## REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

## MR. SPEAKER AND MR. PRESIDENT:

We, the undersigned conferees, have had under consideration the amendments to the following entitled BILL:

H.B. No. 726: State and school employees insurance; combine the two plans into one plan.

We, therefore, respectfully submit the following report and recommendation:

- 1. That the Senate recede from its Amendment No. 1.
- 2. That the House and Senate adopt the following amendment:

Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

- 29 SECTION 1. Section 25-15-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 30 amended as follows:
- 31 25-15-3. For the purposes of this article, the words and
- 32 phrases used herein shall have the following meanings:
- 33 (a) "Employee" means a person who works full time for
- 34 the State of Mississippi and receives his compensation in a direct
- 35 payment from a department, agency or institution of the State
- 36 Government and any person who works full time for any school
- 37 <u>district</u>, <u>community/junior college</u>, <u>public library or</u>
- 38 <u>university-based program authorized under Section 37-23-31 for</u>
- 39 <u>deaf</u>, aphasic and emotionally disturbed children or any regular
- 40 <u>nonstudent bus driver</u>. This shall include legislators, employees
- 41 of the legislative branch and the judicial branch of the state and
- 42 "employees" shall include full-time salaried judges and full-time
- 43 district attorneys and their staff and full-time compulsory school
- 44 attendance officers. For the purposes of this article, any
- 45 "employee" making contributions to the State of Mississippi
- 46 retirement plan shall be considered a full-time employee.
- 47 (b) "Department" means the Department of Finance and
- 48 Administration.
- 49 (c) "Plan" means the State <u>and School</u> Employees Life
- 50 and Health Insurance Plan created under this article.
- 51 (d) "Fund" means the State <u>and School</u> Employees

- 52 Insurance Fund set up under this article.
- (e) "Retiree" means any <a href="mailto:employee">employee</a> retired under the
- 54 Mississippi retirement plan.
- (f) "Board" means the State and School Employees Health
- 56 <u>Insurance Management Board created under Section 25-15-303.</u>
- 57 SECTION 2. Section 25-15-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 58 amended as follows:
- 59 25-15-5. (1) The <u>board shall</u> administer the plan \* \* \* and
- 60 is authorized to adopt and promulgate rules and regulations for
- 61 its administration, subject to the terms and limitations contained
- 62 in this article. \* \* \*
- 63 \* \* \*
- 64 (2) The board shall develop a five-year strategic plan for
- 65 the insurance plan established by Section 25-15-3 et seq. \* \* \*
- 66 The strategic plan shall address, but not be limited to:
- 67 (a) Changing trends in the health care industry, and
- 68 how they effect delivery of services to members of the plan.
- 69 (b) Alternative service delivery systems.
- 70 (c) Any foreseeable problems with the present system of
- 71 delivering and administering health care benefits in Mississippi.
- 72 (d) The development of options and recommendations for
- 73 changes in the plan.
- 74 (3) To carry out the requirements of subsection (2) of this
- 75 section, the board may conduct formal research, including
- 76 questionnaires and attitudinal surveys of members' needs and
- 77 preferences with respect to service delivery.
- 78 \* \* \*
- 79 <u>(4)</u> After the <u>board</u> has complied with all provisions of
- 80 Section 25-15-9 \* \* \* regarding the establishment of the plan, it
- 81 shall be responsible for fully disclosing to plan members the
- 82 provisions of the plan. Such disclosure shall consist of the
- 83 dissemination of educational material on the plan and any proposed
- 84 changes thereto. The board shall provide members with complete
- 85 educational materials at least thirty (30) days before the date
- 86 upon which the plan's members must select a plan option for health

- 87 care services. The board shall further use the resources of the
- 88 Mississippi Authority for Educational Television or other state
- 89 agency, university or college to provide information on proposed
- 90 changes. The board may also use other state-owned media, as well
- 91 as public service announcements on private media to disseminate
- 92 information regarding proposed changes in the plan.
- 93 (5) The board shall develop and make available for public
- 94 review at its offices a comprehensive plan document which
- 95 documents all benefits for which members of the plan created by
- 96 Section 25-15-3 et seq. \* \* \* are eligible. This document shall
- 97 be typed and maintained also at the offices of any administrator
- 98 contracted with in accordance with Section 25-15-301.
- 99 <u>(6)</u> (a) The <u>board</u> may enter into contracts with
- 100 accountants, actuaries and other persons from the private sector
- 101 whose skills are necessary to carry out the purposes of <u>Section</u>
- 102 <u>25-15-3 et seq.</u>
- 103 (b) Before the <u>board</u> enters into any contract for
- 104 services as provided in paragraph (a) of this subsection, the
- 105 board shall first determine that the services are required, and
- 106 that the staff of the board and personnel of other state agencies
- 107 are not sufficiently experienced to provide the services. \* \* \*
- 108 (c) If the service is to be rendered for a period of in
- 109 excess of six (6) months, the <u>board</u> shall seek and obtain bids for
- 110 the service in a manner identical to that provided for in Section
- 111 25-15-301, subsection (1)(a) and (b) except for those provisions
- 112 which specifically state criteria which are applicable only to
- 113 third-party administrators contracted with in accordance with
- 114 <u>Section 25-15-3 et seq.</u>
- 115 (d) The <u>board</u> is also authorized to procure legal
- 116 services if it deems these services to be necessary to carry out
- 117 its responsibilities under <u>Section 25-15-3 et seq.</u>
- SECTION 3. Section 25-15-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 119 amended as follows:
- 120 25-15-9. (1) (a) The board shall design a plan of health
- 121 insurance for state employees which provides benefits for

