

# As Introduced

128th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2009-2010

S. B. No. 34

Senator Miller, D.

Cosponsors: Senators Turner, Roberts, Miller, R., Fedor, Sawyer

—

## A BILL

To enact section 124.824 of the Revised Code to  
require the Department of Administrative Services  
to create a health insurance program that allows  
municipal corporations, small employers, and  
nonprofit corporations or associations to purchase  
for their employees the same policies or contracts  
provided to state employees.

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

**Section 1.** That section 124.824 of the Revised Code be  
enacted to read as follows:

**Sec. 124.824.** (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Eligible employee" means an employee employed in this  
state who works a normal work week of twenty-five or more hours  
and at least forty weeks per year. "Eligible employee" does not  
include a temporary or substitute employee, or a seasonal employee  
who works only part of the calendar year on the basis of natural  
or suitable times or circumstances.

(2) "Small employer" means an employer who employed an  
average of not more than five hundred eligible employees in this  
state on business days during the preceding calendar year and who

employs not more than five hundred eligible employees on the first 20  
day of the plan year. 21

(B) Not later than six months after the effective date of 22  
this section, the department of administrative services shall 23  
implement and administer a health insurance program whereby small 24  
employers, nonprofit corporations or associations, and legislative 25  
authorities of municipal corporations may purchase from the 26  
department insurance coverage for their eligible employees under 27  
policies or contracts for which the department has contracted 28  
under division (A) or (B) of section 124.82 of the Revised Code. 29  
The department shall charge small employers, nonprofit 30  
corporations or associations, and legislative authorities of 31  
municipal corporations the entire amount of the premiums or costs 32  
for coverage and, in addition, may charge a fee for administering 33  
the program. The department shall ensure that the program is 34  
actuarially sound. 35

(C) Nothing in this section prohibits a small employer, 36  
nonprofit corporation or association, or legislative authority of 37  
a municipal corporation from charging eligible employees for all 38  
or any portion of the costs of coverage purchased under this 39  
section. 40

(D) The director of administrative services shall adopt rules 41  
under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code for implementing and 42  
administering the health insurance program required by this 43  
section. The rules shall include any provisions the director 44  
considers necessary to carry out the program, including rules that 45  
establish procedures by which small employers, nonprofit 46  
corporations or associations, and legislative authorities of 47  
municipal corporations may apply to purchase coverage under this 48  
section. If the department charges an administrative fee under 49  
this section, the rules also shall prescribe a method for 50  
determining the amount of the fee to be charged. 51