HOUSE BILL NO. 95

94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES SATER (Sponsor), SCHARNHORST, WETER, MEADOWS, DUSENBERG, SWINGER, ERVIN, WRIGHT-JONES, FAITH AND SANDER (Co-sponsor).

AN ACT

To amend chapter 208, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to a health insurance premium assistance program.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 208, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be
2 known as section 208.735, to read as follows:

208.735. 1. Recognizing that many Missourians do not have health care benefits
2 **or health care coverage, that many small businesses cannot afford to provide health care**
3 **benefits to their employees, and that, under federal law, barriers exist to providing**
4 **Medicaid benefits to the uninsured, the Missouri legislature hereby establishes provisions**
5 **to lower the number of uninsured, assist businesses in their ability to afford health care**
6 **benefits and coverage for their employees, and eliminate barriers to providing health**
7 **coverage to eligible enrollees under federal law.**
8   **2. The family support division shall apply for a waiver or waivers to the Centers**
9 **for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) to accomplish the purpose outlined in**
10 **subsection 1 of this section. The division shall negotiate with CMS to include in such**
11 **waiver authority provisions to:**
12   **(1) Increase access to health care in Missouri;**

13   **(2) Reform the Missouri Medicaid program to promote personal responsibility for**
14 **health care services and appropriate utilization of health care benefits through the use of**
15 **public-private cost sharing;**
16   **(3)   Enable small employers and employed uninsured adults with or without**
17 **children to purchase employer-sponsored state-approved private or state-sponsored health**
18 **care coverage through a state premium assistance payment plan; and**
19   **(4) Develop flexible health care benefit packages based upon patient need and cost.**
20   **3. The division may phase in any waiver or waivers it receives based upon available**
21 **funding.**
22   **4. The division is authorized to develop and implement a pilot premium assistance**
23 **plan to assist small businesses and their eligible employees to purchase employer-sponsored**
24 **insurance or buy in to a state-sponsored benefit plan.**
25   **5. (1) There is hereby created in the state treasury the "Health Employee and**
26 **Economy Improvement Revolving Fund", which shall consist of money received pursuant**
27 **to this section.   The state treasurer shall be custodian of the fund and shall disburse**
28 **moneys from the fund in accordance with sections 30.170 and 30.180, RSMo.   Upon**
29 **appropriation, money in the fund shall be used solely for the administration of this section.**
30   **(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080, RSMo, to the contrary, any**
31 **moneys remaining in the fund at the end of the biennium shall not revert to the credit of**
32 **the general revenue fund.**
33   **(3) The state treasurer shall invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as other**
34 **funds are invested. Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be credited**
35 **to the fund.**
36   **6. Pursuant to section 23.253, RSMo, of the Missouri Sunset Act:**
37   **(1)   The provisions of the new program authorized under this section shall**
38 **automatically sunset six years after the effective date of this section unless reauthorized by**
39 **an act of the general assembly; and**
40   **(2) If such program is reauthorized, the program authorized under this section**
41 **shall automatically sunset twelve years after the effective date of the reauthorization of this**
42 **section; and**
43   **(3) This section shall terminate on September first of the calendar year immediately**
44 **following the calendar year in which the program authorized under this section is sunset.**

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