

## REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

**MR. SPEAKER AND MADAM PRESIDENT:**

We, the undersigned conferees, have had under consideration the amendments to the following entitled BILL:

H. B. No. 522: Life insurance; provide that the proceeds become due as of the date of the death of the insured.

We, therefore, respectfully submit the following report and recommendation:

1. That the Senate recede from its Amendment No. 1.
2. That the House and Senate adopt the following amendment:

Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

15        **SECTION 1.** (1) Proceeds of a life insurance policy shall  
16 become due as of the date of the death of the insured. Each  
17 insurer admitted to transact life insurance in this state shall  
18 pay interest on proceeds or payments under any policy of life  
19 insurance payable to a beneficiary residing in this state or to a  
20 beneficiary under a policy issued in this state or to a  
21 beneficiary under a policy insuring a person resident in this  
22 state at the time of death.

23        (2) Interest payable under subsection (1) of this section  
24 shall be computed from the insured's death until the date of  
25 payment and shall be computed at the rate of interest guaranteed  
26 by the policy or at the current rate of interest applicable to  
27 death proceeds left on deposit with the insurer under an interest  
28 settlement option or at the current rate of interest payable on  
29 dividends left on deposit with the insurer, whichever is greater.

30        (3) This section shall be applicable to any such policy  
31 where proceeds have not been paid and accepted before the  
32 effective date of this act.

33        (4) This section shall not apply:

34 (a) When the total death proceeds payable by an insurer  
35 on account of the death of an insured person is less than Five  
36 Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00); or

37 (b) When death proceeds result from insurance written  
38 under Section 83-53-1 et seq.

39 **SECTION 2.** Section 25-15-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
40 amended as follows:

41 **[Through June 30 of the year in which Section 25-11-143**  
42 **becomes effective as provided in subsection (1) of Section**  
43 **25-11-143, this section shall read as follows:]**

44 25-15-9. (1) (a) The board shall design a plan of health  
45 insurance for state employees which provides benefits for  
46 semiprivate rooms in addition to other incidental coverages which  
47 the board deems necessary. The amount of the coverages shall be  
48 in such reasonable amount as may be determined by the board to be  
49 adequate, after due consideration of current health costs in  
50 Mississippi. The plan shall also include major medical benefits  
51 in such amounts as the board shall determine. The board is also  
52 authorized to accept bids for such alternate coverage and optional  
53 benefits as the board shall deem proper. Any contract for  
54 alternative coverage and optional benefits shall be awarded by the  
55 board after it has carefully studied and evaluated the bids and  
56 selected the best and most cost-effective bid. The board may  
57 reject all such bids; however, the board shall notify all bidders  
58 of the rejection and shall actively solicit new bids if all bids  
59 are rejected. The board may employ or contract for such  
60 consulting or actuarial services as may be necessary to formulate  
61 the plan, and to assist the board in the preparation of  
62 specifications and in the process of advertising for the bids for  
63 the plan. Such contracts shall be solicited and entered into in  
64 accordance with Section 25-15-5. The board shall keep a record of  
65 all persons, agents and corporations who contract with or assist

66 the board in preparing and developing the plan. The board in a  
67 timely manner shall provide copies of this record to the members  
68 of the advisory council created in this section and those  
69 legislators, or their designees, who may attend meetings of the  
70 advisory council. The board shall provide copies of this record  
71 in the solicitation of bids for the administration or servicing of  
72 the self-insured program. Each person, agent or corporation  
73 which, during the previous fiscal year, has assisted in the  
74 development of the plan or employed or compensated any person who  
75 assisted in the development of the plan, and which bids on the  
76 administration or servicing of the plan, shall submit to the board  
77 a statement accompanying the bid explaining in detail its  
78 participation with the development of the plan. This statement  
79 shall include the amount of compensation paid by the bidder to any  
80 such employee during the previous fiscal year. The board shall  
81 make all such information available to the members of the advisory  
82 council and those legislators, or their designees, who may attend  
83 meetings of the advisory council before any action is taken by the  
84 board on the bids submitted. The failure of any bidder to fully  
85 and accurately comply with this paragraph shall result in the  
86 rejection of any bid submitted by that bidder or the cancellation  
87 of any contract executed when the failure is discovered after the  
88 acceptance of that bid. The board is authorized to promulgate  
89 rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this  
90 subsection.

