

By: Senator(s) Kirby

To: Insurance

SENATE BILL NO. 2644

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-15-303, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO REVISE THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE STATE AND SCHOOL EMPLOYEES HEALTH
3 INSURANCE MANAGEMENT BOARD TO ADD THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
4 STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES; AND FOR RELATED
5 PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 25-15-303, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 25-15-303. (1) There is created the State and School
10 Employees Health Insurance Management Board, which shall
11 administer the State and School Employees Life and Health
12 Insurance Plan provided for under Section 25-15-3 et seq. The
13 State and School Employees Health Insurance Management Board,
14 hereafter referred to as the "board," shall also be responsible
15 for administering all procedures for selecting third-party
16 administrators provided for in Section 25-15-301.

17 (2) The board shall consist of the following:

- 18 (a) The Chairman of the Workers' Compensation
- 19 Commission;
- 20 (b) The State Personnel Director;
- 21 (c) The Commissioner of Insurance;
- 22 (d) The Commissioner of Higher Education;
- 23 (e) The State Superintendent of Education;
- 24 (f) The Executive Director of the Department of Finance
- 25 and Administration;
- 26 (g) The Executive Director of the State Board for
- 27 Community and Junior Colleges;

28 (h) Two (2) appointees of the Governor whose terms
29 shall be concurrent with that of the Governor, one (1) of whom
30 shall have experience in providing actuarial advice to companies
31 that provide health insurance to large groups and one (1) of whom
32 shall have experience in the day-to-day management and
33 administration of a large self-funded health insurance group;

34 (i) The Chairman of the Senate Insurance Committee, or
35 his designee;

36 (j) The Chairman of the House of Representatives
37 Insurance Committee, or his designee;

38 (k) The Chairman of the Senate Appropriations
39 Committee, or his designee; and

40 (l) The Chairman of the House of Representatives
41 Appropriations Committee, or his designee.

42 The legislators, or their designees, shall serve as ex
43 officio, nonvoting members of the board.

44 The Executive Director of the Department of Finance and
45 Administration shall be the chairman of the board.

46 (3) The board shall meet at least monthly and maintain
47 minutes of such meetings. A quorum shall consist of a majority of
48 the authorized voting membership of the board. The board shall
49 have the sole authority to promulgate rules and regulations
50 governing the operations of the insurance plans and shall be
51 vested with all legal authority necessary and proper to perform
52 this function including, but not limited to:

53 (a) Defining the scope and coverages provided by the
54 insurance plan;

55 (b) Seeking proposals for services or insurance through
56 competitive processes where required by law and selecting service
57 providers or insurers under procedures provided for by law; and

58 (c) Developing and adopting strategic plans and budgets
59 for the insurance plan.

60 The department shall employ a State Insurance Administrator,
61 who shall be responsible for the day-to-day management and
62 administration of the insurance plan. The board shall employ a
63 Deputy State Insurance Administrator who shall be an actuary and a
64 member of the American Academy of Actuaries. The Deputy State
65 Insurance Administrator shall have experience in providing
66 actuarial services to companies which provide health insurance to
67 large groups. The deputy administrator shall receive a salary set
68 by the board and shall not be subject to the authority of the
69 State Personnel Board for any purpose. The Department of Finance
70 and Administration shall provide to the board on a full-time basis
71 personnel and technical support necessary and sufficient to
72 effectively and efficiently carry out the requirements of this
73 section.

74 (4) Members of the board shall not receive any compensation
75 or per diem, but may receive travel reimbursement provided for
76 under Section 25-3-41 except that the legislators shall receive
77 per diem and expenses which shall be paid from the contingent
78 expense funds of their respective houses in the same amounts as
79 provided for committee meetings when the Legislature is not in
80 session; however, no per diem and expenses for attending meetings
81 of the board shall be paid while the Legislature is in session.

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