

By: Truitt

H.B. No. 3608

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to deduction of qualified health insurance premiums of  
3 eligible retired public safety officers from Teacher Retirement  
4 System of Texas annuities.

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

6 SECTION 1. New Section 824.207, Government Code, is added  
7 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 824.207. DEDUCTIONS FROM SERVICE OR DISABILITY  
9 RETIREMENT ANNUITY. (a) An individual eligible to participate in  
10 the uniform program under Section 1601.102 may authorize the  
11 Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS) to deduct the amount of the  
12 contribution and any other qualified health insurance premium from  
13 the person's regular monthly service or disability retirement  
14 annuity payment if the individual meets the following requirements:

15 (1) is eligible to receive a monthly annuity from TRS  
16 in an amount in excess of the total authorized deduction amount, and

17 (2) is eligible under Section 845 of the Pension  
18 Protection Act of 2006 (PL 109-280) or a similar law to elect to  
19 exclude from annual gross income up to \$3,000 of distributions from  
20 an eligible retirement plan used for qualified health insurance  
21 premiums.

22 (b) An individual may authorize the deduction described in  
23 Subsection (a) on a form provided by the program administrator. The  
24 program administrator shall coordinate with TRS to implement an

1 authorization provided under Subsection (a). After making the  
2 deductions, TRS shall pay to the program administrator an aggregate  
3 amount for all individuals who authorized annuity deductions under  
4 Subsection (a). TRS shall inform the program administrator if an  
5 individual is no longer receiving a monthly annuity in an amount in  
6 excess of the total authorized deduction amount, and TRS shall not  
7 be required to make the deduction in whole or in part for the  
8 individual. TRS may discontinue the opportunity for such  
9 deductions if payment of qualified health insurance premiums by  
10 deduction from a retirement plan annuity is no longer required for  
11 an eligible retiree to elect the gross income exclusion.

12 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.