91 The board shall develop plans for the insurance plan  
92 authorized by this section in accordance with the provisions of  
93 Section 25-15-5.

94 Any corporation, association, company or individual that  
95 contracts with the board for the third-party claims administration  
96 of the self-insured plan shall prepare and keep on file an  
97 explanation of benefits for each claim processed. The explanation

98 of benefits shall contain such information relative to each  
99 processed claim which the board deems necessary, and, at a  
100 minimum, each explanation shall provide the claimant's name, claim  
101 number, provider number, provider name, service dates, type of  
102 services, amount of charges, amount allowed to the claimant and  
103 reason codes. The information contained in the explanation of  
104 benefits shall be available for inspection upon request by the  
105 board. The board shall have access to all claims information  
106 utilized in the issuance of payments to employees and providers.

107 (b) There is created an advisory council to advise the  
108 board in the formulation of the State and School Employees Health  
109 Insurance Plan. The council shall be composed of the State  
110 Insurance Commissioner or his designee, an employee-representative  
111 of the institutions of higher learning appointed by the board of  
112 trustees thereof, an employee-representative of the Department of  
113 Transportation appointed by the director thereof, an  
114 employee-representative of the State Tax Commission appointed by  
115 the Commissioner of Revenue, an employee-representative of the  
116 Mississippi Department of Health appointed by the State Health  
117 Officer, an employee-representative of the Mississippi Department  
118 of Corrections appointed by the Commissioner of Corrections, and  
119 an employee-representative of the Department of Human Services  
120 appointed by the Executive Director of Human Services, two (2)  
121 certificated public school administrators appointed by the State  
122 Board of Education, two (2) certificated classroom teachers  
123 appointed by the State Board of Education, a noncertificated  
124 school employee appointed by the State Board of Education and a  
125 community/junior college employee appointed by the State Board for  
126 Community and Junior Colleges.

127 The Lieutenant Governor may designate the Secretary of the  
128 Senate, the Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, the  
129 Chairman of the Senate Education Committee and the Chairman of the

130 Senate Insurance Committee, and the Speaker of the House of  
131 Representatives may designate the Clerk of the House, the Chairman  
132 of the House Appropriations Committee, the Chairman of the House  
133 Education Committee and the Chairman of the House Insurance  
134 Committee, to attend any meeting of the State and School Employees  
135 Insurance Advisory Council. The appointing authorities may  
136 designate an alternate member from their respective houses to  
137 serve when the regular designee is unable to attend such meetings  
138 of the council. Such designees shall have no jurisdiction or vote  
139 on any matter within the jurisdiction of the council. For  
140 attending meetings of the council, such legislators shall receive  
141 per diem and expenses which shall be paid from the contingent  
142 expense funds of their respective houses in the same amounts as  
143 provided for committee meetings when the Legislature is not in  
144 session; however, no per diem and expenses for attending meetings  
145 of the council will be paid while the Legislature is in session.  
146 No per diem and expenses will be paid except for attending  
147 meetings of the council without prior approval of the proper  
148 committee in their respective houses.

149 (c) No change in the terms of the State and School  
150 Employees Health Insurance Plan may be made effective unless the  
151 board, or its designee, has provided notice to the State and  
152 School Employees Health Insurance Advisory Council and has called  
153 a meeting of the council at least fifteen (15) days before the  
154 effective date of such change. In the event that the State and  
155 School Employees Health Insurance Advisory Council does not meet  
156 to advise the board on the proposed changes, the changes to the  
157 plan shall become effective at such time as the board has informed  
158 the council that the changes shall become effective.

159 (d) **Medical benefits for retired employees and**  
160 **dependents under age sixty-five (65) years and not eligible for**  
161 **Medicare benefits.** The same health insurance coverage as for all

162 other active employees and their dependents shall be available to  
163 retired employees and all dependents under age sixty-five (65)  
164 years who are not eligible for Medicare benefits, the level of  
165 benefits to be the same level as for all other active  
166 participants. This section will apply to those employees who  
167 retire due to one hundred percent (100%) medical disability as  
168 well as those employees electing early retirement.

