

By: Howard, Stephenson, Frullo

H.B. No. 2127

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the eligibility of certain employees of public  
3 institutions of higher education to participate in a state group  
4 benefits program.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 1551.1021, Insurance Code, is amended by  
7 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as  
8 follows:

9 (a) An adjunct faculty member at a public institution of  
10 higher education is eligible to participate in the group benefits  
11 program as an employee if the faculty member:

12 (1) receives compensation for services rendered to a  
13 public institution of higher education as an adjunct faculty  
14 member;

15 (2) was ~~[has been]~~ employed as a faculty member by the  
16 same public institution of higher education and ~~[has]~~ taught at  
17 least one course in the ~~[each]~~ regular fall and spring semester at  
18 the public institution of higher education in ~~[each of]~~ the  
19 preceding ~~[three]~~ academic year ~~[years]~~; and

20 (3) is under contract or is scheduled to teach at least  
21 12 semester credit hours in the academic year of coverage or, if the  
22 person is also employed by the public institution of higher  
23 education to perform nonteaching duties, is under contract or is  
24 scheduled to teach at least six semester credit hours in the

1 academic year of coverage and has been approved by the public  
2 institution of higher education to participate in the group  
3 benefits program.

4 (a-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (a)(3), an adjunct faculty  
5 member at a public institution of higher education who is a  
6 professional librarian is eligible to participate in the group  
7 benefits program as an employee if the faculty member receives  
8 compensation for services rendered to a public institution of  
9 higher education as an adjunct faculty member.

10 SECTION 2. The board of trustees of the Employees  
11 Retirement System of Texas shall include coverage under Section  
12 1551.1021, Insurance Code, as amended by this Act, in an insurance  
13 policy or contract or evidence of coverage delivered, issued for  
14 delivery, or renewed on or after January 1, 2014. The board of  
15 trustees may include coverage under Section 1551.1021, Insurance  
16 Code, as amended by this Act, in an insurance policy or contract or  
17 an evidence of coverage delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed  
18 before January 1, 2014, if the board of trustees determines that the  
19 coverage may reasonably be included.

20 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.