

SUBJECT: Withdrawals from state employee sick leave pool

COMMITTEE: State Affairs — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 10 ayes — Wolens, Brimer, Carter, Counts, Danburg, Hilbert, Hunter, D. Jones, Longoria, McCall

0 nays

5 absent — S. Turner, Alvarado, Craddick, Ramsay, Stiles

SENATE VOTE: On final passage, Local and Uncontested Calendar, April 24 — 29-0

WITNESSES: None

BACKGROUND : The state employee sick leave pool was created by the 71st Legislature in 1989 to allow state employees to voluntarily contribute earned sick leave to other employees who have exhausted their own leave.

DIGEST: SB 1624 would stipulate that employees could withdraw time from the sick leave pool only in case of catastrophic illness or injury to the employee or the employee's immediate family.

Employees seeking permission to withdraw time from the sick leave pool because of catastrophic illness or injury would have to provide the pool administrator with a written statement from the licensed practitioner involved in the case. The statement would have to contain sufficient information about the injury or illness to enable the administrator to determine the employee's eligibility for using the sick leave pool.

SB 1624 would take effect September 1, 1997