

1-1 By: Eissler (Senate Sponsor - Averitt) H.B. No. 973  
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 16, 2007;  
1-3 April 17, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on State  
1-4 Affairs; April 25, 2007, reported favorably by the following vote:  
1-5 Yeas 9, Nays 0; April 25, 2007, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to the eligibility of certain educational employees to  
1-9 participate or be enrolled in certain group health benefit  
1-10 programs.

1-11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-12 SECTION 1. Section 22.004, Education Code, is amended by  
1-13 adding Subsections (k) and (l) to read as follows:

1-14 (k) Notwithstanding any other law, an employee of a district  
1-15 participating in the uniform group coverage program under  
1-16 Subsection (a) or providing group health coverage under Subsection  
1-17 (b) whose resignation is effective after the last day of an  
1-18 instructional year is entitled to participate or be enrolled in the  
1-19 uniform group coverage plan or the group health coverage through  
1-20 the first anniversary of the date participation in or coverage  
1-21 under the uniform group coverage plan or the group health coverage  
1-22 was first made available to district employees for the last  
1-23 instructional year in which the employee was employed by the  
1-24 district.

1-25 (l) If an employee's resignation is effective after the last  
1-26 day of an instructional year, the district may not diminish or  
1-27 eliminate the amount of a contribution available to the employee  
1-28 under Chapter 1581, Insurance Code, before the last date on which  
1-29 the employee is entitled to participation or enrollment under  
1-30 Subsection (k).

1-31 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies  
1-32 beginning with the 2007-2008 school year.

1-33 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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