

By: Senator(s) Bryan

To: Insurance

SENATE BILL NO. 2703

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE CERTAIN INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP HEALTH
2 INSURANCE POLICIES AND PLANS TO OFFER COVERAGE FOR PODIATRIST
3 SERVICES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** (1) Except as otherwise provided herein, from
6 and after July 1, 2002, all individual and group health insurance
7 policies or plans, pooled risk policies and all other forms of
8 managed/capitated care plans or policies regulated by the State of
9 Mississippi shall offer coverage for licensed podiatrist services,
10 including, but not limited to, equipment, supplies used in
11 connection with treatment services, administration and
12 self-management training/education and medical nutrition therapy
13 in an outpatient, inpatient or home health setting. Such health
14 insurance plans and policies shall not reduce, eliminate or delay
15 coverage due to the requirements of this section.

16 (2) The services provided in an outpatient, inpatient or
17 home health setting shall be provided by a podiatrist who is
18 appropriately certified or licensed to practice in the State of
19 Mississippi.

20 (3) The benefits provided in this section shall be subject
21 to the same annual deductibles or coinsurance established for all
22 other covered benefits within a given policy.

23 (4) The Commissioner of Insurance shall enforce the
24 provisions of this section.

25 (5) Nothing in this section shall apply to specified
26 disease, hospital indemnity, Medicare supplement, long-term care
27 or other limited benefit health insurance policies.



28 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
29 and after July 1, 2002.

