

By: Staples, West

S.B. No. 1319

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 relating to participation of certain annuitants and their  
2 dependents in the state employees group benefits program.

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

4 SECTION 1. Section 1551.323, Insurance Code, is amended by  
5 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (a-1), (a-2), and  
6 (a-3) to read as follows:

7 (a) An annuitant eligible to participate under Section  
8 1551.102(i), 1551.111(e), or 1551.112(c) is~~[, except as provided by~~  
9 ~~this subsection,~~] required to pay, ~~[the total cost, as determined~~  
10 ~~by the board, attributable to the participation of that individual~~  
11 ~~and the dependents of that individual]~~ until the date the  
12 individual is 65 years of age, an amount equal to the amount of the  
13 state or other employer contribution that would be made on behalf of  
14 the annuitant and, if applicable, the annuitant's dependents under  
15 this chapter if the annuitant were eligible to participate under  
16 another provision of Section 1551.102, 1551.111, or 1551.112.

17 (a-1) The payment made under this section is in addition to  
18 other contributions required under Sections 1551.305, 1551.306,  
19 and 1551.307.

20 (a-2) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), if [~~If~~] the General  
21 Appropriations Act or other similar legislation provides that some  
22 or all of the costs paid under Subsection (a) are payable by a state  
23 contribution [~~addresses the payment of those costs~~], those costs  
24

1 shall be paid in the manner specified by that legislation.

2 (a-3) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), an institution of  
3 higher education may provide some or all of the costs paid under  
4 Subsection (a) from money appropriated from a fund other than the  
5 general revenue fund or from money available from local sources.

6 SECTION 2. This Act applies only to participation on or  
7 after the effective date of this Act in the state employees group  
8 benefits program established under Chapter 1551, Insurance Code.  
9 Participation in the group benefits program before the effective  
10 date of this Act is governed by the law as it exists immediately  
11 before the effective date of this Act and that law is continued in  
12 effect for this purpose.

13 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.