

1-1 By: Nelson S.B. No. 80
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed November 10, 2008; February 10, 2009,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on State Affairs;
1-4 March 25, 2009, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 9,
1-5 Nays 0; March 25, 2009, sent to printer.)

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

1-8 relating to employer contributions under small employer health
1-9 benefit plans.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Section 1501.153, Insurance Code, is amended by
1-12 adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

1-13 (a-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), a small employer
1-14 health benefit plan issuer may offer a small employer the option of
1-15 a small employer health benefit plan for which the employer is
1-16 required to contribute 100 percent of the premium paid. A plan
1-17 offered under this subsection may be offered in addition to a plan
1-18 offered by the issuer in accordance with Subsection (a) that
1-19 requires a lower percentage of the premium paid to be contributed by
1-20 the employer. A plan issued under this subsection must require the
1-21 employer to contribute 100 percent of the premium paid for each
1-22 eligible participating employee.

1-23 SECTION 2. This Act applies only to a small employer health
1-24 benefit plan delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed on or after
1-25 January 1, 2010. A small employer health benefit plan delivered,
1-26 issued for delivery, or renewed before January 1, 2010, is governed
1-27 by the law as it existed immediately before the effective date of
1-28 this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

1-29 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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