169           (e) **Medical benefits for retired employees and**  
170 **dependents over age sixty-five (65) years or otherwise eligible**  
171 **for Medicare benefits.** The health insurance coverage available to  
172 retired employees over age sixty-five (65) years or otherwise  
173 eligible for Medicare benefits, and all dependents over age  
174 sixty-five (65) years or otherwise eligible for Medicare benefits,  
175 shall be the major medical coverage with the lifetime maximum of  
176 One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00). Benefits shall be reduced by  
177 Medicare benefits as though such Medicare benefits were the base  
178 plan.

179           All covered individuals shall be assumed to have full  
180 Medicare coverage, Parts A and B; and any Medicare payments under  
181 both Parts A and B shall be computed to reduce benefits payable  
182 under this plan.

183           (2) Nonduplication of benefits--reduction of benefits by  
184 Title XIX benefits: When benefits would be payable under more  
185 than one (1) group plan, benefits under those plans will be  
186 coordinated to the extent that the total benefits under all plans  
187 will not exceed the total expenses incurred.

188           Benefits for hospital or surgical or medical benefits shall  
189 be reduced by any similar benefits payable in accordance with  
190 Title XIX of the Social Security Act or under any amendments  
191 thereto, or any implementing legislation.

192 Benefits for hospital or surgical or medical benefits shall  
193 be reduced by any similar benefits payable by workers'  
194 compensation.

195 (3) (a) Schedule of life insurance benefits--group term:  
196 The amount of term life insurance for each active employee of a  
197 department, agency or institution of the state government shall  
198 not be in excess of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00), or  
199 twice the amount of the employee's annual wage to the next highest  
200 One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), whichever may be less, but in no  
201 case less than Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00), with a like  
202 amount for accidental death and dismemberment on a  
203 twenty-four-hour basis. The plan will further contain a premium  
204 waiver provision if a covered employee becomes totally and  
205 permanently disabled prior to age sixty-five (65) years.  
206 Employees retiring after June 30, 1999, shall be eligible to  
207 continue life insurance coverage in an amount of Five Thousand  
208 Dollars (\$5,000.00), Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) or Twenty  
209 Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) into retirement.

210 (b) Effective October 1, 1999, schedule of life  
211 insurance benefits--group term: The amount of term life insurance  
212 for each active employee of any school district, community/junior  
213 college, public library or university-based program authorized  
214 under Section 37-23-31 for deaf, aphasic and emotionally disturbed  
215 children or any regular nonstudent bus driver shall not be in  
216 excess of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00), or twice the  
217 amount of the employee's annual wage to the next highest One  
218 Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), whichever may be less, but in no  
219 case less than Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00), with a like  
220 amount for accidental death and dismemberment on a  
221 twenty-four-hour basis. The plan will further contain a premium  
222 waiver provision if a covered employee of any school district,  
223 community/junior college, public library or university-based

224 program authorized under Section 37-23-31 for deaf, aphasic and  
225 emotionally disturbed children or any regular nonstudent bus  
226 driver becomes totally and permanently disabled prior to age  
227 sixty-five (65) years. Employees of any school district,  
228 community/junior college, public library or university-based  
229 program authorized under Section 37-23-31 for deaf, aphasic and  
230 emotionally disturbed children or any regular nonstudent bus  
231 driver retiring after September 30, 1999, shall be eligible to  
232 continue life insurance coverage in an amount of Five Thousand  
233 Dollars (\$5,000.00), Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) or Twenty  
234 Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) into retirement.

235 (4) Any eligible employee who on March 1, 1971, was  
236 participating in a group life insurance program which has  
237 provisions different from those included herein and for which the  
238 State of Mississippi was paying a part of the premium may, at his  
239 discretion, continue to participate in such plan. Such employee  
240 shall pay in full all additional costs, if any, above the minimum  
241 program established by this article. Under no circumstances shall  
242 any individual who begins employment with the state after March 1,  
243 1971, be eligible for the provisions of this paragraph.

