

By: Representative Barnett (92nd)

To: Public Health and Welfare

HOUSE BILL NO. 946

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 73-25-14, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO ALLOW PHYSICIANS TO RENEW THEIR MEDICAL LICENSE THROUGH
3 ELECTRONIC MEANS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 73-25-14, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 73-25-14. (1) The license of every person licensed to
8 practice medicine or osteopathy in the State of Mississippi shall
9 be renewed annually.

10 On or before May 1 of each year, the State Board of Medical
11 Licensure shall mail an application for renewal of license to
12 every physician or osteopath to whom a license was issued or
13 renewed during the current licensing year. The applicant shall
14 complete the application and return it to the board by mail or
15 electronic means before June 30 with the renewal fee of an amount
16 established by the board, but not to exceed Two Hundred Dollars
17 (\$200.00), a portion of which fee shall be used to support a
18 program to aid impaired physicians and osteopaths. The payment of
19 the annual license renewal fee shall be optional with all
20 physicians over the age of seventy (70) years. Upon receipt of
21 the application and fee, the board shall verify the accuracy of
22 the application and issue to applicant a certificate or renewal
23 for the ensuing year, beginning July 1 and expiring June 30 of the
24 succeeding calendar year. That renewal shall render the holder
25 thereof a legal practitioner as stated on the renewal form.

26 (2) Any physician or osteopath practicing in Mississippi who
27 allows his license to lapse by failing to renew the license as



28 provided in subsection (1) may be reinstated by the board on
29 satisfactory explanation for the failure to renew, by completion
30 of a reinstatement form, and upon payment of the renewal fee for
31 the current year, and shall be assessed a fine of Twenty-five
32 Dollars (\$25.00) plus an additional fine of Five Dollars (\$5.00)
33 for each month thereafter that the license renewal remains
34 delinquent.

35 (3) Any physician or osteopath not practicing in Mississippi
36 who allows his license to lapse by failing to renew the license as
37 provided in subsection (1) may be reinstated by the board on
38 satisfactory explanation for the failure to renew, by completion
39 of a reinstatement form and upon payment of the arrearages for the
40 previous five (5) years and the renewal fee for the current year.

41 (4) Any physician or osteopath who allows his license to
42 lapse shall be notified by the board within thirty (30) days of
43 such lapse.

44 (5) Any person practicing as a licensed physician or
45 osteopath during the time his license has lapsed shall be
46 considered an illegal practitioner and shall be subject to
47 penalties provided for violation of the Medical Practice Act,
48 provided he had not submitted the required reinstatement form and
49 fee within fifteen (15) days after notification by the board of
50 the lapse.

51 (6) Any physician or osteopath practicing in the State of
52 Mississippi whose license has lapsed and is deemed an illegal
53 practitioner under subsection (5) of this section may petition the
54 board for reinstatement of his license on a retroactive basis, if
55 the physician or osteopath was unable to meet the June 30 deadline
56 due to extraordinary or other legitimate reasons, and retroactive
57 reinstatement of licensure shall be granted or may be denied by
58 the board only for good cause. Failure to advise the board of
59 change of address shall not be considered a basis of
60 reinstatement.



61 (7) None of the fees or fines provided for in this section
62 shall be applicable to the renewal of a special volunteer medical
63 license authorized under Section 73-25-18.

64 (8) Fees collected under the provisions of this section
65 shall be used by the board to defray expenses of administering the
66 licensure provisions of the Medical Practice Act (Title 73,
67 Chapter 25, Mississippi Code of 1972) and to support a program to
68 aid impaired physicians and osteopaths in an amount determined by
69 the board.

70 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
71 and after July 1, 2003.