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    semiprivate rooms in addition to other incidental coverages which
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    the board deems necessary. The amount of the coverages shall be
    in such reasonable amount as may be determined by the board to be
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    adequate, after due consideration of current health costs in
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                  The plan shall also include major medical benefits
    Mississippi.
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    in such amounts as the board shall determine. The board is also
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    authorized to accept bids for such alternate coverage and optional
    benefits as the board shall deem proper.
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                                              Any contract for
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    alternative coverage and optional benefits shall be awarded by the
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    board after it has carefully studied and evaluated the bids and
    selected the best and most cost-effective bid. The board may
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    reject all such bids; however, the board shall notify all bidders
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    of the rejection and shall actively solicit new bids if all bids
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    are rejected. The board may employ or contract for such
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    consulting or actuarial services as may be necessary to formulate
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    the * * * plan, and to assist the board in the preparation of
    specifications and in the process of advertising for the bids for
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    the plan. Such contracts shall be solicited and entered into in
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    accordance with Section 25-15-5. The board shall keep a record of
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    all persons, agents and corporations who contract with or assist
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    the board in preparing and developing the plan. The board in a
    timely manner shall provide copies of this record to the members
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    of the advisory council created in this section and those
    <u>legislators</u>, or their designees, who may attend meetings of the
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    advisory council. The board shall provide copies of this record
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    in the solicitation of bids for the administration or servicing of
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    the self-insured program. Each person, agent or corporation
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    which, during the previous fiscal year, has assisted in the
    development of the plan or employed or compensated any person who
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    assisted in the development of the plan, and which bids on the
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    administration or servicing of the plan, shall submit to the board
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    a statement accompanying the bid explaining in detail its
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    participation with the development of the plan. This statement
    shall include the amount of compensation paid by the bidder to any
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    such employee during the previous fiscal year. The board shall
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157 make all such information available to the members of the advisory 158 council and those legislators, or their designees, who may attend meetings of the advisory council before any action is taken by the 159 board on the bids submitted. The failure of any bidder to fully 160 161 and accurately comply with this paragraph shall result in the rejection of any bid submitted by that bidder or the cancellation 162 163 of any contract executed when the failure is discovered after the acceptance of that bid. The board is authorized to promulgate 164 165 rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this 166 subsection. 167 The board shall develop plans for the insurance plan 168 authorized by this section in accordance with the provisions of Section 25-15-5. 169 170 Any corporation, association, company or individual that 171 contracts with the board for the third-party claims administration 172 of the self-insured plan shall prepare and keep on file an explanation of benefits for each claim processed. The explanation 173 of benefits shall contain such information relative to each 174 175 processed claim which the board deems necessary, and, at a 176 minimum, each explanation shall provide the claimant's name, claim 177 number, provider number, provider name, service dates, type of services, amount of charges, amount allowed to the claimant and 178 179 reason codes. The information contained in the explanation of benefits shall be available for inspection upon request by the 180 board. The board shall have access to all claims information 181 utilized in the issuance of payments to employees and providers. 182 There is created an advisory council to advise the 183 184 board in the formulation of the State and School Employees Health Insurance Plan. The council shall be composed of the State 185 186 Insurance Commissioner or his designee, an employee-representative of the institutions of higher learning appointed by the board of 187 trustees thereof, an employee-representative of the Department of 188 Transportation appointed by the director thereof, an 189

employee-representative of the State Tax Commission appointed by

the Commissioner of Revenue, an employee-representative of the

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Mississippi Department of Health appointed by the State Health 192 193 Officer, an employee-representative of the Mississippi Department of Corrections appointed by the Commissioner of Corrections, and 194 an employee-representative of the Department of Human Services 195 196 appointed by the Executive Director of Human Services, two (2) certificated public school administrators appointed by the State 197 198 Board of Education, two (2) certificated classroom teachers 199 appointed by the State Board of Education, a noncertificated 200 school employee appointed by the State Board of Education and a 201 community/junior college employee appointed by the State Board for 202 Community and Junior Colleges. 203 The Lieutenant Governor may designate the Secretary of the 204 Senate, the Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, the 205 Chairman of the Senate Education Committee and the Chairman of the 206 Senate Insurance Committee, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives may designate the Clerk of the House, the Chairman 207 of the House Appropriations Committee, the Chairman of the House 208 Education Committee and the Chairman of the House Insurance 209 210 Committee, to attend any meeting of the State and School Employees Insurance Advisory Council. The appointing authorities may 211 212 designate an alternate member from their respective houses to 213 serve when the regular designee is unable to attend such meetings of the council. Such designees shall have no jurisdiction or vote 214 on any matter within the jurisdiction of the council. For 215 attending meetings of the council, such legislators shall receive 216 217 per diem and expenses which shall be paid from the contingent expense funds of their respective houses in the same amounts as 218 219 provided for committee meetings when the Legislature is not in session; however, no per diem and expenses for attending meetings 220 221 of the council will be paid while the Legislature is in session. No per diem and expenses will be paid except for attending 222 meetings of the council without prior approval of the proper 223 224 committee in their respective houses.

(c) No change in the terms of the State and School

Employees Health Insurance Plan may be made effective unless the

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- 227 <u>board</u>, or <u>its</u> designee, has provided notice to the State <u>and</u>
- 228 School Employees Health Insurance Advisory Council and has called
- 229 a meeting of the council at least fifteen (15) days before the
- 230 effective date of such change. In the event that the State and
- 231 <u>School</u> Employees Health Insurance <u>Advisory</u> Council does not meet
- 232 to advise the **board** on the proposed changes, the changes to the
- 233 plan shall become effective at such time as the board has informed
- 234 the council that the changes shall become effective.
- 235 (d) Medical benefits for retired employees and
- 236 dependents under age sixty-five (65) years and not eligible for
- 237 Medicare benefits. The same health insurance coverage as for all
- 238 other active employees and their dependents shall be available to
- 239 retired employees and all dependents under age sixty-five (65)
- 240 years who are not eligible for medicare benefits, the level of
- 241 benefits to be the same level as for all other active
- 242 participants. This section will apply to those employees who
- 243 retire due to one hundred percent (100%) medical disability as
- 244 well as those employees electing early retirement.
- 245 (e) Medical benefits for retired employees and
- 246 dependents over age sixty-five (65) years or otherwise eligible
- 247 for medicare benefits. The health insurance coverage available to
- 248 retired employees over age sixty-five (65) years or otherwise
- 249 <u>eligible for Medicare benefits</u>, and all dependents over age
- 250 sixty-five (65) years or otherwise eligible for Medicare benefits,
- 251 shall be the major medical coverage with the lifetime maximum of
- 252 One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00). Benefits shall be reduced by
- 253 Medicare benefits as though such Medicare benefits were the base
- 254 plan.
- 255 All covered individuals shall be assumed to have full
- 256 Medicare coverage, Parts A and B; and any Medicare payments under
- 257 both Parts A and B shall be computed to reduce benefits payable
- 258 under this plan.
- 259 (2) Nonduplication of benefits--reduction of benefits by
- 260 Title XIX benefits: When benefits would be payable under more
- 261 than one (1) group plan, benefits under those plans will be

