

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass and Be Placed on the Consent Calendar
Vote:	10 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Barton, Cameron, Edwards C., Esquivel, Holvey, Kennemer, Matthews, Thatcher, Witt, Schaufler
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Theresa Van Winkle, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	5/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Authorizes the Public Employees' Benefit Board to allow nurses and nurse educators employed less than half-time for a state agency or university to participate in self-pay group benefit plans. Waives the statutory minimum participation requirement.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of the measure
- Groups who can currently participate in self-pay group benefit plans

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: One of the provisions in SB 4 (2007) allowed part-time state-employed nurses or nurse educators to participate in medical and dental benefits of the Public Employees' Benefit Board (PEBB) by establishing an exemption from the half-time employment status requirement. However, the bill placed the exemption in a statute that describes those who are not eligible to participate in PEBB.

SB 167 allows these groups of state employees to obtain PEBB coverage for medical and dental plans as self-pay participants, even if they do not meet other requirements as defined either in statute or administrative rule. The measure also exempts these groups from requirements that define half-time employment status as well as minimum participation levels for self-pay groups.