

# EL PASO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT INNOVATION PLAN AMENDMENT TO CURRENT LOCAL INNOVATION PLAN

## AREA OF INNOVATION

With regard to each area of innovation, the District declares exemption from the listed statutory provisions, as well as any implementing rules or regulations promulgated pursuant to those statutory provisions by any state agency or entity, including but not limited to the Commissioner of Education, Texas Education Agency, State Board for Educator Certification, and State Board of Education.

1. **Preclusion from providing alternative Uniform Group Coverage Program once the program of coverages under Chapter 1579, Insurance Code is implemented.**

*Exemption from: TEC §22.004(i)*

*Related Board Policies: EPISD CRD (LEGAL) and CRD (LOCAL)*

### ***Manner in which statute inhibits the goals of the plan***

*TEC §22.004 (i) states that a school district may not make group health coverage available to its employees pursuant to TEC 22.004(b) after the date a District implements the program of coverages provided under Chapter 1579 of the Texas Insurance Code. The current process allows no flexibility in the design of group health insurance benefits to fit the needs of all El Paso ISD employees. This provision also prohibits the District from procuring group health insurance benefits that may provide better coverages for its employees and at a lower cost. This provision is in direct contradiction to the wishes of the local Board of Trustees who represent community interests in this matter.*

*On February 12, 2019 the Board of Trustees adopted findings declaring that Texas Education Code 22.004 is not in any of the prohibited exemptions that can be included in a District's local innovation plan pursuant to Texas Education Code 12A.004 and the list of the Commissioner's prohibited exemptions in Texas Administrative Code Title 19, Chapter 102, subchapter JJ, Section 102.1309.*

### ***Innovation Strategies***

- a. Increased local control of the group health benefits plan to allow the District to be responsive to employee and community needs.

2. **Amendment to Paragraph II. TERM on current Local Innovation Plan.**

*Exemption from: N/A*

*Related Board Policies: EPISD AF (LEGAL) and AF (LOCAL)*

***Manner in which statute inhibits the goals of the plan***

*This proposed amendment is to correct a typographical error in the term stated in EPISD's current local innovation plan. The current language in Paragraph II of the current local innovation plan states:*

*“The term of the Plan is for five years, beginning at the start of the 2016-2017 school year and ending at the end of the 2021-2022 school year, unless terminated or amended earlier by the Board of Trustees in accordance with the law. The Committee will continually monitor the effectiveness of the Plan and recommend to the Board any suggested modifications to the Plan.”*

*The 2016-2017 school year to the end of 2021-2022 school year is six years. In order to ensure compliance with statute the paragraph is amended to state:*

*“The term of the Plan is for five years, beginning at the start of the 2016-2017 school year and ending at the end of the 2020-2021 school year, unless terminated or amended earlier by the Board of Trustees in accordance with the law. The Committee will continually monitor the effectiveness of the Plan and recommend to the Board any suggested modifications to the Plan.”*

***Innovation Strategies***

*To correct typographical error.*

Adopted by the Board of Trustees on May 14, 2019.