

By: Representative Scott (80th)

To: Insurance

HOUSE BILL NO. 1239

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, 2003. 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.

