

By: Senator(s) Kirby

To: Fees, Salaries and  
Administration;  
Insurance

SENATE BILL NO. 2953

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 25-15-14 AND 25-15-103, MISSISSIPPI  
2 CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE THAT SHERIFFS WHO DO NOT RUN FOR  
3 REELECTION OR WHO ARE DEFEATED BEFORE BEING ENTITLED TO RECEIVE A  
4 RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE SHALL BE ELIGIBLE TO CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE  
5 IN THE LOCAL OR STATE EMPLOYEES HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN; AND FOR  
6 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8 SECTION 1. Section 25-15-14, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
9 amended as follows:

10 25-15-14. Any elected state, \* \* \* district official or  
11 sheriff who does not run for reelection or who is defeated before  
12 being entitled to receive a retirement allowance shall be eligible  
13 to continue to participate in the state employees health insurance  
14 plan under the same conditions and coverages for retired  
15 employees.

16 SECTION 2. Section 25-15-103, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
17 amended as follows:

18 25-15-103. The maximum amount of group insurance or other  
19 coverage used in determining employer's limitation of one hundred  
20 percent (100%) of such costs shall be determined by regulations  
21 promulgated by the governing board or head of any political  
22 subdivision, school district, junior college district,  
23 institution, department or agency named in Sections 25-15-101 and  
24 25-15-103, but the life insurance for each employee shall not  
25 exceed Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), or the amount of  
26 deduction allowed by the United States Internal Revenue Service in  
27 filing a federal tax return, whichever is greater. A like amount  
28 may be for accidental death; accident, health and salary

29 protection insurance, providing benefits not exceeding sixty  
30 percent (60%) of the employee's income, or the amount allowed by  
31 the United States Internal Revenue Service in filing a federal tax  
32 return, whichever is greater. Hospitalization benefits for room  
33 and board may not exceed the average semiprivate cost per day; and  
34 the other coverages authorized hereinabove. The limitations in  
35 this paragraph on the amount of group insurance and other coverage  
36 which employers may obtain for their employees shall not be  
37 applicable to municipalities.

38 Any employee who retires due to one hundred percent (100%)  
39 medical disability, or due to reaching the statutory age of  
40 retirement under \* \* \* the Public Employees' Retirement System, or  
41 any sheriff who does not run for reelection or who is defeated  
42 before being entitled to receive a retirement allowance, may, if  
43 he elects, remain a member of the group plan for such life  
44 insurance and other benefits as may be agreed to by the governing  
45 board or institution, department, or agency head and the companies  
46 writing such insurance and other coverage, by paying the entire  
47 costs thereof.

48 When any of the political subdivisions, school districts,  
49 junior college districts, institutions, departments or agencies  
50 named in Sections 25-15-101 and 25-15-103 have adopted the group  
51 coverage plan authorized by said sections, any of the employees  
52 thereof participating in the plan who desire to secure additional  
53 benefits for their dependents with the company or companies  
54 providing such group coverage may do so by authorizing in writing  
55 the deduction from his or her salary or wages of the necessary  
56 amounts for the full payment of such additional coverage, and the  
57 same may be deducted and paid for such purposes, but the entire  
58 cost of such additional coverage for dependents shall be paid by  
59 the employee.

60 Said municipality may provide group life insurance coverage  
61 for all or specified groups of its public employees and group  
62 hospitalization benefits for such public employees and their  
63 dependents, and the municipality may pay the total of the cost of  
64 all benefits under this section.

65 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from

66 and after July 1, 1999.