

By: Representative Scott (80th)

To: Insurance

HOUSE BILL NO. 1455

1 AN ACT TO CREATE A JOINT COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT A FEASIBILITY  
2 STUDY ON THE STATE'S UTILIZING ONE INSURANCE PROVIDER; TO  
3 DETERMINE THE IMPACT ONE INSURANCE PROVIDER WOULD HAVE ON THE  
4 STATE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** (1) There is created an insurance reform study  
7 committee. The committee shall consist of the following members:  
8 (a) the Chairman of the Senate Insurance Committee; (b) the  
9 Chairman of the House of Representatives Insurance Committee; (c)  
10 one (1) employee of the Office of Insurance in the Department of  
11 Finance and Administration appointed by the executive director of  
12 the department; (d) three (3) members of the Senate Insurance  
13 Committee appointed by the Lieutenant Governor; and (e) three (3)  
14 members of the House of Representatives Insurance Committee  
15 appointed by the Speaker of the House.

16 The Chairman of the Senate Insurance Committee and the  
17 Chairman of the House Insurance Committee shall serve as cochair  
18 of the study committee.

19 For attending meetings of the committee, each legislative  
20 member shall be paid per diem in the amount authorized by Section  
21 25-3-69 and a mileage allowance and an expense allowance in the  
22 amount authorized by Section 5-1-47 from the contingent expense  
23 fund of his respective house. However, no per diem, mileage  
24 allowance or expense allowance shall be paid for attending  
25 meetings of the committee while the Legislature is in session, and  
26 no per diem, mileage allowance or expense allowance shall be paid  
27 without prior approval of the proper committee in the member's  
28 respective house.



29           (2) In conducting its activities, the committee may elicit  
30 the support of and participation by any commercial, industrial,  
31 governmental, environmental, minority and public interest  
32 organizations and associations, or individual members thereof, and  
33 any federal, state and local agencies and political subdivisions  
34 as may be necessary or appropriate in the furtherance of the  
35 study.

36           (3) The Office of Insurance in the Department of Finance and  
37 Administration or the department's designee shall coordinate the  
38 study of the advantages and disadvantages of utilizing one (1)  
39 insurance provider for the state, and the committee shall develop  
40 a plan of action which may be implemented by the Legislature to  
41 establish one (1) insurance provider for the state and shall  
42 design one (1) package of benefits, similar to the Medicaid  
43 benefits, for the state and school employees.

44           (4) The committee shall prepare a report of the study with  
45 recommendations and file the report with the Legislature by  
46 December 31, 2002. Upon presentation of its report to the  
47 Legislature, the committee shall be dissolved.

48           (5) Nothing in this act shall restrict the discussion and  
49 consideration by the committee of any other insurance laws, rules,  
50 and regulations in addition to the matters described in subsection  
51 (3) of this section.

52           **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
53 and after its passage.

