## 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	As Engrossed: <u>S4/1/05</u> 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	s			
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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 A	AMEND VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF THE			
15	ARKA	ANSAS INSURANCE CODE.			
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17					
18	BE IT ENACTED BY THE	GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARK	ANSAS:		
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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. Ark	ansas Code § 23-86-502(4), concernin	g the definition	of	
27	an employer under the	Small Employer Health Insurance Pur	chasing Group Ac	t of	
28	2001, is amended to r	ead as follows:			
29	(4) <u>(A)</u> "	Employer", "employee", and "dependen	t", unless other	wise	
30	defined in this secti	on, shall have the meanings applied	to the terms wit	:h	
31	respect to the coverage under the laws of the state relating to the coverage				
32	and the issuer <b>;</b> .				
33	<u>(B)</u>	"Employer" includes a self-employe	d individual;		
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35	SECTION 3. Ark	ansas Code § 23-86-504(a), concernin	g the health ben	efit	
36	plans of health insurance purchasing groups, is amended to read as follows:				

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1	(a) $\underline{(1)}$ In conjunction with a health insurance purchasing group health		
2	carrier, each health insurance purchasing group <del>shall make available a healt</del>		
3	benefits plan in the manner described in this section to all eligible		
4	employers and eligible employees at rates, including employer's and		
5	employees' share, on a policy-specific or product-specific basis that may		
6	vary only as permitted under law that offers health benefit plans to small		
7	employers as defined by § 23-86-303 shall guarantee the availability of		
8	coverage to small employers as required by § 23-86-312(a).		
9	(2) All health benefit plans provided through a health insurance		
10	purchasing group shall be offered at rates, including employer's and		
11	employees' share, on a policy-specific or product-specific basis that may		
12	vary only as permitted under law.		
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14	/s/ B. Johnson		
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