- 262 coordinated to the extent that the total benefits under all plans
- 263 will not exceed the total expenses incurred.
- 264 Benefits for hospital or surgical or medical benefits shall
- 265 be reduced by any similar benefits payable in accordance with
- 266 Title XIX of the Social Security Act or under any amendments
- 267 thereto, or any implementing legislation.
- 268 Benefits for hospital or surgical or medical benefits shall
- 269 be reduced by any similar benefits payable by workers'
- 270 compensation. (3) (a) Schedule of life insurance
- 271 benefits--group term: The amount of term life insurance for each
- 272 active employee of a department, agency or institution of the
- 273 State Government shall not be in excess of One Hundred Thousand
- 274 Dollars (\$100,000.00), or twice the amount of the employee's
- 275 annual wage to the next highest One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00),
- 276 whichever may be less, but in no case less than Thirty Thousand
- 277 Dollars (\$30,000.00), with a like amount for accidental death and
- 278 dismemberment on a twenty-four-hour basis. The plan will further
- 279 contain a premium waiver provision if a covered employee becomes
- 280 totally and permanently disabled prior to age sixty-five (65)
- 281 years. \* \* \* Employees retiring after June 30, 1999, shall be
- 282 eligible to continue life insurance coverage in an amount of Five
- 283 Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) or
- 284 Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) into retirement. \* \* \*
- (b) Effective October 1, 1999, schedule of life
- 286 <u>insurance benefits--group term: The amount of term life insurance</u>
- 287 for each active employee of any school district, community/junior
- 288 college, public library or university-based program authorized
- 289 under Section 37-23-31 for deaf, aphasic and emotionally disturbed
- 290 <u>children or any regular nonstudent bus driver shall not be in</u>
- 291 excess of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00), or twice the
- 292 <u>amount of the employee's annual wage to the next highest One</u>
- 293 Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), whichever may be less, but in no
- 294 case less than Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00), with a like
- 295 <u>amount for accidental death and dismemberment on a</u>
- 296 twenty-four-hour basis. The plan will further contain a premium

- 297 waiver provision if a covered employee of any school district,
- 298 community/junior college, public library or university-based
- 299 program authorized under Section 37-23-31 for deaf, aphasic and
- 300 <u>emotionally disturbed children or any regular nonstudent bus</u>
- 301 driver becomes totally and permanently disabled prior to age
- 302 sixty-five (65) years. Employees of any school district,
- 303 <u>community/junior college, public library or university-based</u>
- 304 program authorized under Section 37-23-31 for deaf, aphasic and
- 305 <u>emotionally disturbed children or any regular nonstudent bus</u>
- 306 driver retiring after September 30, 1999, shall be eligible to
- 307 <u>continue life insurance coverage in an amount of Five Thousand</u>
- 308 <u>Dollars (\$5,000.00)</u>, <u>Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00)</u> or <u>Twenty</u>
- 309 Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) into retirement.
- 310 (4) Any eligible employee who on March 1, 1971, was
- 311 participating in a group life insurance program which has
- 312 provisions different from those included herein and for which the
- 313 State of Mississippi was paying a part of the premium may, at his
- 314 discretion, continue to participate in such plan. Such employee
- 315 shall pay in full all additional costs, if any, above the minimum
- 316 program established by this article. Under no circumstances shall
- 317 any individual who begins employment with the state after March 1,
- 318 1971, be eligible for the provisions of this paragraph.
- 319 \* \* \*
- 320 <u>(5)</u> \* \* \* The <u>board</u> may offer medical savings accounts as
- 321 defined in Section 71-9-3 as a plan option. \* \* \*
- 322 \* \* \*
- 323 (6) Any premium differentials, differences in coverages,
- 324 discounts determined by risk or by any other factors shall be
- 325 uniformly applied to all active employees participating in the
- 326 insurance plan. It is the intent of the Legislature that the
- 327 state contribution to the plan be the same for each employee
- 328 throughout the state.
- 329 <u>(7) On October 1, 1999, any school district,</u>
- 330 community/junior college district or public library may elect to
- 331 remain with an existing policy or policies of group life insurance

332	with an insurance company approved by the State and School
333	Employees Health Insurance Management Board, in lieu of
334	participation in the State and School Life Insurance Plan. The
335	state's contribution of up to fifty percent (50%) of the active
336	employee's premium under the State and School Life Insurance Plan
337	may be applied toward the cost of coverage for full-time employees
338	participating in the approved life insurance company group plan.
339	For purposes of this subsection (7), "life insurance company group
340	plan" means a plan administered or sold by a private insurance
341	company. After October 1, 1999, the board may assess charges in
342	addition to the existing State and School Life Insurance plan
343	rates to such employees as a condition of enrollment in the State
344	and School Life Insurance Plan. In order for any life insurance
345	company group plan existing as of October 1, 1999, to be approved
346	by the State and School Employees Health Insurance Management
347	Board under this subsection (7), it shall meet the following
348	<u>criteria:</u>
349	(a) The insurance company offering the group life
350	insurance plan shall be rated "A-" or better by A.M. Best state
351	insurance rating service and be licensed as an admitted carrier in
352	the State of Mississippi by the Mississippi Department of
353	Insurance.
354	(b) The insurance company group life insurance plan
355	shall provide the same life insurance, accidental death and
356	dismemberment insurance and waiver of premium benefits as provided
357	in the State and School Life Insurance Plan.
358	(c) The insurance company group life insurance plan
359	shall be fully insured, and no form of self-funding life insurance
360	by such company shall be approved.
361	(d) The insurance company group life insurance plan
362	shall have one (1) composite rate per One Thousand Dollars
363	(\$1,000.00) of coverage for active employees regardless of age and
364	one (1) composite rate per One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) of
365	coverage for all retirees regardless of age or type of retiree.

