November 18, 2019

RE: Proposed Amendment to Pettus ISD District of Innovation Plan Originally Adopted July 24, 2017

Area of Innovation:

Within our current local innovation plan, with regard to each area of innovation, the District declares an 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 of Educator Certification, and State Board of Education.

Pettus ISD has determined a need to apply for an amendment to our District of Innovation Plan to allow exemptions for extended flexibility under:

TEC: 22.004(i)
Preclusion from providing alternative Uniform Group Coverage Program once the program of coverages under Chapter 1579, Insurance Code is implemented.

Related Board Policies: 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 the 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 Pettus 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 Pettus ISD Board of Trustees who represent community interest in this matter.

TEC 22.004 is not in any of the prohibited exemptions that can be included in a District’s local innovation plan pursuant to TEC 12A.004 and the list of the Commissioner’s prohibited exemptions in TAC Title 19, Chapter 102, subchapter JJ, Section 102.1309.
Innovative Strategies:

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

Amendment Proposed:  

Date: November 18, 2019

Mike Homann  
Superintendent

Date: November 18, 2019

Board of Trustees:

Date: November 18, 2019

President

Secretary