Greene (HB 381) **Act No. 353**

Existing law provides for the definition of "benefit rate" for use in calculating sales, income, and corporation franchise tax rebates. The benefit rate is based on the amount of wages and health care benefits provided for a new direct job. The amount of a rebate is based on the benefit rate multiplied by the employer payroll.

New law clarifies that the value of the health care benefits offered is included in the amount of the wages.

Existing law provides for the definition of "health care benefits" for use in determining the benefit rate, which rate is used in calculating sales, income, and corporation franchise tax rebates.

New law retains existing law but specifies that the value of health care benefits offered in accordance with the provisions of new law shall be treated as having been paid, regardless of whether an employee accepts the health plan or coverage, provided that at least 50% of the employees holding new direct jobs accept the health care benefits offered.

Provides that new law applies only to rebate requests filed by employers on or after July 1, 2012.

Effective upon signature of governor (June 29, 2011).

(Amends R.S. 51:2453(1) and (6), 2455(A), and 2457(A)(2)(a), (b), and (f))