(e) The insurance company and its group life insurance

- 367 plan shall comply with any administrative requirements of the
- 368 State and School Employees Health Insurance Management Board. In
- 369 the event any insurance company providing group life insurance
- 370 benefits to employees under this subsection (7) fails to comply
- 371 with any requirements specified herein or any administrative
- 372 requirements of the board, the state shall discontinue providing
- 373 <u>funding for the cost of such insurance.</u>
- 374 SECTION 4. Section 25-15-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 375 amended as follows:
- 376 25-15-11. (1) The board is authorized to execute a contract
- 377 or contracts to provide the benefits under the plan. Such
- 378 contract or contracts may be executed with one or more
- 379 corporations or associations licensed to transact life and
- 380 accident and health insurance business in this state; however, no
- 381 such contract shall be executed with any corporation, association
- 382 or company domiciled in any other state except that such
- 383 corporation, association or company shall meet the conditions and
- 384 terms for a like contract established by the state of the domicile
- 385 of such corporation, association or company for a Mississippi
- 386 corporation, association or company. No corporation, association
- 387 or company with less than five (5) years' experience in the life
- 388 and health field may bid. All of the benefits to be provided
- 389 under the plan may be included in one or more similar contracts,
- 390 or the benefits may be classified into different types with each
- 391 type included under one or more similar contracts issued by the
- 392 same or different companies.
- 393 The <u>board</u> shall supply the statistical information upon which
- 394 a quotation is to be calculated, upon request, to all carriers
- 395 licensed in the state. Bids may be accepted at the discretion of
- 396 the <u>board</u>, and the <u>board</u> shall have the right to adjust rates on
- 397 an annual basis if the board shall deem such adjustment necessary.
- 398 The plan for active employees shall be on retention accounting
- 399 basis, and a separate retention accounting basis shall be used for
- 400 retired employees. Any additional written information the carrier
- 401 wishes to submit, supporting the proposed benefits and premium

- 402 rate, may accompany the proposal. \* \* \* After receiving the
- 403 proposals, the board shall determine whether to contract with the
- 404 carrier which has been determined to have submitted the lowest and
- 405 best bid, or to reject all such bids and receive new proposals.
- 406 The board shall authorize any corporation licensed to
- 407 transact accident and health insurance business in this state
- 408 issuing any such contract to reinsure portions of such contract
- 409 with any other such corporation which elected to be a reinsurer
- 410 and is legally competent to enter into a reinsurance agreement.
- 411 The board may designate one or more of such corporations as the
- 412 administering corporation or corporations. Each employee who is
- 413 covered under any such contract or contracts shall receive a
- 414 certificate setting forth the benefits to which the employee is
- 415 entitled thereunder, to whom such benefits shall be payable, to
- 416 whom claims should be submitted, and summarizing the provisions of
- 417 the contract principally affecting the employee. Such certificate
- 418 shall be in lieu of the certificate which the corporation or
- 419 corporations issuing such contract or contracts would otherwise
- 420 issue.
- The board may, as of the end of any contract year,
- 422 discontinue any contract or contracts it has executed with any
- 423 corporation or corporations and replace it or them with a contract
- 424 or contracts in any other corporation or corporations meeting the
- 425 requirements of this section.
- The board may reject any and all bids and contracts under
- 427 this section and may elect for the state to become a self-insurer;
- 428 however, administration and service of any such self-insured
- 429 program may be contracted to a third party by the board.
- Any contract with a third party to administer the plan shall
- 431 be bid and entered into in accordance with the procedures provided
- 432 in Section 25-15-301.
- 433 (2) By September 30 of each year, the board shall report to
- 434 the Joint Legislative Budget Committee, Senate Insurance
- 435 Committee, House Insurance Committee, Senate Education Committee,
- 436 House Education Committee and Joint Legislative Committee on

437	Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review the condition of the
438	State and School Employees Life and Health Insurance Plan. Such
439	report shall contain for the most recently completed fiscal year,
440	but not be limited to, the following:
441	(a) The plan's financial condition at the close of the
442	fiscal year.
443	(b) The history of yearly claims paid and premiums
444	received for each premium class, including, but not limited to,
445	active employees, dependents and retirees.
446	(c) The history of loss ratios for the active
447	employees, dependents and retirees premium classes as well as
448	historical trend of such ratios. For the purposes of this
449	section, the term "loss ratios" means claims paid by the plan for
450	each premium class divided by premiums received by the plan for
451	insurance coverage of the members in that premium class.

- (d) Budgetary information, including:
- (i) A detailed breakdown of all expenditures of
- 454 the plan, administrative and otherwise, for the most recently
- 455 <u>completed fiscal year and projected expenditures, administrative</u>
- 456 and otherwise, for the current and next fiscal year;
- 457 <u>(ii) A schedule of all contracts, administrative</u>
- 458 and otherwise, executed for the benefit of the plan during the
- 459 most recent completed fiscal year and those executed and
- 460 <u>anticipated for the current fiscal year; and</u>
- 461 (iii) A description of the processes used by the
- 462 board to procure all contracts, administrative and otherwise, as
- 463 well as a description of the scope of services to be provided by
- 464 <u>each contractor</u>.

- Budgetary information shall be provided in a format
- 466 <u>designated by the Joint Legislative Budget Committee.</u>
- The Joint Legislative Budget Committee, Senate Insurance
- 468 <u>Committee</u>, <u>House Insurance Committee</u>, <u>Senate Education Committee</u>,
- 469 House Education Committee and Joint Legislative Committee on
- 470 Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review may request
- 471 additional information or reports from the board on an as-needed

- 472 <u>basis.</u>
- 473 (3) Annually, the board shall request, and the Department of
- 474 Audit shall conduct, a comprehensive audit of the State and School
- 475 Employees Life and Health Insurance Plan. For purposes of this
- 476 section, the audit required herein shall be separate and distinct
- 477 from any audit prepared in conjunction with the development of the
- 478 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).
- SECTION 5. Section 25-15-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 480 amended as follows:
- 481 25-15-13. Each eligible employee may participate in the
- 482 plan by signing up for the plan at the time of employment. Each
- 483 eligible employee who declines coverage under the plan must sign a
- 484 waiver of coverage. After acceptance in the plan, the employee
- 485 may cease his or her participation by filing a specific disclaimer
- 486 with the board. Forms for this purpose shall be prescribed and
- 487 issued by the board. All eligible employees will be eligible to
- 488 participate in the plan on the effective date of the plan or on
- 489 the date on which they are employed by the state, whichever is
- 490 later, provided they make the necessary contributions as provided
- 491 <u>in this article</u>. Spouses of employees, unmarried dependent
- 492 children from birth to age nineteen (19) years, unmarried
- 493 dependent children who are full-time students up to age
- 494 twenty-five (25) years, and physically or mentally handicapped
- 495 children, regardless of age, are eligible under the plan as of the
- 496 date the employee becomes eligible. <u>If both spouses are eligible</u>
- 497 employees who participate in the plan, the benefits shall apply
- 498 individually to each spouse by virtue of his or her participation
- 499 in the plan. If those spouses also have one or more eligible
- 500 dependents participating in the plan, the cost of their dependents
- 501 shall be calculated at a special family plan rate. The cost for
- 502 participation by the dependents shall be paid by the spouse who
- 503 <u>elects to carry such dependents under his or her coverage.</u>
- SECTION 6. Section 25-15-14, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 505 amended as follows:
- 506 25-15-14. Any elected state or district official who does

