

By: Watson

S.B. No. 781

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to eligibility to participate in the Texas Health  
3 Insurance Risk Pool by individuals whose employers participate in  
4 certain regional or local health care programs.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 1506, Insurance Code, is  
7 amended by adding Section 1506.1531 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 1506.1531. CERTAIN REGIONAL OR LOCAL HEALTH CARE PLANS  
9 NOT DISQUALIFYING. Notwithstanding Section 1506.152 or 1506.153 or  
10 another provision of this chapter, an individual is not ineligible  
11 for coverage from the pool solely because:

12 (1) the individual's employer participates in a  
13 program operated in accordance with Chapter 75, Health and Safety  
14 Code, or a program operated on a similar basis, as determined by the  
15 board; or

16 (2) the individual receives health care services or  
17 benefits under the program.

18 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
19 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
20 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
21 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
22 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.