11-105-07

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to small business health care
3	insurance assistance; providing legislative
4	intent; establishing a pilot program to provide
5	rebates to small businesses providing
6	comprehensive major medical health insurance
7	coverage for employees; requiring employer and
8	employee participation in certain costs;
9	specifying the amount of the rebate; providing
10	for additional eligibility for certain
11	businesses; limiting authorization to provide
12	rebates under the program pursuant to specific
13	appropriation; providing for administration of
14	the program by the Agency for Health Care
15	Administration; requiring the agency to adopt
16	rules; providing enforcement and audit
17	authority for the agency; providing an
18	effective date.
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20	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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22	Section 1. (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to
23	encourage small businesses to provide comprehensive major
24	medical health insurance coverage to employees of the
25	businesses.
26	(2) The Small Business Health Care Insurance
27	Assistance Pilot Program is created as a statewide pilot
28	program for a period of 2 years to provide a one-time rebate
29	for small businesses that employ more than one but fewer than
30	six employees and that provide full coverage of comprehensive
31	major medical health insurance for such employees pursuant to

1	s. 627.6699, Florida Statutes. The employer shall pay at least
2	50 percent but less than 100 percent of the cost of the
3	coverage, and the employees must share in the remainder of the
4	cost of the coverage.
5	(3)(a) The amount of the rebate shall be \$1,000 per
6	each employee as reported on the business's Florida
7	unemployment compensation tax form 6.
8	(b) A small business must apply through the Agency for
9	Health Care Administration.
10	(c) A business is eliqible for the rebate under this
11	section if, at the time of applying for a rebate under the
12	pilot program, the business had provided and paid for such
13	coverage for 12 consecutive months but had not provided and
14	paid for such coverage for at least 6 months prior to the
15	12-month period. The business may receive the rebate only one
16	time.
17	(d) The agency shall only provide rebates to eligible
18	businesses if a specific appropriation is made in the General
19	Appropriations Act for the purpose of providing rebates under
20	the pilot program.
21	(4) The pilot program shall be administered by the
22	Agency for Health Care Administration. The agency shall adopt
23	any rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54, Florida
24	Statutes, necessary to administer and ensure accountability of
25	the pilot program and enforce compliance with the requirements
26	of the program. The agency may conduct audits of any business
27	applying for rebates under the program to ensure compliance
28	with program requirements.
29	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.
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\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* SENATE SUMMARY Provides legislative intent. Establishes a pilot program to provide rebates to small businesses providing comprehensive major medical health insurance coverage for employees. Requires employer and employee participation in certain costs. Specifies the amount of the rebate. Provides for additional eligibility for certain businesses. Provides for authorization to provide rebates under the program only pursuant to specific appropriation. Provides for administration of the program by the Agency for Health Care Administration. Requires the agency to adopt rules. Provides enforcement and audit authority for the agency.