1   AN ACT

2 relating to employer contributions under small employer health

3 benefit plans.

4   BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5   SECTION 1. Section 1501.153, Insurance Code, is amended by

6 adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

7   (a-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), a small employer

8 health benefit plan issuer may offer a small employer the option of

9 a small employer health benefit plan for which the employer is

10 required to contribute 100 percent of the premium paid. A plan

11 offered under this subsection may be offered in addition to a plan

12 offered by the issuer in accordance with Subsection (a) that

13 requires a lower percentage of the premium paid to be contributed by

14 the employer. A plan issued under this subsection must require the

15 employer to contribute 100 percent of the premium paid for each

16 eligible participating employee.

17   SECTION 2. This Act applies only to a small employer health

18 benefit plan delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed on or after

19 January 1, 2010. A small employer health benefit plan delivered,

20 issued for delivery, or renewed before January 1, 2010, is governed

21 by the law as it existed immediately before the effective date of

22 this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

23   SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

David Dewhurst
_____
President of the Senate

Joe Straus
_____
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 80 passed the Senate on April 2, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0._____

Patsy Spaw
_____
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 80 passed the House on May 25, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 141, Nays 0, one present not voting._____

Robert Haney
_____
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

19 JUN '09
_____
Date

Rick Perry
_____
Governor