

AN ACT

relating to eligibility of certain dependents for coverage under the state employee group benefits program.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1551.004(a), Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) In this chapter, "dependent" with respect to an individual eligible to participate in the group benefits program under Section 1551.101 or 1551.102 means the individual's:

(1) spouse;

(2) unmarried child younger than 25 years of age;

(3) child of any age who the board of trustees determines lives with or has the child's care provided by the individual on a regular basis if:

(A) the child is mentally retarded or physically incapacitated to the extent that the child is dependent on the individual for care or support, as determined by the board of trustees;

(B) the child's coverage under this chapter has not lapsed; and

(C) the child is at least 25 years old and:

(i) was enrolled as a participant in the health benefits coverage under the group benefits program on the date of the child's 25th birthday; or

1                    (ii) on the date the individual became  
2 eligible to participate in the group benefits program, was enrolled  
3 as the individual's dependent in health benefits coverage under  
4 Chapter 1575, 1579, or 1601 or in continuation of that dependent  
5 coverage under the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act  
6 of 1985 (Pub. L. No. 99-272) and its subsequent amendments;

7                    (4) child of any age who is unmarried, for purposes of  
8 health benefit coverage under this chapter, on expiration of the  
9 child's continuation coverage under the Consolidated Omnibus  
10 Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (Pub. L. No. 99-272) and its  
11 subsequent amendments; and

12                    (5) ward, as that term is defined by Section 601, Texas  
13 Probate Code.

14                    SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 755 was passed by the House on April 6, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 142, Nays 1, 1 present, not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 755 was passed by the Senate on May 10, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

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Governor