By: Senator(s) Kirby

To: Insurance

SENATE BILL NO. 2265

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 83-5-11, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE THAT A CERTAIN FEE SHALL BE CHARGED TO AN INSURANCE COMPANY AT THE TIME OF SERVICE OF PROCESS UPON THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE ON BEHALF OF THAT INSURANCE COMPANY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI: 7 SECTION 1. Section 83-5-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 8 amended as follows:

83-5-11. When legal process is served upon the commissioner 9 as attorney for an insurance company, he shall forthwith notify 10 the company of such service by letter prepaid and directed to its 11 secretary or, in the case of a foreign country, to its resident 12 manager, if any, in the United States, and shall, within two (2) 13 14 days after such service, forward in the same manner a copy of the process served on him to the secretary or manager or to such 15 person as may have been previously designated by the company by 16 written notice filed in the office of the commissioner. The 17 failure of the commissioner to notify the company shall not affect 18 the validity of such service but shall subject him to liability on 19 his bond for such damages as the company shall suffer thereby. As 20 a condition of a valid and effectual service and of the duty of 21 22 the commissioner in the premises, the plaintiff in such process 23 shall pay to the commissioner at the time of service thereof the sum of Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00), which the plaintiff shall 24 recover as taxable costs if he prevails in his suit. The 25 commissioner shall keep a record of all such proceedings, that 26 27 shall show the day and hour of service.

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28 **SECTION 2**. This act shall take effect and be in force from 29 and after July 1, 2003.