

HB 919 -- GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE

SPONSOR: Ruestman

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Healthcare Transformation by a vote of 11 to 0.

Currently, group health insurance laws exclude sole-proprietorships and self-employed individuals. This bill allows associations to provide group health insurance policies to these classes of business.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2010, FY 2011, and FY 2012.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill provides affordable access to health insurance for small employers which will benefit many people.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Ruestman; Dr. Thomas Dunlap; and National Federation of Independent Business.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that it is simply clean-up language and will not adversely affect health insurance sales or the marketplace.

Testifying on the bill was Representative Molendorp.