

By: Representative Barnett (92nd)

To: Public Health and Welfare

HOUSE BILL NO. 946  
(As Sent to Governor)

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.

