

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.

**Act 2159 of the Regular Session**

1 State of Arkansas

*As Engrossed: S4/1/05 S4/5/05*

2 85th General Assembly

**A Bill**

3 Regular Session, 2005

SENATE BILL 1138

4  
5 By: Senator B. Johnson

6 By: Representative D. Evans

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8  
9 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

10 AN ACT TO AMEND VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF THE  
11 ARKANSAS INSURANCE CODE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

12  
13 **Subtitle**

14 TO AMEND VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF THE  
15 ARKANSAS INSURANCE CODE.

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

19  
20 *SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 23-86-502(3), concerning the definition of*  
21 *an eligible employer under the Small Employer Health Insurance Purchasing*  
22 *Group Act of 2001, is amended to read as follows:*

23 *(3) "Eligible employer" means an employer employing no more than*  
24 *~~one hundred (100)~~ one hundred ninety-nine (199) eligible employees;*

25  
26 *SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 23-86-502(4), concerning the definition of*  
27 *an employer under the Small Employer Health Insurance Purchasing Group Act of*  
28 *2001, is amended to read as follows:*

29 *(4)(A) "Employer", "employee", and "dependent", unless otherwise*  
30 *defined in this section, shall have the meanings applied to the terms with*  
31 *respect to the coverage under the laws of the state relating to the coverage*  
32 *and the issuer~~s~~.*

33 *(B) "Employer" includes a self-employed individual;*

34  
35 *SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 23-86-504(a), concerning the health benefit*



1 plans of health insurance purchasing groups, is amended to read as follows:

2 (a)(1) In conjunction with a health insurance purchasing group health  
3 carrier, each health insurance purchasing group ~~shall make available a health~~  
4 ~~benefits plan in the manner described in this section to all eligible~~  
5 ~~employers and eligible employees at rates, including employer's and~~  
6 ~~employees' share, on a policy-specific or product-specific basis that may~~  
7 ~~vary only as permitted under law~~ that offers health benefit plans to small  
8 employers as defined by § 23-86-303 shall guarantee the availability of  
9 coverage to small employers as required by § 23-86-312(a).

10 (2) All health benefit plans provided through a health insurance  
11 purchasing group shall be offered at rates, including employer's and  
12 employees' share, on a policy-specific or product-specific basis that may  
13 vary only as permitted under law.

14  
15 /s/ B. Johnson

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18 APPROVED: 4/13/2005

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