

First Extraordinary Session, 2005

HOUSE BILL NO. 103

BY REPRESENTATIVES HUTTER AND ODINET

INSURANCE/GROUP-STATE: Provides for participation in Office of Group Benefits insurance coverage for St. Bernard Parish School Board employees, members, and retirees under certain circumstances (Item #20)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact Part I-A of Chapter 12 of Title 42 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 as
3 amended, to be comprised of R.S. 42:815, relative to group insurance programs; to
4 provide for temporary eligibility and coverage of provisions for certain employees,
5 board members, and retirees of the St. Bernard Parish School Board in insurance
6 programs sponsored by the Office of Group Benefits; to provide for waiver of
7 payment of certain premiums for a certain time period; to provide for an effective
8 date; and to provide for related matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. Part I-A of Chapter 12 of Title 42 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of
11 1950 as amended, comprised of R.S. 42:815, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

12 PART I-A. TEMPORARY PROVISIONS RELATED TO LOSSES DUE TO

13 NATURAL DISASTERS IN 2005

14 §815. Temporary provisions related to losses due to natural disasters in 2005; St.
15 Bernard Parish School Board

16 A. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the following
17 provisions shall apply with respect to participation of the St. Bernard Parish School
18 Board, hereinafter referred to as the "school board", in insurance programs sponsored
19 by the Office of Group Benefits pursuant to this Chapter. Such provisions shall be

1 limited in duration as provided herein and are intended as a remedy in response to
2 the catastrophic revenue losses sustained by the school board as a result of natural
3 disasters in 2005.

4 B. Persons who were either members of the school board, or employees of
5 the school board on August 29, 2005, and thereafter have resumed full-time
6 employment with the school board, or have been placed on disaster-related leave
7 without pay and continue such leave, or have continued their tenure as a member of
8 the school board, shall continue to be eligible and participate in any insurance
9 programs sponsored by the Office of Group Benefits in which they were active
10 participants on August 29, 2005. Premiums incurred by the school board for such
11 employees and board members which are payable to the Office of Group Benefits
12 beginning January 1, 2006, and ending June 30, 2006, shall be waived. The
13 provisions of this Part shall not apply to any persons whose employment by the
14 school board or tenure as member of the school board began after August 29, 2005.
15 The provisions of this Subsection shall become null, void, and of no effect on July
16 1, 2006.

17 C. The payment of the employer portion of premiums associated with
18 eligibility, coverage, and participation of retirees of the school board in insurance
19 programs sponsored by the Office of Group Benefits shall be waived by the Office
20 of Group Benefits commencing January 1, 2006, and ending June 30, 2008. The
21 Office of Group Benefits shall continue to collect the portion of the premium owed
22 by the retiree. Such waiver of the employer portion of premiums shall in no way
23 affect the eligibility, coverage, or participation of such retirees in programs
24 sponsored by the Office of Group Benefits through June 30, 2008. The provisions
25 of this Subsection shall become null, void, and of no effect on July 1, 2008.

26 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
27 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
28 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If

- 1 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
2 effective on the day following such approval.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument.

Hutter

HB No. 103

Abstract: Maintains Office of Group Benefits insurance participation and coverage for employees, retirees, and board members of the St. Bernard Parish School Board and waives payment of certain premiums for a limited time period.

Proposed law establishes temporary provisions for participation and coverage of employees, board members, and retirees of the St. Bernard Parish School Board (hereinafter "school board"), in light of catastrophic revenue losses sustained by the school board as a result of natural disasters in 2005.

Proposed law provides that persons who were either members of the school board, or employees of the school board on August 29, 2005, and thereafter have resumed full-time employment with the school board, or have been placed on disaster-related leave without pay and continue such leave, or have continued their tenure as a member of the school board, shall continue to participate in any insurance programs sponsored by the Office of Group Benefits in which they were active participants on August 29, 2005.

Proposed law provides for waiver of premiums incurred by the school board for such employees and board members beginning January 1, 2006, and ending June 30, 2006.

The provisions of proposed law shall not apply to any persons whose employment by the school board or tenure as a member of the school board began after August 29, 2005.

The provisions of proposed law with respect to the waiver of premiums for coverage of employees and board members shall become null, void, and of no effect on July 1, 2006.

Proposed law provides for waiver of the employer portion of premiums associated with coverage and participation of retirees of the school board in insurance programs sponsored by the Office of Group Benefits commencing January 1, 2006, and ending June 30, 2008.

Proposed law provides that the Office of Group Benefits shall continue to collect the portion of the premium owed by the retiree.

The provisions of proposed law with respect to the waiver of the employer portion of premiums for coverage of retirees shall become null, void, and of no effect on July 1, 2008.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 42:815)