244 (5) The board may offer medical savings accounts as defined  
245 in Section 71-9-3 as a plan option.

246 (6) Any premium differentials, differences in coverages,  
247 discounts determined by risk or by any other factors shall be  
248 uniformly applied to all active employees participating in the  
249 insurance plan. It is the intent of the Legislature that the  
250 state contribution to the plan be the same for each employee  
251 throughout the state.

252 (7) On October 1, 1999, any school district,  
253 community/junior college district or public library may elect to  
254 remain with an existing policy or policies of group life insurance  
255 with an insurance company approved by the State and School



256 Employees Health Insurance Management Board, in lieu of  
257 participation in the State and School Life Insurance Plan. On or  
258 after July 1, 2004, until October 1, 2004, any school district,  
259 community/junior college district or public library may elect to  
260 choose a policy or policies of group life insurance existing on  
261 October 1, 1999, with an insurance company approved by the State  
262 and School Employees Health Insurance Management Board in lieu of  
263 participation in the State and School Life Insurance Plan. The  
264 state's contribution of up to fifty percent (50%) of the active  
265 employee's premium under the State and School Life Insurance Plan  
266 may be applied toward the cost of coverage for full-time employees  
267 participating in the approved life insurance company group plan.  
268 For purposes of this subsection (7), "life insurance company group  
269 plan" means a plan administered or sold by a private insurance  
270 company. After October 1, 1999, the board may assess charges in  
271 addition to the existing State and School Life Insurance Plan  
272 rates to such employees as a condition of enrollment in the State  
273 and School Life Insurance Plan. In order for any life insurance  
274 company group plan \* \* \* to be approved by the State and School  
275 Employees Health Insurance Management Board under this subsection  
276 (7), it shall meet the following criteria:

277 (a) The insurance company offering the group life  
278 insurance plan shall be rated "A-" or better by A.M. Best state  
279 insurance rating service and be licensed as an admitted carrier in  
280 the State of Mississippi by the Mississippi Department of  
281 Insurance.

282 (b) The insurance company group life insurance plan  
283 shall provide the same life insurance, accidental death and  
284 dismemberment insurance and waiver of premium benefits as provided  
285 in the State and School Life Insurance Plan.

286 (c) The insurance company group life insurance plan  
287 shall be fully insured, and no form of self-funding life insurance  
288 by such company shall be approved.

289 (d) The insurance company group life insurance plan  
290 shall have one (1) composite rate per One Thousand Dollars  
291 (\$1,000.00) of coverage for active employees regardless of age and  
292 one (1) composite rate per One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) of  
293 coverage for all retirees regardless of age or type of retiree.

294 (e) The insurance company and its group life insurance  
295 plan shall comply with any administrative requirements of the  
296 State and School Employees Health Insurance Management Board. In  
297 the event any insurance company providing group life insurance  
298 benefits to employees under this subsection (7) fails to comply  
299 with any requirements specified herein or any administrative  
300 requirements of the board, the state shall discontinue providing  
301 funding for the cost of such insurance.

302 **[From and after July 1 of the year in which Section 25-11-143**  
303 **becomes effective as provided in subsection (1) of Section**  
304 **25-11-143, this section shall read as follows:]**

305 25-15-9. (1) (a) The board shall design a plan of health  
306 insurance for state employees that provides benefits for  
307 semiprivate rooms in addition to other incidental coverages that  
308 the board deems necessary. The amount of the coverages shall be  
309 in such reasonable amount as may be determined by the board to be  
310 adequate, after due consideration of current health costs in  
311 Mississippi. The plan shall also include major medical benefits  
312 in such amounts as the board shall determine. The board is also  
313 authorized to accept bids for such alternate coverage and optional  
314 benefits as the board deems proper. Any contract for alternative  
315 coverage and optional benefits shall be awarded by the board after  
316 it has carefully studied and evaluated the bids and selected the  
317 best and most cost-effective bid. The board may reject all such

