

By: Darby, Lambert, Metcalf, Guillen

H.B. No. 3126

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the election of certain school districts and open-enrollment charter schools to participate in the uniform group coverage program for active school employees.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 1579, Insurance Code, is amended by adding Section 1579.1551 to read as follows:

Sec. 1579.1551. SMALL SCHOOL DISTRICT AND CHARTER SCHOOL PROGRAM PARTICIPATION. (a) This section applies to a school district or open-enrollment charter school that discontinued participation in the program effective on September 1, 2022, in accordance with Section 1579.155(a).

(b) Notwithstanding Section 1579.155(b), a school district or charter school to which this section applies may elect to participate in the program before the fifth anniversary of the effective date of the district's or school's election to discontinue participation in the program if the district or school:

(1) provides written notice to the trustee not later than December 31, 2025, of the district's or school's election to participate in the program effective beginning September 1, 2026; and

(2) complies with any other requirements established by the trustee for program participation.

(c) For the plan year beginning September 1, 2026, the

1 trustee shall impose a risk stabilization fee in an amount
2 determined by the trustee on the premiums of a school district or
3 charter school to which this section applies.

4 (d) A school district or charter school that elects to
5 participate in the program in accordance with this section may not
6 elect to discontinue participation until September 1, 2031.

7 (e) The trustee by rule may impose additional requirements,
8 conditions, and deadlines with which a school district or charter
9 school to which this section applies must comply to elect to
10 participate in the program in accordance with this section.

11 (f) This section expires September 1, 2031.

12 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.