By: Senator(s) Kirby

To: Insurance

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 2742

AN ACT TO CREATE NEW CODE SECTION 83-11-113, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE FOR STACKING COVERAGE OF UNINSURED MOTORIST COVERAGE; TO LIMIT STACKING IF STACKING COVERAGE IS NOT OBTAINED; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

- 5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:
- 6 SECTION 1. The following provision shall be codified as
- 7 Section 83-11-113, Mississippi Code of 1972:
- 8 83-11-113. (1) For all automobile liability policies issued
- 9 after July 1, 2001, insurers may offer the option of stacking or
- 10 nonstacking uninsured motorist coverage. If the insured accepts
- 11 the offer of stacking coverage, the uninsured motorist coverage
- 12 for two (2) or more motor vehicles shall be the greater of either:
- 13 (a) the amount of uninsured motorist coverage obtained by stacking
- 14 or adding together the minimum limits as required by the
- 15 Mississippi Financial Responsibility Law for each vehicle; or (b)
- 16 the highest single limit of uninsured motorist coverage for any
- 17 one (1) motor vehicle described in any policy under which the
- 18 injured person is an insured.
- 19 (2) If the insured does not accept stacking coverage,
- 20 uninsured motorist coverage, at a lesser premium, shall not stack,
- 21 and the amount of coverage available to any insured will be
- 22 determined as follows:
- 23 (a) Uninsured motorist coverage provided for two (2) or
- 24 more motor vehicles shall not be added or stacked together to
- 25 determine the limit of insurance coverage available to an insured
- 26 person for any one (1) accident, except as provided in paragraph
- 27 (c).

- If at the time of the accident, the insured is 28 occupying a motor vehicle, only the limits of uninsured motorist 29 coverage on the vehicle in which the insured was an occupant shall 30 The limits of uninsured motorist coverage shall not be 31 32 increased or stacked because of multiple motor vehicles, or the 33 separate payment of premiums for each vehicle, under the nonstacking policy. 34 If the insured is occupying a motor vehicle which 35 is not owned by the insured or a relative residing in his 36 household, the insured is entitled to the highest limits of 37 38 uninsured motorist coverage for any one (1) vehicle to which he is a named insured or an insured relative. This coverage shall be 39 40 excess over the coverage on the vehicle the insured is occupying. If at the time of the accident the insured is not 41 occupying a motor vehicle, the insured is entitled to select one 42 (1) limit of uninsured motorist coverage for any one (1) vehicle 43 covered by a nonstacking policy under which he is an insured. 44 45 the injured person is an insured under more than one (1) nonstacking policy, the insured is entitled to select only one (1) 46 47 limit of uninsured motorist coverage from one (1) nonstacking policy.
- 48 The insurer shall inform the named insured or applicant, 49 on a form approved by the department, of the nonstacking 50 limitations imposed under this section, and that nonstacking 51 52 coverage is an alternative to stacking coverage without limitations. The department shall provide the definition of the 53 54 term "stacking" on such form. If the form is signed by a named insured or applicant, it shall be conclusively presumed that there 55 was an informed, knowing acceptance of the limitations. 56 57 named insured or applicant has initially accepted nonstacking limitations, the acceptance shall apply to any subsequent policy 58 59 which renews, extends, changes, supplements, supersedes,

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- 61 named insured subsequently requests stacking coverage in writing,
- 62 and pays the appropriate premium for uninsured motorist stacking
- 63 coverage. Any document signed by a named insured or legal
- 64 representative which initially rejects stacking uninsured motorist
- 65 coverage shall be binding upon every insured to whom such policy
- 66 applies and shall be conclusively presumed to be a part of the
- 67 policy or contract when issued or delivered, irrespective of
- 68 whether physically attached thereto.
- 69 (4) The uninsured motorist coverage provided by any
- 70 automobile liability policy, whether stacked or nonstacked, does
- 71 not apply to the named insured, or relatives residing in his
- 72 household, who are injured while occupying any vehicle owned by
- 73 such insured for which uninsured motorist coverage (stacked or
- 74 nonstacked) was not purchased.
- 75 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
- 76 and after July 1, 2001.