318 bids; however, the board shall notify all bidders of the rejection  
319 and shall actively solicit new bids if all bids are rejected. The  
320 board may employ or contract for such consulting or actuarial  
321 services as may be necessary to formulate the plan, and to assist  
322 the board in the preparation of specifications and in the process  
323 of advertising for the bids for the plan. Those contracts shall  
324 be solicited and entered into in accordance with Section 25-15-5.  
325 The board shall keep a record of all persons, agents and  
326 corporations who contract with or assist the board in preparing  
327 and developing the plan. The board in a timely manner shall  
328 provide copies of this record to the members of the advisory  
329 council created in this section and those legislators, or their  
330 designees, who may attend meetings of the advisory council. The  
331 board shall provide copies of this record in the solicitation of  
332 bids for the administration or servicing of the self-insured  
333 program. Each person, agent or corporation that, during the  
334 previous fiscal year, has assisted in the development of the plan  
335 or employed or compensated any person who assisted in the  
336 development of the plan, and that bids on the administration or  
337 servicing of the plan, shall submit to the board a statement  
338 accompanying the bid explaining in detail its participation with  
339 the development of the plan. This statement shall include the  
340 amount of compensation paid by the bidder to any such employee  
341 during the previous fiscal year. The board shall make all such  
342 information available to the members of the advisory council and  
343 those legislators, or their designees, who may attend meetings of  
344 the advisory council before any action is taken by the board on  
345 the bids submitted. The failure of any bidder to fully and  
346 accurately comply with this paragraph shall result in the  
347 rejection of any bid submitted by that bidder or the cancellation  
348 of any contract executed when the failure is discovered after the  
349 acceptance of that bid. The board is authorized to promulgate

350 rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this  
351 subsection.

352 The board shall develop plans for the insurance plan  
353 authorized by this section in accordance with the provisions of  
354 Section 25-15-5.

355 Any corporation, association, company or individual that  
356 contracts with the board for the third-party claims administration  
357 of the self-insured plan shall prepare and keep on file an  
358 explanation of benefits for each claim processed. The explanation  
359 of benefits shall contain such information relative to each  
360 processed claim which the board deems necessary, and, at a  
361 minimum, each explanation shall provide the claimant's name, claim  
362 number, provider number, provider name, service dates, type of  
363 services, amount of charges, amount allowed to the claimant and  
364 reason codes. The information contained in the explanation of  
365 benefits shall be available for inspection upon request by the  
366 board. The board shall have access to all claims information  
367 utilized in the issuance of payments to employees and providers.

368 (b) There is created an advisory council to advise the  
369 board in the formulation of the State and School Employees Health  
370 Insurance Plan. The council shall be composed of the State  
371 Insurance Commissioner or his designee, an employee-representative  
372 of the state institutions of higher learning appointed by the  
373 board of trustees thereof, an employee-representative of the  
374 Mississippi Department of Transportation appointed by the director  
375 thereof, an employee-representative of the State Tax Commission  
376 appointed by the Commissioner of Revenue, an  
377 employee-representative of the State Department of Health  
378 appointed by the State Health Officer, an employee-representative  
379 of the Mississippi Department of Corrections appointed by the  
380 Commissioner of Corrections, and an employee-representative of the  
381 Mississippi Department of Human Services appointed by the

382 Executive Director of Human Services, two (2) certificated public  
383 school administrators appointed by the State Board of Education,  
384 two (2) certificated classroom teachers appointed by the State  
385 Board of Education, a noncertificated school employee appointed by  
386 the State Board of Education and a community/junior college  
387 employee appointed by the State Board for Community and Junior  
388 Colleges.

