

As Introduced

**129th General Assembly
Regular Session
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H. B. No. 97

Representatives Hollington, Carney

**Cosponsors: Representatives Henne, Martin, Huffman, Buchy, Snitchler,
Ruhl, Gardner, Thompson, Beck, Hackett, Hottinger, Wachtmann, Blair, Yuko,
Combs, Stebelton, Letson, O'Brien**

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A BILL

To enact section 124.824 of the Revised Code to 1
require the Department of Administrative Services 2
to make a high deductible health care plan 3
available to state employees and state elected 4
officials and to declare an emergency. 5

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

Section 1. That section 124.824 of the Revised Code be 6
enacted to read as follows: 7

Sec. 124.824. The department of administrative services shall 8
establish a high deductible health care plan as part of any 9
package of health care benefit options offered to state employees 10
and state elected officials who are paid by warrant of the 11
director of budget and management. The department shall make both 12
individual and family coverage available through the high 13
deductible health care plan. The high deductible health care plan 14
shall not increase the cost of providing health insurance to state 15
employees and state elected officials. 16

The amount of the premium or cost for coverage under the high 17

deductible health care plan contributed by the state, for an 18
individual or for an individual and the individual's family, shall 19
not exceed the amount of the premium or cost contributed by the 20
state for a standard deductible health care plan created under 21
division (A) of section 124.82 of the Revised Code. 22

An individual who has selected a high deductible health care 23
plan option shall establish a health savings account that 24
qualifies under section 223 of the Internal Revenue Code. The 25
state shall monthly deposit cash into the individual's health 26
savings account. The amount so deposited shall be based on the 27
amount of the premium or cost that would be contributed by the 28
state for individual or family coverage. The amount deposited 29
shall equal eighty per cent of the difference between (1) the 30
amount that would be contributed by the state for a standard 31
deductible health care plan created under division (A) of section 32
124.82 of the Revised code and (2) the amount contributed by the 33
state under a high deductible health care plan created under this 34
section. 35

Section 2. This act is declared to be an emergency measure 36
necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, 37
health, and safety. The reason for such necessity lies in the fact 38
that health care costs contribute to state budgetary concerns, in 39
these time of budget uncertainty, saving state employee health 40
costs are imperative. Therefore, this act shall go into immediate 41
effect. 42