

SENATE SUBSTITUTE TO HB 246:

**AS PASSED SENATE**

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED**

**AN ACT**

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 9 of Title 10 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
 2 relating to general provisions for the Geo. L. Smith II Georgia World Congress Center  
 3 Authority, so as to provide that the authority shall have the power to provide benefit  
 4 programs to its officers, employees, and other agents, including a retirement plan and a group  
 5 insurance plan; to amend Article 3 of Chapter 18 of Title 45 of the Official Code of Georgia  
 6 Annotated, relating to the Employee Benefit Plan Council, so as to extend the option to elect  
 7 coverage in the program to the authority; to amend Code Section 45-18-2 of the Official  
 8 Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the authority of the Board of Community Health to  
 9 establish health insurance plan, rules and regulations, provisions of plan generally, and  
 10 coverage for retiring or retired employees relating to the state employees' health insurance  
 11 plan, so as to provide that no health insurance plan for employees of this state shall offer  
 12 coverage for abortion services; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and  
 13 for other purposes.

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

**SECTION 1.**

15 Article 1 of Chapter 9 of Title 10 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
 16 general provisions for the Geo. L. Smith II Georgia World Congress Center Authority, is  
 17 amended by revising paragraph (4) of subsection (b) of Code Section 10-9-4, relating to  
 18 authority powers, as follows:  
 19

20 "(4) To elect, appoint, or hire officers, employees, and other agents of the authority,  
 21 including experts and fiscal agents, define their duties, ~~and fix their compensation, and~~  
 22 establish a flexible employee benefit plan for authority employees which may include  
 23 those flexible employee benefits described in Code Section 45-18-52;"

24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
  
44  
45

**SECTION 2.**

Said article is further amended by revising Code Section 45-18-54, relating to continuation of optional plans, approval of optional plans, or contracting with new or additional insurers, by adding a new subsection to read as follows:

"(d) The Geo. L. Smith II Georgia World Congress Center Authority shall have the option to irrevocably elect or reject coverage for employees of the authority in this program no later than June 30, 2014. New optional employee benefit plans or any contracting with new or additional insurers under existing plans that authorize the deduction or reduction of voluntarily designated amounts, including insurance, from the salaries of the full-time employees must be approved by the council. If the authority elects to participate in the coverage under this plan, it shall be assessed a pro rata share of the cost of administering the plan."

**SECTION 3.**

Code Section 45-18-2 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the board's authority to establish health insurance plan, rules and regulations, provisions of plan generally, and coverage for retiring or retired employees, is amended by adding a new subsection to read as follows:

"(a.1) No health insurance plan shall offer coverage for abortion services unless needed due to the mother's medical necessity or to preserve mother's life."

**SECTION 4.**

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