

**BLUM ISD PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO
CURRENT LOCAL INNOVATION PLAN: Posted 1-7-2020**

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: TEC22.004 (i)

*Related Board Policies: BISD 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 Blum ISD employees. This provision also prohibits the District from procuring group health insurance benefits that may provide better coverage 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.

Innovation Strategies

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