May 19, 2008

H 2229. HEALTH INSURANCE POOL PILOT PROGRAM. Filed 5/19/08. *TO AUTHORIZE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A HEALTH INSURANCE PILOT DEMONSTRATION PROJECT ENCOMPASSING BUNCOMBE COUNTY AND COUNTIES CONTIGUOUS TO BUNCOMBE COUNTY TO PROVIDE A MODEL FOR AFFORDABLE EMPLOYER-BASED HEALTH INSURANCE*.

As title indicates. Pilot to expire in 2013. Aim of the pilot is to reduce number of uninsured and reduce cost of health insurance. Under pilot, products for which pooling occurs must be fully insured and all small employers must be accepted into the pool, as well as their employees. Requires the Department of Insurance to evaluate the pilot to determine specified impacts. Specifies that GS 105-129.16E (tax credit for small businesses providing health insurance to its employees) applies to small businesses participating in the program. Amends GS 105-129.16E to provide that small business health care credit requires employer to pay at least 50% of a premium for a health benefit plan sold by small employer carrier under Part 5 of Article 50 of GS Chapter 58. Amendment to GS 105 is effective for tax years beginning January 1, 2008.

Intro. by Goforth, Rapp, Fisher, Thomas. GS 105