

By: Senator(s) Hewes

To: Insurance

SENATE BILL NO. 2002

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 71-3-1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 MORE ACCURATELY DEFINE THE PURPOSE OF THE MISSISSIPPI WORKERS'
3 COMPENSATION LAW TO CORRECT THE MISCONCEPTION THAT THE WORKERS'
4 COMPENSATION LAW SHOULD BE LIBERALLY CONSTRUED; AND FOR RELATED
5 PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 71-3-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 71-3-1. This chapter shall be known and cited as "Workers'
10 Compensation Law," and shall be administered by the Workers'
11 Compensation Commission, hereinafter referred to as the
12 "commission," cooperating with other state and federal authorities
13 for the prevention of injuries and occupational diseases to
14 workers and, in event of injury or occupational disease, their
15 rehabilitation or restoration to health and vocational
16 opportunity; and this chapter shall be fairly and impartially
17 construed and applied according to the law and the evidence in the
18 record, and this chapter shall not be presumed to favor one party
19 over the other.

20 Wherever used in this chapter, or in any other statute or
21 rule or regulation affecting the former Workmen's Compensation Law
22 and any of its functions or duties:

23 (a) * * * "Workmen's compensation" means "workers'
24 compensation"; and

25 (b) * * * "Commission" means the Workers' Compensation
26 Commission.

27 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
28 and after July 1, 2004.