

FEB 16 2006
STATE GOVERNMENT

HOUSE FILE 2432
BY HEDDENS, BELL, BUKTA, FALLON,
GASKILL, HOGG, JOCHUM, KUHN,
LYKAM, MILLER, OLDSO, BERRY,
COHOON, DAVITT, FOEGE, FREVERT,
HUNTER, JACOBY, KRESSIG, LENSING,
MERTZ, MURPHY, D. OLSON, R. OLSON,
PETTENGILL, REASONER, SCHUELLER,
SHOULTZ, SWAIM, T. TAYLOR, WENDT,
WHITAKER, WINCKLER, PETERSEN,
REICHERT, SHOMSHOR, SMITH,
D. TAYLOR, THOMAS, WESSEL-KROESCHELL,
WHITEAD, and WISE

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

HF-2432

A BILL FOR

1 An Act concerning insurance coverage relating to eligibility to
2 become a member of a state group insurance plan for school
3 district employees and small business employees and the
4 expansion of the healthy and well kids in Iowa program to
5 parents of eligible children.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

7
8
9
10
11
12
13

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 279.63 MEMBERSHIP IN STATE
2 INSURANCE PLANS.

3 1. Subject to any applicable collective bargaining
4 agreement negotiated pursuant to chapter 20, the board of
5 directors of a school district may offer employees of the
6 school district the ability to become a member of a state
7 group insurance plan for employees of the state established
8 under chapter 509A subject to the requirements of this
9 section.

10 2. If the board of directors of a school district seeks to
11 offer state group insurance plans to employees, then the
12 department of administrative services shall enter into an
13 agreement with the school district. The agreement shall
14 provide, to the extent practicable, that employees be offered
15 state group insurance plans on a basis similar to that offered
16 full-time state employees excluded from collective bargaining
17 as provided in chapter 20. The agreement shall also include,
18 at a minimum, provisions under which state group insurance
19 plans are available and the applicable enrollment rules and
20 premium rates for each plan. The agreement shall be subject
21 to review and approval by the commissioner of insurance.

22 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 513B.9 STATE GROUP INSURANCE PLAN
23 COVERAGE -- AVAILABILITY.

24 1. A small employer may offer group health insurance
25 coverage to its employees through a state group insurance plan
26 for employees of the state established under chapter 509A
27 subject to the requirements of this section.

28 2. A small employer who seeks to offer state group
29 insurance plans to employees shall enter into an agreement
30 with the department of administrative services. The agreement
31 shall provide, to the extent practicable, that employees be
32 offered state group insurance plans on a basis similar to that
33 offered full-time state employees excluded from collective
34 bargaining as provided in chapter 20. The agreement shall
35 also include, at a minimum, provisions under which state group

1 insurance plans are available and the applicable enrollment
2 rules and premium rates for each plan. The agreement shall be
3 subject to review and approval by the commissioner of
4 insurance.

5 Sec. 3. STATE CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM --
6 FAMILY COVERAGE WAIVER. The director of human services shall
7 seek a waiver from the centers for Medicaid and Medicare
8 services of the United States department of health and human
9 services to provide family coverage under the state children's
10 health insurance program created under Title XXI of the Social
11 Security Act. The program shall provide for payment of
12 premiums for private insurance for families if the cost of
13 coverage for the entire family is less than the cost of
14 enrollment of only the children in the family in the state
15 children's health insurance program. The employers' benefit
16 packages and contribution levels shall comply with all federal
17 requirements. The department shall report progress regarding
18 the request for a waiver under this section to the general
19 assembly periodically.

20 EXPLANATION

21 This bill provides that the board of directors of a school
22 district and a small employer may enter into an agreement with
23 the department of administrative services to offer state group
24 insurance plans to their employees. Current law defines small
25 employers for purposes of the model small group rating law as
26 employers with not more than 50 full-time equivalent
27 employees. The bill provides that the plans offered shall, to
28 the extent practicable, be the same as the plans offered state
29 employees not covered by a collective bargaining agreement.
30 The bill provides that the agreement with the department
31 include provisions governing what plans are offered and the
32 applicable enrollment rules and premium rates for each plan.
33 The bill also provides that the commissioner of insurance
34 review and approve all agreements.

35 The bill also directs the director of human services to

1 seek a waiver from the centers for Medicaid and Medicare
2 services of the United States department of health and human
3 services to provide family coverage under the state children's
4 health insurance program created under Title XXI of the Social
5 Security Act.

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35