By: Representative Staples

To: Insurance; Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1484

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THAT CERTAIN HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES 2 PROVIDE COVERED BENEFITS FOR THE TREATMENT OF INFERTILITY; AND FOR 3 RELATED PURPOSES.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI: 5 **SECTION 1.** (1) Every alternative delivery system, every individual and group health medical and hospitalization insurance 6 7 policy, certificate, plan or program, and every subscriber 8 contract provided by a nonprofit health service plan, corporation 9 or health maintenance organization, that is regulated by the State of Mississippi and issued, renewed or continued after July 1, 10 11 2007, shall provide covered benefits for the diagnosis and treatment of infertility, except for policies which only provide 12 coverage for specified diseases and other limited benefit health 13 insurance policies and negotiated labor contracts. 14

15 (2) Covered benefits for inpatient or outpatient treatment 16 of infertility in insurance policies and other contracts shall be 17 limited to such inpatient or outpatient services, as the case may 18 be, that are certified as necessary by a health service provider.

19 (3) The benefits provided in this section shall be subject 20 to the same annual deductibles or coinsurance established for all 21 other covered benefits within a given policy or contract. Before 22 an insured party may qualify to receive benefits under this 23 section, a health service provider shall certify that the 24 individual is infertile and shall refer the individual for the 25 appropriate treatment.

* HR40/ R1854*

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(4) All infertility treatment or services with respect to 26 27 such treatment eligible for health insurance coverage shall be 28 subject to professional utilization and peer review procedures. 29 (5) For purposes of this section, "infertility" means a 30 disease or condition that results in the abnormal functioning of 31 the male or female reproductive system and includes conception difficulty and the inability to carry a pregnancy that results in 32 a live birth. 33

34 (6) The lifetime payments for treatment of infertility shall
35 be no less than Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00).

36 (7) The Commissioner of Insurance shall enforce the37 provisions of this section.

38 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from 39 and after July 1, 2007.