

## REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

# 2

MR. SPEAKER AND MADAM PRESIDENT:

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

H. B. No. 1317: Health insurance; require reimbursement for services of marriage and family therapists.

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:

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

9       [Until July 1, 2008, this section shall read as follows:]

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

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

43 The addition of marriage and family therapists as providers  
44 herein is intended to only allow them to treat mental, nervous or  
45 emotional disorders as treated by other providers, to the extent  
46 that marriage and family therapists are qualified to treat such  
47 disorders. Notwithstanding anything in this section to the  
48 contrary, the scope or definition of mental, nervous or emotional  
49 disorders shall remain the same and shall not be expanded by the  
50 addition of marriage and family therapists as allowable providers.

51 **[From and after July 1, 2008, this section shall read as**  
52 **follows:]**

53 83-41-211. Whenever any policy of insurance or any medical  
54 service plan or hospital service contract or hospital and medical  
55 service contract issued in this state provides for reimbursement  
56 for any diagnosis and treatment of mental, nervous or emotional  
57 disorders only which are within the lawful scope of practice of a  
58 duly licensed psychologist as defined in Section 73-31-3, within  
59 the lawful scope of practice of a duly licensed professional

60 counselor as defined in Section 73-30-3, or within the lawful  
61 scope of practice of a duly licensed clinical social worker as  
62 defined in Section 73-53-3, the insured or other person entitled  
63 to benefits under such policy shall be entitled to reimbursement  
64 for such services, whether such services are performed by a duly  
65 licensed physician or by a duly licensed psychologist, by a duly  
66 licensed professional counselor, by a duly licensed clinical  
67 social worker, notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in  
68 any statute or in such policy, plan or contract. Duly licensed  
69 psychologists shall be entitled to participate in such policies,  
70 plans or contracts providing for the diagnosis and treatment of  
71 mental, nervous or emotional disorders only as authorized by  
72 Section 73-31-3. A duly licensed professional counselor shall be  
73 entitled to participate in such policies, plans or contracts  
74 providing for the diagnosis and treatment of mental, nervous or  
75 emotional disorders only as authorized by Section 73-30-3. A duly  
76 licensed clinical social worker shall be entitled to participate  
77 in such policies, plans or contracts providing for the diagnosis  
78 and treatment of mental, nervous or emotional disorders only as  
79 authorized by Section 73-53-3.

80 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
81 and after July 1, 2005.

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

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 83-41-211, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO PROVIDE THAT CERTAIN INSURANCE POLICIES SHALL PROVIDE

3 REIMBURSEMENT FOR SERVICES RENDERED BY MARRIAGE AND FAMILY  
4 THERAPISTS FOR THE TREATMENT OF MENTAL, NERVOUS OR EMOTIONAL  
5 DISORDERS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE

CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE

X (SIGNED)  
Formby

X (SIGNED)  
Kirby

X (SIGNED)  
Buck

X (SIGNED)  
King

X (SIGNED)  
Fillingane

(NOT SIGNED)  
Nunnelee