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March 25, 2016

The Honorable John Frullo
Chairman, House Insurance Committee
P.O. Box 12068
Capitol Station, Room E2.608
Austin, Texas 78711

PORTER WILSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Chairman Frullo:

I. CRAIG HESTER
CHAIR

This letter addresses the Committee's request for a written comment on Interim Charge #7, requiring the Employees Retirement System (ERS) to report on incurred costs to the Group Benefits Program (GBP) after the implementation of HB 2929 (83R).

DOUGLAS DANZEISER
VICE-CHAIR

HealthSelect of TexasSM was covering an unlimited number of medically necessary rehabilitation services for brain injury prior to the passage of HB 2929. The bill did not add or change any services or limit to the existing plan design. Therefore, it had no fiscal impact to the State. To date, the GBP has incurred no additional expense due to HB 2929, other than the impact of normal medical inflation.

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ERS expects its third-party administrator to provide oversight and thorough medical management when reviewing health care service requests. Professional management of the plan and legislative support keeps the GBP on a path of fiscal sustainability, allowing ERS to continue offering competitive benefits to the state workforce at a reasonable cost. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 512-867-7182 (porter.wilson@ers.state.tx.us).

Sincerely,

PORTER WILSON
Executive Director