

Bill No. SB 2428

Barcode 470832

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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The Committee on Banking and Insurance (Fasano) recommended
the following amendment:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause

and insert:

Section 1. (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to encourage small businesses to provide comprehensive major medical health insurance coverage to employees of the businesses.

(2) The Small Business Health Care Insurance Assistance Pilot Program is created as a statewide pilot program for a period of 2 years to provide a one-time rebate for small businesses that employ more than one but fewer than six employees and that provide full coverage of comprehensive major medical health insurance for such employees pursuant to s. 627.6699, Florida Statutes. The employer shall pay at least 50 percent but less than 100 percent of the cost of the coverage, and the employees must share in the remainder of the cost of the coverage.

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1 (3)(a) The amount of the rebate shall be \$1,000 per
2 each employee as reported on the business' Florida
3 unemployment compensation tax form 6.

4 (b) A small business must apply through the Agency for
5 Health Care Administration.

6 (c) A business is eligible for the rebate under this
7 section if, at the time of applying for a rebate under the
8 pilot program, the business had provided and paid for such
9 coverage for 12 consecutive months but had not provided and
10 paid for such coverage for at least 6 months prior to such
11 12-month period. The business may receive the rebate only one
12 time.

13 (d) The agency shall only provide rebates to eligible
14 businesses if a specific appropriation is made in the General
15 Appropriations Act for the purpose of providing rebates under
16 the pilot program.

17 (4) The pilot program shall be administered by the
18 Agency for Health Care Administration. The agency shall adopt
19 any rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54, Florida
20 Statutes, necessary to administer and ensure accountability of
21 the pilot program and enforce compliance with the requirements
22 of the program. The agency may conduct audits of any business
23 applying for rebates under the program to ensure compliance
24 with program requirements.

25 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

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28 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

29 And the title is amended as follows:

30 Delete everything before the enacting clause

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1 and insert:

2 A bill to be entitled
3 An act relating to small business health care
4 insurance assistance; providing legislative
5 intent; establishing a pilot program to provide
6 rebates to small businesses providing
7 comprehensive major medical health insurance
8 coverage for employees; requiring employer and
9 employee participation in certain costs;
10 specifying the amount of the rebate; providing
11 for additional eligibility for certain
12 businesses; limiting authorization to provide
13 rebates under the program only pursuant to
14 specific appropriation; providing for
15 administration of the program by the Agency for
16 Health Care Administration; requiring the
17 agency to adopt rules; providing enforcement
18 and audit authority for the agency; providing
19 an effective date.

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