
OLR Bill Analysis

SB 223

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PARAEDUCATOR HEALTH CARE SUBSIDY PROGRAM.

SUMMARY

This bill makes permanent two health care subsidy programs for paraeducators employed by local or regional boards of education and expands the programs to include paraeducators at charter schools. Under current law, the programs expired on June 30, 2025 (but the state budget included funds for the comptroller to continue the subsidies for FY 26).

One program provides subsidies for paraeducators who (1) open a health savings account (HSA) or (2) are Medicare-eligible and enroll in a high deductible health plan (HDHP). The subsidy covers a percentage, determined by the comptroller, of the deductible for the paraeducator's health plan minus the amount of any employer contributions to an HSA or health reimbursement account.

The second program provides subsidies to school boards that provide paraeducators coverage under an employer health plan (generally, a health insurance plan) or the partnership plan (a health benefit plan the comptroller offers to nonstate public employers and certain others). The subsidy covers up to 10% of the aggregate premium cost (including both the employee and employer shares), paid by the board of education for the coverage, divided by the number of paraeducators the board employs who are enrolled in the health plan. The subsidy must be used to offset the paraeducators' share of the premium.

The bill also eliminates an obsolete provision.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference - APP
Yea 42 Nay 2 (02/27/2026)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable
Yea 42 Nay 9 (04/01/2026)