- 507 not run for reelection or who is defeated before being entitled to
- 508 receive a retirement allowance shall be eligible to continue to
- 509 participate in the State and School Employees Health Insurance
- 510 Plan under the same conditions and coverages for retired
- 511 employees.
- 512 SECTION 7. Section 25-15-15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 513 amended as follows:
- 514 25-15-15. (1) The board is authorized to determine the
- 515 manner in which premiums and contributions by the state agencies,
- 516 <u>local school districts, colleges, universities, community/junior</u>
- 517 colleges and public libraries shall be collected to provide the
- 518 self-insured health insurance program for employees as provided
- 519 <u>under this article.</u> The state shall provide fifty percent (50%)
- 520 of the cost of the above life insurance plan and one hundred
- 521 percent (100%) of the cost of the above health insurance plan for
- 522 all active full-time employees, and the employees shall be given
- 523 the opportunity to purchase coverage for their eligible dependents
- 524 with the premiums for such dependent coverage as well as the
- 525 employee's fifty percent (50%) share for his life insurance
- 526 coverage to be deductible from the employee's salary by the
- 527 agency, department or institution head, which deductions, together
- 528 with the fifty percent (50%) share of such life insurance premiums
- 529 of such employing agency, department or institution head from
- 530 funds appropriated to or authorized to be expended by such
- 531 employing agency, department or institution head, shall be
- 532 deposited directly into a depository bank or special fund in the
- 533 State Treasury, as determined by the board. These funds and
- 534 interest earned on these funds may be used for the disbursement of
- 535 claims and shall be exempt from the appropriation process.
- 536 (2) The state shall provide annually, by line item in the
- 537 <u>Mississippi Library Commission appropriation bill, such funds to</u>
- 538 pay one hundred percent (100%) of the cost of health insurance
- 539 under the State and School Employees Health Insurance Plan for all
- 540 <u>full-time library staff members in each public library in</u>
- 541 Mississippi. The commission shall allot to each public library a

- 542 sufficient amount of those funds appropriated to pay the costs of
- 543 insurance for eligible employees. Any funds so appropriated by
- 544 line item which are not expended during the fiscal year for which
- 545 such funds were appropriated shall be carried forward for the same
- 546 purposes during the next succeeding fiscal year. If any premiums
- 547 for the health insurance and/or late charges and interest
- 548 penalties are not paid by a public library in a timely manner, as
- 549 defined by the board, the Mississippi Library Commission, upon
- 550 notice by the board, shall immediately withhold all subsequent
- 551 disbursements of funds to that public library.
- 552 (3) The state shall annually provide one hundred percent
- 553 (100%) of the cost of the health insurance plan for all public
- 554 school district employees who work no less than twenty (20) hours
- 555 <u>during each week and regular nonstudent school bus drivers.</u> Where
- 556 federal funding is allowable to defray, in full or in part, the
- 557 cost of participation in the program by district employees who
- 558 work no less than twenty (20) hours during the week and regular
- 559 <u>nonstudent bus drivers</u>, whose salaries are paid, in full or in
- 560 part, by federal funds, the allowance under this section shall be
- 561 reduced to the extent of such federal funding. Where the use of
- 562 <u>federal funds is allowable but not available, it is the intent of</u>
- 563 the Legislature that school districts contribute the cost of
- 564 participation for such employees from local funds, except that
- 565 parent fees for child nutrition programs shall not be increased to
- 566 <u>cover such cost.</u>
- 567 (4) The state shall provide annually, by line item in the
- 568 community/junior college appropriation bill, such funds to pay one
- 569 hundred percent (100%) of the cost of the health insurance plan
- 570 for all community/junior college district employees who work no
- 571 <u>less than twenty (20) hours during each week.</u>
- 572 (5) When the use of federal funding is allowable to defray,
- 573 in full or in part, the cost of participation in the insurance
- 574 plan by community/junior college district employees who work no
- 575 less than twenty (20) hours during each week, whose salaries are
- 576 paid, in full or in part, by federal funds, the allowance under

- 577 this section shall be reduced to the extent of the federal
- 578 funding. Where the use of federal funds is allowable but not
- 579 <u>available</u>, it is the intent of the Legislature that
- 580 community/junior college districts contribute the cost of
- 581 participation for such employees from local funds.
- 582 (6) Any community/junior college district may contribute to
- 583 the cost of coverage for any district employee from local
- 584 community/junior college district funds, and any public school
- 585 district may contribute to the cost of coverage for any district
- 586 employee from nonminimum program funds. Any part of the cost of
- 587 <u>such coverage for participating employees of public school</u>
- 588 <u>districts and public community/junior college districts that is</u>
- 589 not paid by the state shall be paid by the participating
- 590 employees, which shall be deducted from the salaries of the
- 591 employees in a manner determined by the board.
- 592 (7) Any funds appropriated for the cost of insurance by line
- 593 <u>item in the community/junior colleges appropriation bill which are</u>
- 594 not expended during the fiscal year for which such funds were
- 595 appropriated shall be carried forward for the same purposes during
- 596 the next succeeding fiscal year.
- 597 (8) The board may establish and enforce late charges and
- 598 interest penalties or other penalties for the purpose of requiring
- 599 the prompt payment of all premiums for life and health insurance
- 600 permitted under Chapter 15 of Title 25. All funds in excess of
- 601 the amount needed for disbursement of claims shall be deposited in
- 602 a special fund in the State Treasury to be known as the State and
- 603 <u>School</u> Employees Insurance Fund. The State Treasurer shall invest
- 604 all funds in the State <u>and School</u> Employees Insurance Fund and all
- 605 interest earned shall be credited to the State <u>and School</u>
- 606 Employees Insurance Fund. Such funds shall be placed with one or
- 607 more depositories of the state and invested on the first day such
- 608 funds are available for investment in certificates of deposit,
- 609 repurchase agreements or in United States Treasury bills or as
- 610 otherwise authorized by law for the investment of Public
- 611 Employees' Retirement System funds, as long as such investment is

