

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 84th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2003  
4  
5 By: Senator G. Jeffress  
6  
7

As Engrossed: S3/19/03

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 946

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE SCHOOL DSITRICTS TO SEEK  
10 PROPOSALS FROM HEALTH INSURERS OR HEALTH  
11 MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE HEALTH CARE  
12 COVERAGE OF THE DISTRICT'S EMPLOYEES; AND FOR  
13 OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

16 TO ALLOW SCHOOL DSITRICTS TO SEEK  
17 PROPOSALS FROM HEALTH INSURERS OR HEALTH  
18 MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE HEALTH  
19 CARE COVERAGE OF THE DISTRICT'S  
20 EMPLOYEES.

23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
24

25 *SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 17, Subchapter 11 is amended*  
26 *to add an additional section to read as follows:*

27 *6-17-1119. Authority to purchase health insurance for employees.*

28 *(a) Notwithstanding any provision of §§ 21-5-401 through 21-5-417 to*  
29 *the contrary, an Arkansas school district is authorized to solicit proposals*  
30 *from any health insurer or health maintenance organization to provide school*  
31 *district employees and dependents with health insurance coverage or with*  
32 *health care benefits that are independent of the group coverage offered by*  
33 *the state under the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance*  
34 *program.*

35 *(b) If a school district enters into an agreement with a health*  
36 *insurer or health maintenance organization, the school district is entitled*



1 to receive payments from the state for its employees and dependents in an  
2 equivalent amount provided to other similar school districts as an offset to  
3 the cost of the premiums to the health insurer or health maintenance  
4 organization.

5 (c) As if the employee was participating in the public school employee  
6 health insurance program, the school districts shall pay for each employee  
7 under this section no less than the health insurance contribution rate under  
8 § 6-17-1117 for each eligible employee electing to participate with the  
9 school district's health insurer or health maintenance organization.

10  
11 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 21-5-406(e), concerning the State and  
12 Public School Life and Health Insurance program, is amended to read as  
13 follows:

14 (e) The Arkansas State Police Employee Health Plan and any public  
15 school district purchasing health insurance for its employees under § 6-17-  
16 1119 shall be exempt from any mandatory participation required by this  
17 section.

18 /s/ G. Jeffress

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