By:  Bucy H.B. No. 5280

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to Regional or Local Health Care Programs.

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

SECTION 1.  Title 2, Subtitle C, Chapter 75, Health and Safety Code, is amended by to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 75.002.  DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1)  "Employee" means an individual employed by an employer. The term includes a partner of a partnership and the proprietor of a sole proprietorship.

(2)  "Governing body" means:

(A)  the commissioners courts of the counties participating in a regional health care program;

(B)  the commissioners court of a county participating in a local health care program; or

(C)  the governing body of the joint council, nonprofit entity exempt from federal taxation, or other entity that operates a regional or local health care program or three - share premium assistance programs including, but not limited to, TexHealth Central Texas.

(3)  "Local health care program" means a local health care program operating in one county and established for the benefit of the employees of small employers under Subchapter B.

(4)  "Regional health care program" means a regional health care program operating in two or more counties and established for the benefit of the employees of small employers under Subchapter B.

(5)  "Small employer" means a person who employed an average of at least two employees but not more than 50 employees on business days during the preceding calendar year and who employs at least two employees on the first day of the plan year.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.