

HB 844 -- Association Health Plans

Sponsor: Meadows

This bill establishes the Small Business Health Fairness Act of 2005 and requires the Department of Insurance to establish a procedure for the certification of various industry trade associations seeking to offer group health plans to their members. Entities seeking certification must apply to the department and pay a \$5,000 filing fee. Any entity certified by the department as an association health plan must file an annual report with the department but will be subject to the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act rather than the insurance laws of this state.