By: Taylor S.B. No. 1894

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to participation in and rates for coverage provided under the uniform group coverage program for active school employees.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 1579, Insurance Code, is amended by adding Section 1579.056 to read as follows:

Sec. 1579.056. REGIONAL RATING AUTHORIZED. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the trustee by rule may establish a regional rating method for determining premiums charged in different regions of the state for the benefits provided under a plan of group coverage established under the program.

SECTION 2. Section 1579.152, Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1579.152. PARTICIPATION OF [~~OTHER~~] SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CERTAIN RISK POOLS. Effective September 1, 2019 [~~2005~~], a school district or a risk pool established under Chapter 172, Local Government Code, as provided by Section 22.004, Education Code, that is in existence on January 1, 2019, and whose members are school districts [~~with more than 500 employees~~] may elect to participate in the program. A school district or risk pool that elects to participate under this section shall apply for participation in the manner prescribed by the trustee by rule.

SECTION 3. Subchapter D, Chapter 1579, Insurance Code, is

amended by adding Section 1579.155 to read as follows:

Sec. 1579.155. ELECTION NOT TO PARTICIPATE. A school district or risk pool established under Chapter 172, Local Government Code, as provided by Section 22.004, Education Code, may elect not to participate in the program, notwithstanding any previous election or requirement to participate.

SECTION 4. Sections 1579.151 and 1579.153, Insurance Code, are repealed.

SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.