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**HOUSE BILL NO. 2632**

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE**

(Proposed by the Senate Committee on Finance  
on February 19, 2009)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Shannon)

A *BILL to require the Department of Human Resource Management to develop a health insurance program for employees of Virginia public school divisions and local governments similar to the program for state employees.*

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

*1. § 1. That the Department of Human Resource Management, with the assistance of the Department of Education, shall develop, implement, and administer a statewide health insurance program for employees of Virginia public school divisions and local governments that shall be similar in plan design, premium structure, and administration to the health insurance program for state employees. Coverage under the Public Schools and Local Government Health Insurance Program shall be effective beginning July 1, 2010. Except as provided in § 3, the Public Schools and Local Government Health Insurance Program administered by the Department of Human Resource Management shall be the sole health insurance plan for public school divisions and local governments.*

*§ 2. Notwithstanding any contrary provision of law, each public school division and local government within the Commonwealth shall be required to enroll in the Public Schools and Local Government Health Insurance Program, unless such school division or local government elects to exercise its rights as provided in § 3.*

*§ 3. Subject to the policies, procedures, and schedules promulgated by the Department of Human Resource Management, public school divisions and local governments may make an irrevocable election to opt out of participation in the Public Schools and Local Government Health Insurance Program. Public school divisions shall exercise this option in conjunction with the local governing body.*

*§ 4. The Department of Human Resource Management shall develop policies and procedures for the enrollment of school divisions and their employees in the Public Schools and Local Government Health Insurance Program and the one-time election to opt out of the program as authorized by § 3.*

**SENATE SUBSTITUTE**

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