

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## SHB 2841

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C 277 L 10  
Synopsis as Enacted

**Brief Description:** Concerning the standard health questionnaire.

**Sponsors:** House Committee on Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by Representatives Hinkle, Cody, Kristiansen, Morrell and Pearson).

**House Committee on Health Care & Wellness**  
**Senate Committee on Health & Long-Term Care**

**Background:**

Persons wishing to purchase an individual health benefit plan must complete a standard health questionnaire unless:

- they are moving from one geographic area to another where the current health plan is not offered;
- their established health care provider is no longer in the network of the individual health plan;
- they have exhausted the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) continuation coverage and apply within 90 days;
- they lose group coverage from a group that was exempt from COBRA requirements but had at least 24 months of continuous coverage immediately prior to disenrollment;
- they had at least 24 months of continuous coverage in the Basic Health Plan immediately prior to application; or
- they are eligible to purchase or drop COBRA continuation coverage.

Individuals who do not qualify for COBRA coverage because their employer employs fewer than 20 employees do not have to complete the standard health questionnaire if they apply for an individual health care policy within 90 days of a federally defined qualifying event.

**Summary:**

Individuals who are applying for an individual health benefit plan because their employer has gone out of business do not have to take the standard health questionnaire if application is made within 90 days of the employer discontinuing group coverage and the person had at least 24 months of continuous group coverage immediately prior to discontinuation.

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

**Votes on Final Passage:**

House	96	0	
Senate	45	0	(Senate amended)
House	95	0	(House concurred)

**Effective:** June 10, 2010