

House Bill 724 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Henson of the 65th, Watson of the 70th, Turnquest of the 73rd, Golick of the 30th and Hugley of the 133rd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-2-55, relating to per diem and expenses of members of local
2 boards of education, so as to authorize the inclusion of members of such boards in certain
3 health insurance plans; to provide for employer and employee contributions; to amend Code
4 Section 45-18-5, relating to county officers and employees' insurance and benefit plans, so
5 as to allow county board members to participate in such plans; to provide for related matters;
6 to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Code Section 20-2-55 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to per diem and
10 expenses of members of local boards of education, is amended by striking paragraph (1) of
11 subsection (b) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new paragraph (1) to read as
12 follows:

13 "(1) A local board of education is authorized to provide group medical and dental
14 insurance for its members who elect to participate. Such insurance may be provided
15 through a group policy secured by the local school district, a group policy secured by
16 several local school districts, a policy secured by an organization of local school boards,
17 ~~or by contract with the Georgia School Boards Association, Inc., under~~ in accordance
18 with Code Section 45-18-5 providing for the inclusion of members of the local board of
19 education and their spouses and dependents within any health insurance plan or plans
20 established under Article 1 of Chapter 18 of Title 45. It shall be the duty of the board to
21 make the employer contributions required for the operation of such plan or plans. A
22 board providing such insurance shall pay no greater percentage of the cost of that
23 insurance than the percentage of the cost paid as an employer contribution by the state
24 for the health insurance plan for state employees pursuant to Article 1 of Chapter 18 of
25 Title 45. The remainder of such insurance costs, and all the costs of any coverage for
26 family members, shall be paid as an employee contribution by the board member. It shall

1 be the duty of the board to deduct from the salary or other remuneration of qualified
 2 members or otherwise collect such payment from the qualified members or dependents."

3 SECTION 2.

4 Code Section 45-18-5 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to county officers
 5 and employees, is amended by striking subsection (c.1) in its entirety and inserting in lieu
 6 thereof a new subsection (c.1) to read as follows;

7 "(c.1)(~~1~~) Any local board of education may elect for members thereof and their spouses
 8 and dependents to be included in any health plan or plans established under this article. The
 9 board is authorized to contract with the Georgia School Boards Association, Inc., on behalf
 10 of the various local boards of education of this state for the inclusion in any health
 11 insurance plan or plans established under this article persons serving as members of local
 12 boards of education and their spouses and dependents. The Georgia School Boards
 13 Association, Inc., is authorized to contract with the board as provided in this Code section.
 14 In the event that such a contract is entered into, it shall be the duty of the Georgia School
 15 Boards Association, Inc., to collect from the various local boards of education of this state
 16 with which it has contracted under this subsection such payment as may be required under
 17 any health insurance plan for inclusion in the health insurance fund and to remit the same
 18 to the board. In addition, it shall be the duty of the Georgia School Boards Association,
 19 Inc., to maintain and remit to the board accurate records of member, spouse, dependent,
 20 and other information required by the board to administer this Code section Code Section
 21 20-2-918.

22 ~~(2) The various local boards of education of this state are authorized to contract with the~~
 23 ~~Georgia School Boards Association, Inc., for the inclusion in any health insurance plan~~
 24 ~~or plans established under this article persons serving as members of local boards of~~
 25 ~~education and their spouses and dependents. The Georgia School Boards Association,~~
 26 ~~Inc., is authorized to contract with the various local boards of education of the state as~~
 27 ~~provided in this Code section. In the event that any such contracts are entered into, it~~ It
 28 shall be the duty of any local boards of education so contracting electing to deduct from
 29 the salary or other compensation of its members such payment as may be required under
 30 paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of Code Section 20-2-55 and to remit the same to the
 31 Georgia School Boards Association, Inc., for payment to the board health insurance fund
 32 created under Code Section 20-2-918."

33 SECTION 3.

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