

By: Senator(s) Kirby

To: Insurance

SENATE BILL NO. 2816

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 83-41-211, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO REQUIRE THAT CERTAIN INSURANCE POLICES OR PLANS PROVIDE  
3 REIMBURSEMENT FOR SERVICES RENDERED BY MARRIAGE AND FAMILY  
4 THERAPISTS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 83-41-211, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
7 amended as follows:

8 83-41-211. Whenever any policy of insurance or any medical  
9 service plan or hospital service contract or hospital and medical  
10 service contract issued in this state provides for reimbursement  
11 for any diagnosis and treatment of mental, nervous or emotional  
12 disorders only which are within the lawful scope of practice of a  
13 duly licensed psychologist as defined in Section 73-31-3, within  
14 the lawful scope of practice of a duly licensed professional  
15 counselor as defined in Section 73-30-3, or within the lawful  
16 scope of practice of a duly licensed clinical social worker as  
17 defined in Section 73-53-3, or within the lawful scope of practice  
18 of a duly licensed marriage and family therapist as defined in  
19 Section 73-54-5, the insured or other person entitled to benefits  
20 under such policy shall be entitled to reimbursement for such  
21 services, whether such services are performed by a duly licensed  
22 physician or by a duly licensed psychologist, by a duly licensed  
23 professional counselor or by a duly licensed clinical social  
24 worker, or by a duly licensed marriage and family therapist,  
25 notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in any statute or in  
26 such policy, plan or contract. Duly licensed psychologists shall  
27 be entitled to participate in such policies, plans or contracts  
28 providing for the diagnosis and treatment of mental, nervous or

29 emotional disorders only as authorized by Section 73-31-3. A duly  
30 licensed professional counselor shall be entitled to participate  
31 in such policies, plans or contracts providing for the diagnosis  
32 and treatment of mental, nervous or emotional disorders only as  
33 authorized by Section 73-30-3. A duly licensed clinical social  
34 worker shall be entitled to participate in such policies, plans or  
35 contracts providing for the diagnosis and treatment of mental,  
36 nervous or emotional disorders only as authorized by Section  
37 73-53-3. A duly licensed marriage and family therapist shall be  
38 entitled to participate in such policies, plans or contracts  
39 providing for the diagnosis and treatment of mental, nervous or  
40 emotional disorders only as authorized by Section 73-54-5 et seq.

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