~Section 42.302; or~~

8 ~~[(B) additional state aid to which the district~~
9 ~~is entitled under Section 42.2513.]~~

10 SECTION 3. Chapter 42, Subchapter E, Section 42.260. Use of
11 Certain Funds, Subsection (c) is amended to read as follows:

12 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this code, a
13 school district or participating charter school may use the
14 following amount of funds only to pay contributions under a group
15 health coverage plan for district or school employees [+]; an amount
16 equal to the full cost of employee only coverage and fifty percent
17 (50%) of any dependent coverage selected, for each covered
18 employee.

19 ~~[(1) an amount equal to 75 percent of the amount~~
20 ~~certified for the district or school under Subsection (b); or~~

21 ~~[(2) if the following amount is less than the amount~~
22 ~~specified by Subdivision (1), the sum of:~~

23 ~~[(A) the amount determined by multiplying the~~
24 ~~amount of \$900 or the amount specified in the General~~
25 ~~Appropriations Act for that year for purposes of the state~~
26 ~~contribution under Section 9, Article 3.50-7, Insurance Code, by~~
27 ~~the number of district or school employees who participate in a~~

1 ~~group health coverage plan provided by or through the district or~~
2 ~~school; and~~

3 ~~[(B) the difference between the amount necessary~~
4 ~~for the district or school to comply with Section 3, Article 3.50-9,~~
5 ~~Insurance Code, for that school year and the amount the district or~~
6 ~~school is required to use to provide health coverage under Section 2~~
7 ~~of that article for that year.]~~

8 SECTION 4. This Act applies beginning with the 2003-2004
9 school year.