

RESOLUTION NO. 20180809-060

WHEREAS, the City of Austin is self-insured and contracts with a health insurance company to provide health insurance to City of Austin employees; and

WHEREAS, when a claim is denied by the health insurance company, the courts have ruled that the employee health benefit is a governmental function subject to governmental immunity; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 1638 endeavored to waive a political subdivision's governmental immunity for certain employee benefit claims, but it did not receive a hearing; and

WHEREAS, the current policy limits municipal employees' ability to initiate an independent appeal outside of the insurance company's established appeals processes under certain circumstances; and

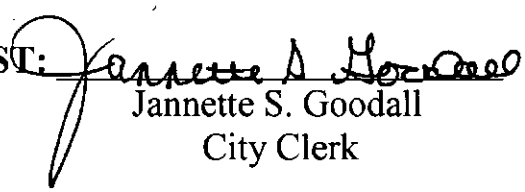
WHEREAS, it is prudent to explore all available options for municipal employees' ability to seek recourse when a healthcare claim is denied; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City Manager is directed to research national best practices relating to independent third party appeals processes for municipal employees whose healthcare claims are denied under certain circumstances. The City Manager is directed to report back to Council with a report detailing the limitations, opportunities, benefits, and costs of implementing such a process no later than November 5, 2018.

ADOPTED: August 9, 2018

ATTEST:


Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk