

1-1 By: Anchia (Senate Sponsor - West) H.B. No. 2695
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 10, 2005;
1-3 May 12, 2005, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Intergovernmental Relations; May 20, 2005, reported favorably by
1-5 the following vote: Yeas 4, Nays 0; May 20, 2005, sent to
1-6 printer.)

1-7 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-8 AN ACT

1-9 relating to allowing a county to consider health insurance benefits
1-10 provided by a bidder to its employees when awarding a purchasing
1-11 contract.

1-12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-13 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 262, Local Government
1-14 Code, is amended by adding Section 262.0271 to read as follows:

1-15 Sec. 262.0271. CONSIDERATION OF HEALTH INSURANCE PROVIDED
1-16 BY BIDDER. (a) In this section, "comparable health insurance
1-17 coverage" means health insurance benefits provided by a bidder or a
1-18 subcontractor a bidder intends to use that are comparable to the
1-19 health insurance benefits provided for employees of the county.

1-20 (b) In purchasing items under this chapter through a
1-21 competitive bidding process, if a county receives one or more bids
1-22 from a bidder who provides comparable health insurance coverage to
1-23 its employees and requires a subcontractor the bidder intends to
1-24 use to provide comparable health insurance coverage to the
1-25 subcontractor's employees and whose bid is within five percent of
1-26 the lowest bid price received by the county from a bidder who does
1-27 not provide or require comparable health insurance coverage, the
1-28 commissioners court of the county may give preference to the bidder
1-29 who provides and requires comparable health insurance coverage.

1-30 (c) This section does not prohibit a county from rejecting
1-31 all bids.

1-32 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
1-33 to a contract awarded on or after the effective date of this Act.

1-34 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

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