

Senate Bill 298

By: Senator Price of the 56th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 18 of Title 45 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to the state employees' health insurance plan, so as to provide for optional health
3 care coverage plans as alternatives to the health insurance plan coverage and for conditions
4 and procedures relating thereto; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Article 1 of Chapter 18 of Title 45 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
8 state employees' health insurance plan, is amended by adding after Code Section 45-18-2 a
9 new Code section to read as follows:

10 "45-18-2.1.

11 In addition to any arrangement for health care coverage provided under the health
12 insurance plan established under this chapter, the board shall allow each employee eligible
13 for such coverage to choose to obtain alternative health care coverage under any accident
14 and sickness policy, health maintenance organization, or similar arrangement licensed
15 under Title 33. The obligation of the state or any other employer for payments for such
16 alternative coverage shall not exceed the average employer contribution for family or
17 individual coverage, as applicable, under the current health insurance plan offered by the
18 board. Any additional amount required for such alternative coverage shall be the
19 obligation of the employee. An employee who chooses such alternative coverage shall
20 provide to the board proof of acceptance of the employee for such coverage by the business
21 which provides such coverage. The board shall then pay to such business the premium or
22 other charge for such coverage, subject to the payment by the employee to the board of the
23 amount by which that premium or charge exceeds the employer's obligation therefor under
24 this Code section."

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SECTION 2.

2 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.