- 612 made from competitive offering and at the highest and best market
- 613 rate obtainable consistent with any available investment
- 614 alternatives; however, such investments shall not be made in
- 615 shares of stock, common or preferred, or in any other investments
- 616 which would mature more than one (1) year from the date of
- 617 investment. The **board** shall have the authority to draw from this
- 618 fund periodically such funds as are necessary to operate the
- 619 self-insurance plan or to pay to the insurance carrier the cost of
- 620 operation of this plan, it being the purpose to limit the amount
- 621 of participation by the state to fifty percent (50%) of the cost
- 622 of the life insurance program and not to limit the contracting for
- 623 additional benefits where the cost will be paid in full by the
- 624 employee. The state shall not share in the cost of coverage for
- 625 retired employees.
- 626 (9) The board shall also provide for the creation of an
- 627 Insurance Reserve Fund and funds therein shall be invested by the
- 628 State Treasurer with all interest earned credited to the State and
- 629 <u>School</u> Employees Insurance Fund.
- 630 (10) Any retired employee electing to purchase retired life
- 631 and health insurance will have the full cost of such insurance
- 632 deducted monthly from his State of Mississippi retirement plan
- 633 check or direct billed for the cost of the premium if the
- 634 retirement check is insufficient to pay for the premium. If the
- 635 board determines actuarially that the premium paid by the
- 636 participating retirees adversely affects the overall cost of the
- 637 plan to the state, then the department may impose a premium
- 638 surcharge, not to exceed fifteen percent (15%), upon such
- 639 participating retired employees who are under the age for Medicare
- 640 <u>eligibility.</u>
- SECTION 8. Section 25-15-23, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 642 amended as follows:
- 643 25-15-23. No agency, board, school district,
- 644 community/junior college, public library, university, institution
- 645 or authority of the state shall withdraw, or authorize any agency
- 646 or institution under its management and control to withdraw, from

- 647 the State and School Employees Life and Health Insurance Plan
- 648 established under Title 25, Chapter 15, Mississippi Code of 1972.
- SECTION 9. Section 27-104-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 650 amended as follows:
- 651 27-104-31. (1) The State Fiscal Officer shall have the
- 652 following powers and duties, acting through the Insurance
- 653 Division:
- 654 (a) To implement and administer a comprehensive risk
- 655 management program for all state agencies, including but not
- 656 limited to the areas of \* \* \* liability insurance and workers'
- 657 compensation insurance;
- 658 \* \* \*
- (b) To coordinate and administer the Employment
- 660 Compensation Revolving Fund for state agencies as directed in
- 661 Section 71-5-359(2)(c);
- 662 (c) To coordinate and administer the liability plans
- 663 authorized in Section 11-46-17;
- 664 (d) To coordinate and administer the workers'
- 665 compensation plan for state agencies as a self-insured program and
- 666 to determine the feasibility of other self-insured programs for
- 667 state agencies;
- (e) To require of state agencies premium payments or
- 669 contributions to self-insurance funds or both necessary to meet
- 670 the obligations created by the comprehensive risk management
- 671 program. Such self-insurance fund created shall be maintained as
- 672 separate special funds in the State Treasury or in authorized bank
- 673 accounts. Such funds as required shall be used to pay claims
- 674 under the workers' compensation self-insurance fund. All such
- 675 funds shall be exempt from the appropriation process. All
- 676 interest earned from the investment of monies in the funds shall
- 677 be credited to the appropriate special fund. Monies remaining in
- 678 such special funds at the end of the fiscal year shall not lapse
- 679 into the State General Fund;
- 680 <u>(f)</u> To promulgate and adopt rules and regulations
- 681 necessary to effect the provisions of a comprehensive risk

- 682 management program; and
- 683 (g) To pay such administrative costs necessary to
- 684 insure the successful operation of each program administered by
- 685 the insurance division. Such administrative costs shall include
- 686 the operating expenses of the division. Each program shall be
- 687 assessed their proportionate share of those operating expenses.
- (h) To provide administrative support to the board as
- 689 defined in Section 25-15-3.
- 690 \* \* \*
- 691 (2) The State Fiscal Officer shall not have the power or
- 692 authority to request that bonds be issued or any funds borrowed in
- 693 order to implement a comprehensive risk management program or plan
- 694 of self-insurance for the state, or any of its political
- 695 subdivisions, or to contribute to the Tort Claims Fund.
- SECTION 10. Section 37-19-34, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 697 amended as follows:
- 698 37-19-34. The State Board of Education shall allot to each
- 699 school district such funds appropriated to pay one hundred percent
- 700 (100%) of the cost of the State and School Employees Life and
- 701 Health Insurance Plan created under Article 7, Chapter 15, Title
- 702 25, Mississippi Code of 1972, for all district employees who work
- 703 no less than twenty (20) hours during each week and regular
- 704 nonstudent school bus drivers employed by the district.
- 705 Where the use of federal funding is allowable to defray, in
- 706 full or in part, the cost of participation in the insurance plan
- 707 by district employees who work no less than twenty (20) hours
- 708 during each week and regular nonstudent school bus drivers, whose
- 709 salaries are paid, in full or in part, by federal funds, the
- 710 allowance under this section shall be reduced to the extent of the
- 711 federal funding. Where the use of federal funds is allowable but
- 712 not available, it is the intent of the Legislature that school
- 713 districts contribute the cost of participation for such employees
- 714 from local funds, except that parent fees for child nutrition
- 715 programs shall not be increased to cover such cost.
- 716 The State Department of Education, in accordance with rules

- 717 and regulations established by the State Board of Education, may
- 718 withhold a school district's minimum program funds for failure of
- 719 the district to timely report student, fiscal and personnel data
- 720 necessary to meet state and/or federal requirements. The rules
- 721 and regulations promulgated by the State Board of Education shall
- 722 require the withholding of minimum program funds for those
- 723 districts that fail to remit premiums, interest penalties and/or
- 724 late charges under the <u>State and</u> School Employees <u>Life and</u> Health
- 725 Insurance Plan. Noncompliance with such rules and regulations
- 726 shall result in a violation of compulsory accreditation standards
- 727 as established by the State Board of Education and Commission on
- 728 School Accreditation.
- 729 SECTION 11. Sections 25-15-251, 25-15-253, 25-15-255,
- 730 25-15-256, 25-15-257, 25-15-259, 25-15-261, 25-15-263 and
- 731 25-15-265, Mississippi Code of 1972, which provide for a group
- 732 health insurance plan for employees of school districts and
- 733 community/junior college districts, and Sections 37-9-151 and
- 734 37-9-153, Mississippi Code of 1972, which provide for the design
- 735 of a plan of group health insurance for school district personnel,
- 736 are repealed.
- 737 SECTION 12. Section 25-15-301, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 738 amended as follows:
- 739 25-15-301. (1) The board may contract the administration
- 740 and service of the self-insured program to a third party.
- 741 Whenever the board chooses to contract with an administrator for
- 742 the insurance plan established by Section 25-15-3 et seq., \* \* \*
- 743 it shall comply with the procedures set forth in this section:
- 744 (a) If the <u>board</u> determines that it should contract out
- 745 the administration of the plan to an administrator, it shall cause
- 746 to be prepared a request for proposals. This request for
- 747 proposals shall be prepared for distribution to any interested
- 748 party. Notice of the board's intention to seek proposals shall be
- 749 published in a newspaper of general circulation at least one (1)
- 750 time per week for three (3) weeks before closing the period for
- 751 interested parties to respond. Additional forms of notice may