389         The Lieutenant Governor may designate the Secretary of the  
390 Senate, the Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, the  
391 Chairman of the Senate Education Committee and the Chairman of the  
392 Senate Insurance Committee, and the Speaker of the House of  
393 Representatives may designate the Clerk of the House, the Chairman  
394 of the House Appropriations Committee, the Chairman of the House  
395 Education Committee and the Chairman of the House Insurance  
396 Committee, to attend any meeting of the State and School Employees  
397 Insurance Advisory Council. The appointing authorities may  
398 designate an alternate member from their respective houses to  
399 serve when the regular designee is unable to attend such meetings  
400 of the council. Those designees shall have no jurisdiction or  
401 vote on any matter within the jurisdiction of the council. For  
402 attending meetings of the council, those legislators shall receive  
403 per diem and expenses, which shall be paid from the contingent  
404 expense funds of their respective houses in the same amounts as  
405 provided for committee meetings when the Legislature is not in  
406 session; however, no per diem and expenses for attending meetings  
407 of the council will be paid while the Legislature is in session.  
408 No per diem and expenses will be paid except for attending  
409 meetings of the council without prior approval of the proper  
410 committee in their respective houses.

411         (c) No change in the terms of the State and School  
412 Employees Health Insurance Plan may be made effective unless the  
413 board, or its designee, has provided notice to the State and

414 School Employees Health Insurance Advisory Council and has called  
415 a meeting of the council at least fifteen (15) days before the  
416 effective date of the change. If the State and School Employees  
417 Health Insurance Advisory Council does not meet to advise the  
418 board on the proposed changes, the changes to the plan will become  
419 effective at such time as the board has informed the council that  
420 the changes will become effective.

421 (2) Nonduplication of benefits--reduction of benefits by  
422 Title XIX benefits: When benefits would be payable under more  
423 than one (1) group plan, benefits under those plans will be  
424 coordinated to the extent that the total benefits under all plans  
425 will not exceed the total expenses incurred.

426 Benefits for hospital or surgical or medical benefits shall  
427 be reduced by any similar benefits payable in accordance with  
428 Title XIX of the Social Security Act or under any amendments  
429 thereto, or any implementing legislation.

430 Benefits for hospital or surgical or medical benefits shall  
431 be reduced by any similar benefits payable by workers'  
432 compensation.

433 (3) (a) Schedule of life insurance benefits--group term:  
434 The amount of term life insurance for each active employee of a  
435 department, agency or institution of the state government shall  
436 not be in excess of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00), or  
437 twice the amount of the employee's annual wage to the next highest  
438 One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), whichever may be less, but in no  
439 case less than Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00), with a like  
440 amount for accidental death and dismemberment on a  
441 twenty-four-hour basis.

442 (b) Effective October 1, 1999, schedule of life  
443 insurance benefits--group term: The amount of term life insurance  
444 for each active employee of any school district, community/junior  
445 college, public library, university-based program authorized under

446 Section 37-23-31 for deaf, aphasic and emotionally disturbed  
447 children, or any regular nonstudent bus driver shall not be in  
448 excess of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00), or twice the  
449 amount of the employee's annual wage to the next highest One  
450 Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), whichever may be less, but in no  
451 case less than Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00), with a like  
452 amount for accidental death and dismemberment on a  
453 twenty-four-hour basis. The plan will further contain a premium  
454 waiver provision if a covered employee of any school district,  
455 community/junior college, public library, university-based program  
456 authorized under Section 37-23-31 for deaf, aphasic and  
457 emotionally disturbed children, or any regular nonstudent bus  
458 driver becomes totally and permanently disabled before age  
459 sixty-five (65) years.

460 (4) Any eligible employee who on March 1, 1971, was  
461 participating in a group life insurance program that has  
462 provisions different from those included in this section and for  
463 which the State of Mississippi was paying a part of the premium  
464 may, at his discretion, continue to participate in that plan. The  
465 employee shall pay in full all additional costs, if any, above the  
466 minimum program established by this article. Under no  
467 circumstances shall any individual who begins employment with the  
468 state after March 1, 1971, be eligible for the provisions of this  
469 paragraph.

470 (5) The board may offer medical savings accounts as defined  
471 in Section 71-9-3 as a plan option.

472 (6) Any premium differentials, differences in coverages,  
473 discounts determined by risk or by any other factors shall be  
474 uniformly applied to all active employees participating in the  
475 insurance plan. It is the intent of the Legislature that the  
476 state contribution to the plan be the same for each employee  
477 throughout the state.

