

By: Representative Chism

To: Insurance

HOUSE BILL NO. 1318

1 AN ACT TO AMEND REENACTED SECTION 63-16-9, MISSISSIPPI CODE
2 OF 1972, TO REQUIRE MOTOR VEHICLE LIABILITY INSURANCE COVERAGE IN
3 AT LEAST THE MINIMUM AMOUNTS REQUIRED BY LAW BEFORE A MOTOR
4 VEHICLE OWNER MAY RENEW A REGISTRATION; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 63-16-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 reenacted and amended as follows:

8 63-16-9. Every owner of a motor vehicle in this state shall
9 comply with the motor vehicle liability insurance coverage in at
10 least the minimum amounts required under Section 63-15-3(j) before
11 that owner may * * * renew a registration for a motor
12 vehicle * * *. The owner must also maintain continuous coverage
13 in at least the minimum amounts required under Section 63-15-3(j)
14 throughout the registration period. * * *

15 The Department of Revenue shall utilize the Mississippi
16 Vehicle Insurance Verification System operated by the Department
17 of Public Safety in order to determine if such coverage exists and
18 has been maintained during the prior registration period. If it
19 is determined that such coverage does not exist or has not been



20 maintained, a civil penalty of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00)
21 shall be assessed and must be paid prior to the registration
22 renewal. After the deduction of the actual and necessary expenses
23 of administering this program, the net proceeds from the civil
24 penalties shall be deposited in the State General Fund in the
25 State Treasury.

26 The Department of Revenue shall arrange its statewide
27 registration system to prevent noncompliant registration renewals
28 from being issued. Under no circumstances shall county tax
29 collectors have the responsibility for collecting the civil
30 penalties or in verifying insurance coverage. The county tax
31 collectors shall instead only inform any inquiring registrant of
32 the Department of Revenue's requirements and processes concerning
33 insurance compliance and civil penalties.

34 The Department of Revenue shall promulgate rules and
35 regulations necessary to enforce this section.

36 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
37 and after July 1, 2018.

