

Amend HB 1977 (committee printing) as follows:

(1) On page 1, line 6, strike "Section 1506.008" and substitute "Sections 1506.008 and 1506.009".

(2) On page 1, between lines 9 and 10, insert:

Sec. 1506.009. STUDY; REPORT. (a) The commissioner shall conduct a study concerning a program under which the pool would offer coverage to an individual who is also covered under a group health benefit plan that is provided or offered to the individual through an employer. Under the proposed program, pool coverage would be secondary to coverage provided under the group health benefit plan.

(b) The commissioner, using existing resources, may contract with actuaries and other experts as necessary to conduct the study.

(c) The commissioner shall report the results of the study in the biennial report under Section 32.022. The report must:

(1) include an analysis of the advantages and disadvantages of the proposed program and recommended minimum standards applicable to group health benefit plans that may be included in the program; and

(2) identify program components, requirements, or restrictions necessary for successful implementation of the program.

(d) This section expires September 1, 2009.