

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 85th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2005
4

As Engrossed: H3/3/05 H3/7/05

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1559

5 By: Representative Sumpter
6 By: Senators J. Jeffress, Argue
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

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9
10 AN ACT TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE
11 PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES' HEALTH INSURANCE
12 PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
13

Subtitle

14
15 AN ACT TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR
16 THE PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES' HEALTH
17 INSURANCE PROGRAM.
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-17-1117 is amended to read as follows:
24 6-17-1117. Health insurance.

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

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

33 ~~(c)~~(a) Beginning on October 1, 2004, local school districts shall pay
34 the health insurance contribution rate of one hundred thirty-one dollars
35 (\$131) per month for each eligible employee electing to participate in the
36 public school employee health insurance program.



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

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

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

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23 /s/ Sumpter
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