

The Senate Insurance and Labor Committee offered the following substitute to HB 724:

**AS PASSED SENATE**

**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  
4 Chapter 18 of Title 45 of Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to employees'  
5 insurance and benefit plans, so as to allow county board members to participate in such  
6 plans; to provide for certain definitions; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting  
7 laws; and for other purposes.

8 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

9 **SECTION 1.**

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

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

1 family members, shall be paid as an employee contribution by the board member. It shall  
 2 be the duty of the board to deduct from the salary or other remuneration of qualified  
 3 members or otherwise collect such payment from the qualified members or dependents."

#### 4 SECTION 2.

5 Chapter 18 of Title 45 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to employees'  
 6 insurance and benefit plans, is amended by striking subsection (c.1) of Code Section 45-18-5  
 7 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (c.1) to read as follows;

8 "(c.1)(~~1~~) Any local board of education may elect for members thereof and their spouses  
 9 and dependents to be included in any health plan or plans established under this article. ~~The~~  
 10 ~~board is authorized to contract with the Georgia School Boards Association, Inc., on behalf~~  
 11 ~~of the various local boards of education of this state for the inclusion in any health~~  
 12 ~~insurance plan or plans established under this article persons serving as members of local~~  
 13 ~~boards of education and their spouses and dependents. The Georgia School Boards~~  
 14 ~~Association, Inc., is authorized to contract with the board as provided in this Code section.~~  
 15 ~~In the event that such a contract is entered into, it shall be the duty of the Georgia School~~  
 16 ~~Boards Association, Inc., to collect from the various local boards of education of this state~~  
 17 ~~with which it has contracted under this subsection such payment as may be required under~~  
 18 ~~any health insurance plan for inclusion in the health insurance fund and to remit the same~~  
 19 ~~to the board. In addition, it shall be the duty of the Georgia School Boards Association,~~  
 20 ~~Inc., to maintain and remit to the board accurate records of member, spouse, dependent,~~  
 21 ~~and other information required by the board to administer this Code section~~ Code Section  
 22 20-2-918.

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

**SECTION 3.**

Said chapter is further amended by striking paragraph (3) of Code Section 45-18-50, relating to definitions, and inserting in lieu thereof a new paragraph (3) to read as follows:

"(3) 'Employee' means a member of the General Assembly or a person who works full time for the state and receives his compensation in a direct payment from a department, agency, authority, or institution of state government; a county department of family and children services or a county department of health; a member of any local board of education; and public schoolteachers and public school employees as defined in Code Sections 20-2-880 and 20-2-910, exclusive of the members, employees, and officials of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia."

**SECTION 4.**

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