478 (7) On October 1, 1999, any school district,  
479 community/junior college district or public library may elect to  
480 remain with an existing policy or policies of group life insurance  
481 with an insurance company approved by the State and School  
482 Employees Health Insurance Management Board, in lieu of  
483 participation in the State and School Life Insurance Plan. On or  
484 after July 1, 2004, until October 1, 2004, any school district,  
485 community/junior college district or public library may elect to  
486 choose a policy or policies of group life insurance existing on  
487 October 1, 1999, with an insurance company approved by the State  
488 and School Employees Health Insurance Management Board in lieu of  
489 participation in the State and School Life Insurance Plan. The  
490 state's contribution of up to fifty percent (50%) of the active  
491 employee's premium under the State and School Life Insurance Plan  
492 may be applied toward the cost of coverage for full-time employees  
493 participating in the approved life insurance company group plan.  
494 For purposes of this subsection (7), "life insurance company group  
495 plan" means a plan administered or sold by a private insurance  
496 company. After October 1, 1999, the board may assess charges in  
497 addition to the existing State and School Life Insurance Plan  
498 rates to those employees as a condition of enrollment in the State  
499 and School Life Insurance Plan. In order for any life insurance  
500 company group plan \* \* \* to be approved by the State and School  
501 Employees Health Insurance Management Board under this subsection  
502 (7), it shall meet the following criteria:  
503 (a) The insurance company offering the group life  
504 insurance plan shall be rated "A-" or better by A.M. Best state  
505 insurance rating service and be licensed as an admitted carrier in  
506 the State of Mississippi by the Mississippi Department of  
507 Insurance.  
508 (b) The insurance company group life insurance plan  
509 shall provide the same life insurance, accidental death and



510 dismemberment insurance and waiver of premium benefits as provided  
511 in the State and School Life Insurance Plan.

512 (c) The insurance company group life insurance plan  
513 shall be fully insured, and no form of self-funding life insurance  
514 by such company shall be approved.

515 (d) The insurance company group life insurance plan  
516 shall have one (1) composite rate per One Thousand Dollars  
517 (\$1,000.00) of coverage for active employees regardless of age.

518 (e) The insurance company and its group life insurance  
519 plan shall comply with any administrative requirements of the  
520 State and School Employees Health Insurance Management Board. If  
521 any insurance company providing group life insurance benefits to  
522 employees under this subsection (7) fails to comply with any  
523 requirements specified in this subsection or any administrative  
524 requirements of the board, the state shall discontinue providing  
525 funding for the cost of that insurance.

526 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
527 and after its passage.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and  
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT THE PROCEEDS OF A LIFE INSURANCE  
2 POLICY BECOME DUE AS OF THE DATE OF THE DEATH OF THE INSURED; TO  
3 REQUIRE INSURERS ADMITTED TO TRANSACT LIFE INSURANCE IN THIS STATE  
4 TO PAY INTEREST ON PROCEEDS OF CERTAIN LIFE INSURANCE POLICIES; TO  
5 PROVIDE THAT SUCH INTEREST SHALL BE COMPUTED FROM THE INSURED'S  
6 DEATH UNTIL THE DATE OF PAYMENT; TO AMEND SECTION 25-15-9,  
7 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO ALLOW ANY SCHOOL DISTRICT,  
8 COMMUNITY/JUNIOR COLLEGE DISTRICT OR PUBLIC LIBRARY UNTIL OCTOBER  
9 1, 2004, TO CHOOSE A CERTAIN POLICY OR POLICIES OF GROUP LIFE  
10 INSURANCE WITH AN INSURANCE COMPANY APPROVED BY THE STATE AND

11 SCHOOL EMPLOYEES HEALTH INSURANCE MANAGEMENT BOARD IN LIEU OF  
12 PARTICIPATION IN THE STATE AND SCHOOL LIFE INSURANCE PLAN; AND FOR  
13 RELATED PURPOSES.

CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE

X (SIGNED)  
Mark Formby

X (SIGNED)  
Gary Chism

X (SIGNED)  
Jessica Upshaw

CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE

X (SIGNED)  
Dean Kirby

X (SIGNED)  
Charlie Ross

X (SIGNED)  
Billy Hewes III