

By: Capriglione

H.B. No. 2743

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to enrollment of certain retirees in the Texas Public School Employees Group Insurance Program.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 1575, Insurance Code, is amended by adding Section 1575.1621 to read as follows:

Sec. 1575.1621. SUPPLEMENTAL ENROLLMENT PERIOD. (a) The trustee shall, as described by Subsection (b), provide a supplemental enrollment period for a retiree who establishes that the retiree experienced extenuating circumstances that led to the retiree's reasonable failure to select coverage during the retiree's initial enrollment period under Section 1575.161.

(b) The trustee shall give a retiree described by Subsection (a) an opportunity to enroll in the group program on or before the 30th day after the date the trustee determines that the retiree is entitled to a supplemental enrollment period under this section.

(c) The trustee by rule shall establish:

(1) criteria under which a retiree will be considered to have experienced extenuating circumstances described by Subsection (a);

(2) a process through which a retiree may establish that the retiree meets those criteria; and

(3) a reasonable period for requesting a supplemental enrollment period under this section following the occurrence of

1 extenuating circumstances described by Subsection (a).

2         SECTION 2. (a) Not later than November 1, 2015, the  
3 Teacher Retirement System of Texas shall adopt rules necessary to  
4 implement Section 1575.1621, Insurance Code, as added by this Act.

5         (b) Rules adopted by the Teacher Retirement System of Texas  
6 under Section 1575.1621, Insurance Code, as added by this Act,  
7 must:

8                 (1) apply to a retiree described by that section,  
9 regardless of whether the expiration of the retiree's initial  
10 enrollment period occurred before, on, or after the effective date  
11 of the rules or this Act; and

12                (2) allow a retiree who experienced extenuating  
13 circumstances described by that section before the effective date  
14 of the rules a reasonable period after that effective date to  
15 request a supplemental enrollment period.

16         SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
17 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
18 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
19 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
20 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.