

By: Shapleigh

S.B. No. 374

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to reimbursement of certain group life insurance premiums paid by certain members of the Texas National Guard.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter F, Chapter 431, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 431.0822 to read as follows:

Sec. 431.0822. PREMIUM REIMBURSEMENT FOR CERTAIN GROUP LIFE INSURANCE. (a) A member of the Texas National Guard deployed to a hostile fire zone, as designated by the United States secretary of defense, is entitled to reimbursement of premiums paid by the member for benefits under the servicemembers' group life insurance program under 38 U.S.C. Section 1965 et seq.:

(1) on or after the date on which the member is activated under an order issued under Title 10 of the United States Code; and

(2) before the date on which the member is demobilized.

(b) The comptroller shall establish the Texas National Guard members' life insurance reimbursement account in the general revenue fund. Money in the account may only be appropriated for the purposes of implementing this section. The comptroller, governor, or adjutant general may accept gifts and grants for deposit to the credit of the account. The legislature may transfer money into the account or may appropriate money to implement this section that the

1 comptroller shall credit to the account.

2 (c) The adjutant general shall adopt rules as necessary to
3 implement this section.

4 (d) The comptroller, in consultation with the adjutant
5 general, shall adopt rules as necessary to govern the manner and
6 method of providing reimbursement under this section.

7 (e) This section does not affect a person's eligibility for
8 or the applicability of the servicemembers' group life insurance
9 program established by 38 U.S.C. Section 1965 et seq. or any rights,
10 responsibilities, or benefits under that program.

11 SECTION 2. Section 431.0822, Government Code, as added by
12 this Act, applies only to reimbursement of insurance premiums paid
13 by a member of the Texas National Guard on or after the effective
14 date of this Act.

15 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
16 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
17 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
18 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
19 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.