

109TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4980

To allow employees of Federally-qualified health centers to obtain health coverage under chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 16, 2006

Mr. BASS (for himself, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BOEHLERT, and Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform

A BILL

To allow employees of Federally-qualified health centers to obtain health coverage under chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. ELIGIBILITY FOR COVERAGE.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
5 sion of law, an employee of a qualified health center may
6 enroll in an approved health benefits plan under chapter
7 89 of title 5, United States Code—

8 (1) either as an individual or for self and fam-
9 ily; and

1 (2) subject to exclusions similar to those re-
2 ferred to in section 8901(1)(iv) of such title.

3 (b) QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTER DEFINED.—For
4 purposes of this section, the term “qualified health center”
5 means any entity that—

6 (1) meets the definition of a Federally-qualified
7 health center, as set forth in section 1905(l)(2)(B)
8 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
9 1396d(l)(2)(B)); and

10 (2) enters into an appropriate agreement with
11 the Office of Personnel Management under this sec-
12 tion.

13 (c) TRANSFERS TO THE EMPLOYEES HEALTH BENE-
14 FITS FUND.—A qualified health center shall transfer to
15 the Employees Health Benefits Fund established under
16 section 8909 of title 5, United States Code, amounts de-
17 termined by the Director of the Office of Personnel Man-
18 agement (after consultation with such center) to be equal
19 to—

20 (1) the Government contributions which would
21 be payable by such center under section 8906 of
22 such title if such center were an employing agency
23 (as referred to in such section); and

24 (2) the individual contributions—

1 (A) which would be payable under such
2 section 8906—

3 (i) by each employee in or under such
4 center who is enrolled in an approved
5 health benefits plan (as referred to in sub-
6 section (a)); and

7 (ii) by reason of the enrollment (as re-
8 ferred to in clause (i)); and

9 (B) which shall be deducted and withheld
10 ratably from the pay of each such employee.

11 (d) REGULATIONS.—The Office of Personnel Man-
12 agement may prescribe regulations to carry out this sec-
13 tion.

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