CHAPTER 182

H.B. No. 927

An Act relating to authorizing a health care plan and health care fund for school district employees and their dependents.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 21, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 21.922 to read as follows:

Sec. 21.922. HEALTH CARE PLAN AND FUND. (a) The board of trustees of a school district may establish a health care plan for employees of the district and dependents of employees.

(b) In implementing the health care plan, the board shall establish a fund to pay, as authorized under the plan, all or part of the actual costs for hospital, surgical, medical, dental, or related health care incurred by employees of the district or any dependent whose participation in the program is being supported by deductions from the salary of an employee. Under the plan, the

fund also may be used to pay the costs of administering the fund. The fund consists of money contributed by the school district and money deducted from salaries of employees for dependent and/or employee coverage. Money for the fund may not be deducted from the salary of a school district employee unless the employee authorizes the deduction in writing. The plan shall attempt to protect the school district against unanticipated catastrophic individual loss, or unexpectedly large aggregate loss, by securing individual stop-loss coverage, or aggregate stop-loss coverage, or both, from a commercial insurer.

(c) The board may amend or cancel the district's health care plan at any regular or special meeting of the board. If the plan is canceled, any valid claim against the fund for payment of health care costs resulting from illness or injury occurring during the time the plan was in effect shall be paid out of the fund. If the fund is insufficient to pay the claim, the costs shall be paid out of other available school district funds.

SECTION 2. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended, and that this Act take effect and be in force from and after its passage, and it is so enacted.

Passed by the House on April 16, 1985, by a non-record vote; House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 927 on May 13, 1985, by a non-record vote; passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 9, 1985, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved: May 24, 1985 Effective: August 26, 1985