- 752 also be used. The newspaper notice shall inform the interested
- 753 parties of the service to be contracted, existence of a request
- 754 for proposals, how it can be obtained, when a proposal must be
- 755 submitted, and to whom the proposal must be submitted. All
- 756 requests for proposals shall describe clearly what service is to
- 757 be contracted, and shall fully explain the criteria upon which an
- 758 evaluation of proposals shall be based. The criteria to be used
- 759 for evaluations shall, at minimum, include:
- 760 (i) The administrator's proven ability to handle
- 761 large group accident and health insurance plans;
- 762 (ii) The efficiency of the claims-paying
- 763 procedures;
- 764 (iii) An estimate of the total charges for
- 765 administering the plan.
- 766 (b) All proposals submitted by interested parties shall
- 767 be evaluated by an internal review committee which shall apply the
- 768 same criteria to all proposals when conducting an evaluation. The
- 769 committee shall consist of at least three (3) members of the
- 770 <u>board</u>. The results and recommendations of the evaluation shall be
- 771 presented to the <u>board</u> for review. All evaluations presented to
- 772 the <u>board</u> shall be retained by the <u>board</u> for at least three (3)
- 773 years. The board may accept or reject any recommendation of the
- 774 review committee, or it may conduct further inquiry into the
- 775 proposals. Any further inquiry shall be clearly documented and
- 776 all methods and recommendations shall be retained by the board and
- 777 shall spread upon its minutes its choice of administrator and its
- 778 reasons for making the choice.
- 779 (c) (i) The <u>board</u> shall be responsible for preparing a
- 780 contract that shall be in accordance with all provisions of this
- 781 section and all other provisions of law. The contract shall also
- 782 include a requirement that the contractor shall consent to an
- 783 evaluation of his performance. Such evaluation shall occur after
- 784 the first six (6) months of the contract, and shall be reviewed at
- 785 times the <u>board</u> determines to be necessary. The contract shall
- 786 clearly describe the standards upon which the contractor shall be

- 787 evaluated. Evaluations shall include, but not be limited to,
- 788 efficiency in claims processing, including the processing pending
- 789 claims.
- 790 (ii) The PEER Committee, at the request of the
- 791 House or Senate Appropriations Committee or the House or Senate
- 792 <u>Insurance Committee and with funds specifically appropriated by</u>
- 793 the Legislature for such purpose, shall contract with an
- 794 accounting firm or with other professionals to conduct a
- 795 compliance audit of any administrator responsible for
- 796 administering the insurance plan established by Section 25-15-3 et
- 797 seq. \* \* \*. Such audit shall review the administrator's
- 798 compliance with the performance standards required for inclusion
- 799 in the administrator's contract. Such audit shall be \* \* \*
- 800 delivered to the Legislature no later than January 1 \* \* \*.
- 801 (2) Contracts for the administration of the insurance plan
- 802 established in Section 25-15-3 et seq. \* \* \* shall commence at the
- 803 beginning of the calendar year and shall end on the last day of a
- 804 calendar year. This shall not apply to contracts provided for in
- 805 subsection (3) of this section.
- 806 (3) If the <u>board</u> determines that it is necessary to not
- 807 renew the contract of an administrator, or finds it necessary to
- 808 terminate a contract with or without cause as provided for in the
- 809 contract of the administrator, the board is authorized to select
- 810 an administrator without complying with the bid requirements in
- 811 subsections (1) and (2) of this section. Such contracts shall be
- 812 for the balance of the calendar year in which the nonrenewal or
- 813 termination occurred, and may be for an additional calendar year
- 814 if the <u>board</u> determines that the best interests of the plan
- 815 members are served by such. Any contract negotiated on an interim
- 816 basis shall include a detailed transition plan which shall ensure
- 817 the orderly transfer of responsibilities between administrators
- 818 and shall include, but not be limited to, provisions regarding the
- 819 transfer of records, files and tapes.
- 820 (4) Except for contracts executed under the authority of
- 821 subsection (3) of this section, the board shall select

- 822 administrators at least six (6) months before the expiration of 823 the current administrator's contract. The period between the 824 selection of the new administrator and the effective date of the new contract shall be known as the transition period. Whenever 825 826 the newly selected administrator is an entity different from the entity performing the administrator's function, it shall be the 827 828 duty of the board to prepare a detailed transition plan which 829 shall insure the orderly transfer of responsibilities between administrators. This plan shall be effective during the 830 831 transition period, and shall include, but not be limited to, provisions regarding the transfer of records, files and tapes. 832 833 Further, the plan shall detail the steps necessary to transfer records and responsibilities and set deadlines for when such steps 834 835 should be completed. The **board** shall include in all requests for 836 proposals, contracts with administrators, and all other contracts, provisions requiring the cooperation of administrators and 837 contractors in any future transition of responsibilities, and 838 839 their cooperation with the board and other contractors with 840 respect to ongoing coordination and delivery of health plan 841 services. The **board** shall furnish the Legislature, Governor and 842 advisory council with copies of all transition plans and keep them 843 informed of progress on such plans.
- (5) No brokerage fees shall be paid for the securing or executing of any contracts pertaining to the insurance <u>plan</u> established by Section 25-15-3 et seq. \* \* \*, whether fully insured or self-insured.
- (6) Any corporation, association, company or individual that 848 849 contracts with the board for the administration or service of the self-insured plan shall remit one hundred percent (100%) of all 850 851 savings or discounts resulting from any contract to the board or 852 participant, or both. Any corporation, association, company or 853 individual that contracts with the board for the administration or 854 service of the self-insured plan shall allow, upon notice by the board, the board or its designee to audit records of the 855

