

By: Pitts

H.B. No. 4587

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to providing information to state employees regarding the
3 availability of Medicaid and other health benefits coverage for
4 their children.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 531, Government Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 531.0661 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 531.0661. BROCHURE FOR STATE EMPLOYEES RELATING TO
9 MEDICAID AND OTHER HEALTH BENEFITS COVERAGE. (a) The eligibility
10 services division of the commission and the Employees Retirement
11 System of Texas shall jointly develop and maintain a brochure for
12 distribution to state employees about the availability of:

13 (1) dependent child coverage under Section 1551.159,
14 Insurance Code; and

15 (2) medical assistance for a state employee's child
16 under Chapter 32, Human Resources Code.

17 (b) The brochure must:

18 (1) include:

19 (A) an eligibility chart and pricing information
20 for the dependent child coverage and medical assistance described
21 by Subsection (a); and

22 (B) telephone numbers for the Employees
23 Retirement System of Texas and the commission that a state employee
24 may call to obtain additional information about dependent child

1 coverage and medical assistance, respectively; and

2 (2) be updated not later than September 1 of each year.

3 (c) The commission and the Employees Retirement System of
4 Texas shall make the brochure and current applications for
5 dependent child coverage and medical assistance available on their
6 Internet websites in a format that allows other state agencies and
7 state employees to download and print the documents.

8 SECTION 2. Chapter 651, Government Code, is amended by
9 adding Section 651.011 to read as follows:

10 Sec. 651.011. DISTRIBUTION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION TO STATE
11 EMPLOYEES BY STATE AGENCIES. (a) In this section, "state agency"
12 has the meaning assigned by Section 1551.003, Insurance Code.

13 (b) Each state agency shall provide each of the agency's
14 employees with a copy of the brochure regarding the availability of
15 certain health benefits coverage for their children that is
16 developed and maintained under Section 531.0661:

17 (1) on the date the employee begins employment with
18 the agency; and

19 (2) during each annual open enrollment period for
20 dependent child coverage under Section 1551.159, Insurance Code.

21 SECTION 3. Not later than September 1, 2009, the Health and
22 Human Services Commission and the Employees Retirement System of
23 Texas shall make the brochure required by Section 531.0661,
24 Government Code, as added by this Act, and the applications
25 specified by that section available for download and printing from
26 their Internet websites.

27 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

H.B. No. 4587

1 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
3 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
4 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.