

1 **State of Arkansas**
2 **79th General Assembly**
3 **Regular Session, 1993**
4 **By: Representative McGinnis**

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2013

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO MAKE A STUDY
9 TO DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A UNIFIED
10 HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM FOR STATE EMPLOYEES AND PUBLIC
11 SCHOOL PERSONNEL."

Subtitle

14 "CREATING A COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF
15 ESTABLISHING A UNIFIED HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM FOR STATE
16 EMPLOYEES AND PUBLIC SCHOOL PERSONNEL."

18 WHEREAS, there has been a phenomenal increase in the cost of health
19 insurance in recent years; and

20 WHEREAS, state employees_ health insurance coverage is currently
21 provided by a self-insurance program funded jointly by the state and the
22 employees while the public school personnel are covered by a health insurance
23 plan that is not self-insured; and

24 WHEREAS, it appears that it is in the best interest of the state, the
25 local school districts and the school personnel that a *unified health*
26 *insurance or unified health self-insurance program* be established for school
27 personnel; and

28 WHEREAS, it appears that it may be desirable to establish a single
29 unified health insurance program for state employees and school personnel, and
30 that a study should be made to determine the feasibility of establishing such
31 program,

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33 NOW THEREFORE,

34 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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1 SECTION 1. There is hereby established the State Employee - Public
2 School Personnel Health Insurance Study Committee which shall be composed of
3 the following members:

4 Three (3) members of the House of Representatives appointed by the
5 Speaker of the House;

6 Three (3) members of the Senate appointed by the President Pro Tempore
7 of the Senate;

8 Three (3) members appointed by the Governor;

9 Two (2) members appointed by the Arkansas State Employees Association;

10 Two (2) members appointed by the Arkansas Education Association;

11 Two (2) public school administrators appointed by the Arkansas
12 Association of Educational Administrators;

13 The Arkansas Insurance Commissioner, or his designee; and

14 The chancellor of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, or
15 his designee.

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17 SECTION 2. The committee shall at its first meeting select one of the
18 legislative members to serve as chairman and one legislative member to serve
19 as vice-chairman. The committee shall meet at such times and places as it
20 shall deem necessary or appropriate to conduct its business. Legislative
21 members of the committee shall be entitled to per diem and mileage at the
22 rates prescribed by law for legislative joint interim committees, to be paid
23 from funds appropriated for the payment of per diem and mileage of members of
24 joint interim committees. Other members of the committee may receive per diem
25 and mileage for attending meetings of the committee if funds are provided to
26 pay the same.

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28 SECTION 3. The committee shall make a study of the feasibility of
29 establishing a unified *health insurance* or a *unified health self-insurance*
30 program for providing health insurance coverage for state employees and public
31 school personnel.

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33 SECTION 4. The committee may employ such actuarial and technical
34 assistants and such other staff as it deems necessary to enable it to
35 effectively carry out its responsibilities. The compensation of such

1 actuarial and technical assistants shall be paid from funds appropriated for
2 interim committee study expenses in Section 4 of Act 32 of 1993.

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4 SECTION 5. The Bureau of Legislative Research is authorized to provide
5 such staff services to the committee as the committee may request and as may
6 be approved by the Legislative Council or the Policy-Making Subcommittee of
7 the Legislative Council.

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9 SECTION 6. The committee shall report its findings and recommendations
10 including any proposed legislation to the appropriate joint interim committee
11 or committees of the General Assembly on or before July 1, 1994.

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13 SECTION 7. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature
14 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
15 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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17 SECTION 8. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
18 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
19 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
20 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
21 act are declared to be severable.

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23 SECTION 9. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
24 hereby repealed.

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/s/Rep. McGinnis

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As Engrossed: 4/6/93

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