

By: Guillen

H.B. No. 1265

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to providing information to state employees about insurance available to those employees under a group coverage plan.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 1551, Insurance Code, is amended by adding Section 1551.2011 to read as follows:

Sec. 1551.2011. EMPLOYEE AWARENESS AND EDUCATION. (a) The board of trustees by rule shall ensure that employees receive information about life coverage, accidental death and dismemberment coverage, and long-term and short-term loss of salary coverage, if those coverages are included in a group coverage plan established under Section 1551.201.

(b) The information must contain descriptions of:

(1) probabilities of death and disability; and

(2) policy exclusions and limitations, including:

(A) limitations based on multiple sources of benefits;

(B) preexisting condition exclusions; and

(C) required waiting periods for benefits.

(c) The board of trustees by rule may provide the information described by Subsections (a) and (b) in printed materials for new employees distributed on the first day of employment. The board of trustees may consider using printed materials, online presentations, and educational presentations to

1 ensure the information described by Subsections (a) and (b) is
2 provided to employees.

3 (d) If applicable, the board of trustees shall annually
4 review the materials and presentations described by Subsection (c)
5 to determine if changes to the contents of the materials or
6 presentations are necessary. If applicable, the department shall
7 adopt rules necessary for considering and making changes to the
8 materials or presentations.

9 (e) The board of trustees shall publish the information
10 described by Subsections (a) and (b) on the Employees Retirement
11 System of Texas website.

12 SECTION 2. The board of trustees shall adopt rules to
13 implement the changes in law made by this Act not later than January
14 1, 2014.

15 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
16 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
17 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
18 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
19 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.