

By: Senator(s) Blackmon

To: Public Health and
Welfare;
Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2133

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 83-9-108, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROVIDE THAT MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT INSURANCE POLICIES ISSUED IN
3 THIS STATE SHALL INCLUDE COVERAGE FOR ANNUAL SCREENINGS BY
4 LOW-DOSE MAMMOGRAPHY FOR THE PRESENCE OF BREAST CANCER; AND FOR
5 RELATED PURPOSES.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

7 SECTION 1. Section 83-9-108, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 83-9-108. (1) Every insurer shall offer in each group or
10 individual policy, contract or certificate of health insurance
11 issued or renewed for persons who are residents of this state,
12 coverage for annual screenings by low-dose mammography for all
13 women thirty-five (35) years of age or older for the presence of
14 occult breast cancer within the provisions of the policy, contract
15 or certificate. This coverage shall be offered on an optional
16 basis, and each primary insured must accept or reject such
17 coverage in writing and accept responsibility for premium payment.

18 (2) Such benefits shall be at least as favorable as for
19 other radiological examinations and subject to the same dollar
20 limits, deductibles and coinsurance factors. For purposes of this
21 section, "low-dose mammography" means the x-ray examination of the
22 breast using equipment dedicated specifically for mammography,
23 including the x-ray tube, filter, compression device, screens,
24 films and cassettes with a radiation exposure which is
25 diagnostically valuable and in keeping with the recommended
26 "Average Patient Exposure Guides" as published by the Conference
27 of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc.

28 (3) Except for cancer policies, nothing in this section
29 shall apply to accident-only, specified disease, hospital
30 indemnity, * * * long-term care or limited benefit health
31 insurance policies.

32 (4) This section shall apply to all Medicare supplement
33 policies, contracts or certificates delivered, issued for delivery
34 or renewed in this state.

35 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
36 and after July 1, 1999.