

1 HB211  
2 204118-1  
3 By Representatives Gaston and Jones (S)  
4 RFD: State Government  
5 First Read: 11-FEB-20

SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, certain entities may be eligible for health insurance coverage under the State Employees' Insurance Board without liability to the state or to the State Employees' Health Insurance Plan.

This bill would allow the employees of Volunteers of America to elect to participate in the state health insurance coverage.

A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

To amend Section 36-29-14 of the Code of Alabama 1975, relating to the election of certain agencies to be eligible for health insurance coverage under the State Employees' Insurance Board; to allow the employees of Volunteers of America to elect to participate in the state health insurance coverage.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

1                   Section 1. Section 36-29-14 of the Code of Alabama  
2                   1975, is amended to read as follows:

3                   "§36-29-14.

4                   "(a) Any agency of the state, or any governmental  
5                   entity, body, or subdivision thereto, any county, any  
6                   municipality, any municipal foundation, any fire or water  
7                   district, authority, or cooperative, any regional planning and  
8                   development commission established pursuant to Sections  
9                   11-85-50 through 11-85-73, that is not and was not for the 12  
10                  months immediately preceding the date of application to  
11                  participate in any plan created pursuant to the provisions of  
12                  this article a member of an existing government sponsored  
13                  health insurance program, formed under the provisions of  
14                  Section 11-26-2, the Association of County Commissions of  
15                  Alabama or the Alabama League of Municipalities, the Alabama  
16                  Retired State Employees' Association, the Alabama State  
17                  Employees Credit Union, Easter Seals Alabama, Alabama State  
18                  University, the Alabama Rural Water Association, Rainbow  
19                  Omega, Incorporated, The Arc of Alabama, Incorporated, and any  
20                  of the affiliated local chapters of The Arc of Alabama,  
21                  Incorporated, United Ways of Alabama and its member United  
22                  Ways, the Alabama Network of Children's Advocacy Centers and  
23                  its member Children's Advocacy Centers, Volunteers of America,  
24                  any railroad authority organized pursuant to Chapter 13, Title  
25                  37, or any solid waste disposal authority organized pursuant  
26                  to Chapter 89A, Title 11, by resolution legally adopted to  
27                  conform to rules prescribed by the State Employees' Insurance

1 Board, may elect to have its officers, members, employees, and  
2 retired employees become eligible for health insurance  
3 coverage under the State Employees' Insurance Board without  
4 any liability to the state or the State Employees' Health  
5 Insurance Plan.

6 "(b) Acceptance of the employees identified in  
7 subsection (a) shall be optional with the State Employees'  
8 Insurance Board.

9 "(c) Employees, officers, members, and retirees who  
10 are eligible for health insurance pursuant to this section  
11 shall be entitled to coverage and benefits as designated by  
12 the State Employees' Insurance Board.

13 "(d) Any portion of the cost of the insurance  
14 coverage as determined by the State Employees' Insurance Board  
15 for the employees, officers, members, and retirees and their  
16 dependents pursuant to this section may be paid by the  
17 employer.

18 "(e) The chief fiscal officer of each employer shall  
19 remit to the State Employees' Insurance Board the amount of  
20 premiums required for employee and dependent coverage under  
21 this section. The employer shall furnish the necessary  
22 information to the State Employees' Insurance Board.

23 "(f) The agreement of any employer to have its  
24 employees, officers, members, and retirees to be covered under  
25 the health insurance plan provided by the State Employees'  
26 Insurance Board may be revoked only by complying with the  
27 following provisions:

1           "The employer, by resolution of the governing body,  
2       shall signify its intention and desire to withdraw from such  
3       plan in writing and by delivering a copy of such resolution by  
4       certified mail to the State Employees' Insurance Board no  
5       later than six months prior to the effective date of  
6       withdrawal. Any employer that withdraws from participation in  
7       such plan shall be responsible for paying its claims incurred  
8       prior to the date of withdrawal, but not reported and paid  
9       prior to the date of withdrawal. The withdrawing employer  
10      shall also be liable for interest which will accrue at a rate  
11      of one and one-half percent per month on any monies due to the  
12      State Employees' Insurance Board which are over 30 days past  
13      due. Any organization which provides or administers health  
14      insurance benefits through the Local Government Health  
15      Insurance Program shall not provide or administer health  
16      insurance benefits to any entity which withdraws from the  
17      Local Government Health Insurance Program for a period of two  
18      years from the effective date of withdrawal.

19           "(g) The State Employees' Insurance Board shall  
20      promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary for  
21      the effective administration of the provisions of this  
22      section.

23           "(h) In addition, the State Employees' Insurance  
24      Board shall engage such actuarial and other special services  
25      as shall be required to transact the business of the board.  
26      The compensation of all persons engaged by the board, with the  
27      exception of clerical employees who shall be employed under

1       the Merit System Act, and all other expenses of the board  
2       necessary for the operation of the board shall be paid at such  
3       rates and in such amounts as the board shall approve."

4               Section 2. This act shall become effective  
5       immediately following its passage and approval by the  
6       Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.