corporation, association, company or individual relative to the

- 857 corporation, association, company or individual's performance
- 858 under any contract with the board. The information maintained by
- 859 any corporation, association, company or individual, relating to
- 860 such contracts, shall be available for inspection upon request by
- 861 the board and such information shall be compiled in a manner that
- 862 will provide a clear audit trail.
- SECTION 13. Section 25-15-303, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 864 amended as follows:
- 865 25-15-303. (1) There is created the State and \* \* \* School
- 866 Employees Health Insurance Management Board, which shall
- 867 administer the State and School Employees Life and Health
- 868 Insurance Plan provided for under Section 25-15-3 et seq. \* \* \*.
- 869 The State and \* \* \* School Employees Health Insurance Management
- 870 Board, hereafter referred to as the "board," shall also be
- 871 responsible for administering all procedures for selecting
- 872 third-party administrators provided for in Section
- 873 25-15-301. \* \* \*
- 874 (2) The board shall consist of the following:
- 875 (a) The Chairman of the Workers' Compensation
- 876 Commission;
- 877 (b) The Commissioner of Insurance;
- 878 (c) The Commissioner of Higher Education;
- (d) The State Superintendent of Education;
- 880 (e) The Executive Director of the Department of Finance
- 881 and Administration;
- (f) Two (2) appointees of the Governor whose terms
- 883 shall be concurrent with that of the Governor, one (1) of whom
- 884 shall have experience in providing actuarial advice to companies
- 885 that provide health insurance to large groups and one (1) of whom
- 886 shall have experience in the day-to-day management and
- 887 administration of a large self-funded health insurance group;
- 888 (g) The Chairman of the Senate Insurance Committee or
- 889 his designee;
- 890 (h) The Chairman of the House of Representatives
- 891 Insurance Committee or his designee;

- 892 (i) The Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee
- 893 or his designee; and
- (j) The Chairman of the House of Representatives
- 895 Appropriations Committee or his designee.
- The legislators, or their designees, shall serve as ex
- 897 officio, nonvoting members of the board.
- The Executive Director of the Department of Finance and
- 899 Administration shall be the chairman of the board.
- 900 (3) The board shall meet at least monthly and maintain
- 901 minutes of such meetings. A quorum shall consist of a majority of
- 902 the authorized voting membership of the board. The board shall
- 903 have the sole authority to promulgate rules and regulations
- 904 governing the operations of the insurance plans and shall be
- 905 vested with all legal authority necessary and proper to perform
- 906 this function including, but not limited to:
- 907 (a) Defining the scope and coverages provided by the
- 908 insurance plan;
- 909 (b) Seeking proposals for services or insurance through
- 910 competitive processes where required by law and selecting service
- 911 providers or insurers under procedures provided for by law; and
- 912 (c) Developing and adopting strategic plans and budgets
- 913 for the insurance plan.
- The department shall \* \* \* employ a State Insurance
- 915 Administrator, who shall be responsible for the day-to-day
- 916 management and administration of the insurance plan. The board
- 917 shall employ a Deputy State Insurance Administrator who shall be
- 918 an actuary and a member of the American Academy of Actuaries. The
- 919 Deputy State Insurance Administrator shall have experience in
- 920 providing actuarial services to companies which provide health
- 921 insurance to large groups. The deputy administrator shall receive
- 922 a salary set by the board and shall not be subject to the
- 923 authority of the State Personnel Board for any purpose. The
- 924 Department of Finance and Administration shall provide to the
- 925 board on a full-time basis personnel and technical support
- 926 necessary and sufficient to effectively and efficiently carry out

927 the requirements of this section.

928 (4) Members of the board shall not receive any compensation 929 or per diem, but may receive travel reimbursement provided for under Section 25-3-41 except that the legislators shall receive 930 931 per diem and expenses which shall be paid from the contingent 932 expense funds of their respective houses in the same amounts as 933 provided for committee meetings when the Legislature is not in 934 session; however, no per diem and expenses for attending meetings 935 of the board shall be paid while the Legislature is in session. 936 SECTION 14. This act shall take effect and be in force from 937 and after July 1, 1999.

## Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

AN ACT TO COMBINE THE STATE EMPLOYEES LIFE AND HEALTH 2 INSURANCE PLAN WITH THE PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES LIFE AND HEALTH 3 INSURANCE PLAN AND TO CREATE THE STATE AND SCHOOL EMPLOYEES LIFE 4 AND HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN; TO AMEND SECTION 25-15-3, MISSISSIPPI 5 CODE OF 1972, TO INCLUDE IN THE PLAN THOSE EMPLOYEES OF PUBLIC 67 SCHOOL DISTRICTS, COMMUNITY/JUNIOR COLLEGES, PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND CERTAIN UNIVERSITY-BASED PROGRAMS; TO AMEND SECTIONS 25-15-5, 25-15-9, 25-15-11, 25-15-13, 25-15-14, 25-15-15, 25-15-23, 8 27-104-31 AND 37-19-34, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, IN CONFORMITY TO 9 10 THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT; TO FURTHER AMEND SECTION 25-15-9, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO INCREASE AMOUNTS OF LIFE INSURANCE 11 FOR WHICH RETIREES ARE ELIGIBLE AND TO PROVIDE THAT CERTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICTS, COMMUNITY/JUNIOR COLLEGE DISTRICTS OR PUBLIC LIBRARIES 12 13 14 MAY CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE IN EXISTING POLICIES OF LIFE INSURANCE IN LIEU OF PARTICIPATING IN THE STATE AND SCHOOL LIFE INSURANCE 15 PLAN; TO FURTHER AMEND SECTION 25-15-11, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REVISE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS BY THE BOARD CONCERNING THE PLAN; 16 17 TO FURTHER AMEND SECTION 25-15-13, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO 18 INCREASE THE MAXIMUM AGE OF ELIGIBILITY FOR CERTAIN DEPENDENTS; TO 19 20 REPEAL SECTIONS 25-15-251 THROUGH 25-15-265, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 21 1972, WHICH PROVIDE FOR A GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN FOR 22 EMPLOYEES OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND COMMUNITY/JUNIOR COLLEGE DISTRICTS AND SECTIONS 37-9-151 AND 37-9-153, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 23 24 1972, WHICH PROVIDE FOR THE DESIGN OF A PLAN OF GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT PERSONNEL; TO AMEND SECTIONS 25 26 25-15-301 AND 25-15-303, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, IN CONFORMITY 27 TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

X

Mary Ann Stevens
Grey F. Ferris

X
X

Keith Montgomery
Gray Tollison

X
X

Richard L. Livingston
Nolan Mettetal

CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE:

CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE: