

AN ACT

relating to health savings accounts and high-deductible health plans and similar programs implemented as a part of the group benefits program of the Employees Retirement System of Texas.

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

SECTION 1. EVALUATION AND REPORT. (a) The Employees Retirement System of Texas shall evaluate the long-term impact of implementing a health reimbursement account program or a health savings account and high-deductible health plan program as a part of the group benefits program on:

(1) future costs and benefits of all health care plans included in the group benefits program;

(2) participant access to quality health care;

(3) provider availability; and

(4) any other issue the system determines is relevant to the continued stable and efficient operation of the group benefits program, considering the demographic, geographic, and socioeconomic characteristics of program participants.

(b) Not later than December 31, 2006, the Employees Retirement System of Texas shall submit a report of the results of the evaluation conducted under this section, including the system's findings and recommendations, to the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house of representatives.

(c) This section expires January 1, 2007.

1 SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect
2 immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members
3 elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas
4 Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for
5 immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2772 was passed by the House on May 9, 2005, by the following vote: Yeas 144, Nays 0, 3 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 2772 on May 27, 2005, by the following vote: Yeas 140, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2772 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 25, 2005, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor