

By: Homer

H.B. No. 2597

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to allowing state employees and employees of a public  
3 junior college to receive payment for a portion of accrued vacation  
4 or sick leave at a discounted rate.

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

6 SECTION 1. Chapter 661, Government Code, is amended by  
7 adding Subchapter H to read as follows:

8 SUBCHAPTER H. PAYMENT FOR ACCRUED VACATION OR SICK LEAVE AT  
9 DISCOUNTED RATE

10 Sec. 661.041. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

11 (1) "Governing body" includes a single statewide  
12 elected or appointed officer who heads a state agency.

13 (2) "State agency" means a state board, commission,  
14 office, institution, or other agency in any branch of state  
15 government, including an institution of higher education as defined  
16 by Section 61.003, Education Code. The term includes a public  
17 junior college.

18 (3) "State employee" means an employee of a state  
19 agency.

20 Sec. 661.042. ACCRUED VACATION OR SICK LEAVE: VOLUNTARY  
21 PROGRAM FOR PAYMENT AT DISCOUNTED RATE. (a) The governing body of a  
22 state agency may institute a program under which an employee of the  
23 agency may voluntarily choose to receive payment for a portion of  
24 the employee's accrued vacation or sick leave at a discounted rate

1 in lieu of taking the leave.

2 (b) The governing body shall set the discount rate. On  
3 request the comptroller shall assist the governing body in  
4 determining an appropriate discount rate.

5 (c) The governing body shall set a limit on the number of  
6 hours of vacation or sick leave for which an employee may receive a  
7 discounted payment and prescribe a minimum number of hours of  
8 vacation and sick leave that must remain accrued or be taken by the  
9 employee.

10 (d) On receiving payment for a number of hours of accrued  
11 vacation or sick leave at a discounted rate, the number of hours for  
12 which the employee received a discounted payment are deducted from  
13 the applicable accrued leave balances.

14 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.