

Hall of the House of Representatives
85th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2005
Amendment Form

Subtitle of House Bill No. 1559

"TO INCREASE STATE FOUNDATION FUNDING TO PROVIDE SUFFICIENT FUNDS
FOR TEACHER INSURANCE."

Amendment No. 1 to House Bill No. 1559.

Amend House Bill No. 1559 as originally introduced:

Add Senators J. Jeffress and Argue as a cosponsor

AND

Delete the title entirely and substitute:

"AN ACT TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL STATE AND LOCAL FUNDING FOR THE PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES' HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

AND

Delete the subtitle in its entirety and substitute:

"AN ACT TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL STATE AND LOCAL FUNDING FOR THE PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES' HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM."

AND

Delete everything following the enacting clause entirely and substitute the following:

"SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-17-1117 is amended to read as follows:
6-17-1117. Health insurance.

(a) ~~Beginning on July 1, 2001, local~~ Local school districts shall pay the health insurance contribution rate of ~~one hundred fourteen dollars (\$114)~~ one hundred and forty-one dollars (\$141) per month for each eligible employee electing to participate in the public school employee health insurance program.

~~(b) Beginning on October 1, 2003, local school districts shall pay the health insurance contribution rate of one hundred twenty two dollars (\$122) per month for each eligible employee electing to participate in the public school employee health insurance program.~~

~~(c) Beginning on October 1, 2004, local school districts shall pay the~~



~~health insurance contribution rate of one hundred thirty one dollars (\$131) per month for each eligible employee electing to participate in the public school employee health insurance program.~~

(b)(1) The Department of Education shall pay the Employee Benefits Division of the Department of Finance and Administration sixty-one dollars (\$61) per month for each eligible employee of a public school district electing to participate in the public school employees' health insurance program administered by the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Board.

(2) The funds provided to the Employee Benefits Division of the Department of Finance and Administration under this subsection (b) shall be administered by the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Board for the benefit of the employee participants of the public school employees' health insurance program.

SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the cost of insurance coverage can be an impediment to teachers pursuing a career in the public school system; that school districts more easily recruit and maintain quality teachers if health insurance benefits are improved; and that this act will provide such necessary improvements to current benefits coinciding with the beginning of the fiscal year and school year. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and this act being necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on July 1, 2005."

AND

If appropriate, renumber the remaining sections of the bill

The Amendment was read _____
By: Representative Sumpter
KAC/TAT - 03-01-2005 17:16
KAC497

Chief Clerk