

BILL ANALYSIS

C.S.H.B. 1403
By: Eissler
Public Education
Committee Report (Substituted)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

The State Board of Education (SBOE) oversees many important public education functions. Currently, SBOE members are not eligible to participate in the state employees group benefits program as provided by Section 1551.101(a), Insurance Code. The bill makes SBOE members eligible to participate in the program.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

The bill amends Section 1551.101, Insurance Code, by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows: (c) An individual who is a member of the State Board of Education is eligible to participate in the group benefits program as provided by Subsection (a).

EFFECTIVE DATE

September 1, 2007.

COMPARISON OF ORIGINAL TO SUBSTITUTE

The original bill is significantly different from the substitute. The original included the following provisions that are not in the substitute:

- Section 7.055(a), Education Code, is amended to read as follows: (a) The commissioner has the powers and duties provided by Subsection (b) or by another provision of law. The commissioner shall carry out the commissioner's powers and duties in consultation with the board.
- Section 7.101(a), Education Code, is amended to read as follows: (a) The State Board of Education is composed of 15 members elected from districts. Each district from which a board member is elected is composed as provided by the court order dated November 2, 2001, in *Miller v. Cuellar*, No. 3-01CV1072-G (N.D. Tex.).
- Section 7.102(b), Education Code, is amended to read as follows: (b) The board has the powers and duties provided by Subsection (c). The board shall carry out its powers and duties with the advice and assistance of the commissioner.
- Section 7.102(c), Education Code, is amended by adding Subdivision (35) to read as follows: (35) The board may employ a reasonable number of staff in carrying out its powers and duties under this section.
- Section 7.105(a), Education Code, is amended to read as follows: (a) Except as provided by Section 1551.101(c), Insurance Code, a member of the board is not entitled to receive compensation.
- Section 7.106, Education Code, is amended to read as follows: **Sec. 7.106. MEETINGS.** The board shall hold four meetings a year in Austin, Texas, on dates determined by the presiding officer and may hold other meetings as may be called by the presiding officer.
- Section 7.107, Education Code, is amended to read as follows: **Sec. 7.107. OFFICERS.** (a) The governor, with the advice and consent of the senate, shall appoint the presiding officer from among the membership of the board. The presiding officer serves a term of two years. (b) At the board's first regular meeting after the election and qualification of new members, the board shall organize, adopt rules of procedure, and elect by separate

votes an assistant presiding officer and a secretary. (c) A person who serves two consecutive terms as presiding officer is ineligible to again serve as presiding officer until six years have elapsed since the expiration of the second term.

- Subchapter D, Chapter 7, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 7.1075 to read as follows: Sec. 7.1075. COMMITTEES. The board may establish committees of the board, including a committee on instruction, a committee on planning, and a committee on school finance and the permanent school fund.