MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION 2022

By: Representative Watson

To: Insurance

HOUSE BILL NO. 810

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 63-15-43, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, 2 TO REQUIRE MOTOR VEHICLE LIABILITY INSURANCE POLICIES TO INCLUDE 3 MEDICAL PAYMENT COVERAGE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI: 5 SECTION 1. Section 63-15-43, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows: 6 63-15-43. (1) A "motor vehicle liability policy" as said 7 term is used in this chapter shall mean an owner's or an 8 9 operator's motor vehicle liability policy, that has been certified as provided in Section 63-15-39 or Section 63-15-41, as proof of 10 11 financial responsibility, and issued, except as otherwise provided in Section 63-15-41, by an insurance company duly authorized to 12 write motor vehicle liability insurance in this state, to or for 13 14 the benefit of the person named therein as insured. 15 (2) Such owner's motor vehicle liability policy: 16 (a) May be any motor vehicle liability policy form that has been filed with and approved by the Commissioner of Insurance 17 18 and may contain exclusions and limitations on coverage as long as

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19 the exclusions and limitations language has been filed with and 20 approved by the Commissioner of Insurance.

21 Shall have limits of liability no less than: (b) 22 Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) because of bodily injury 23 to or death of one (1) person in any one (1) accident and, subject 24 to said limit for one (1) person, Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) because of bodily injury to or death of two (2) or 25 26 more persons in any one (1) accident, and Twenty-five Thousand 27 Dollars (\$25,000.00) because of injury to or destruction of 28 property of others in any one (1) accident.

(3) Every motor vehicle liability policy certified under the
provisions of this chapter shall be subject to the following
provisions which need not be contained therein:

32 The liability of the insurance company with respect (a) to the insurance required by this chapter shall become absolute 33 34 whenever injury or damage covered by said motor vehicle liability 35 policy occurs; said policy may not be cancelled or annulled as to such liability by any agreement between the insurance company and 36 37 the insured after the occurrence of the injury or damage; no 38 statement made by the insured or on his behalf and no violation of 39 said policy shall defeat or void said policy;

40 (b) The satisfaction by the insured of a judgment for 41 such injury or damage shall not be a condition precedent to the 42 right or duty of the insurance company to make payment on account 43 of such injury or damage;

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45 settle any claim covered by the policy, and if such settlement is
46 made in good faith, the amount thereof shall be deductible from
47 the limits of liability specified in paragraph (b) of subsection
48 (2) of this section; or

(d) The policy, the written application therefor, if
any, and any rider or endorsement which does not conflict with the
provisions of the chapter shall constitute the entire contract
between the parties.

53 (4) Any policy which grants the coverage required for a 54 motor vehicle liability policy may also grant any lawful coverage 55 in excess of or in addition to the coverage specified for a motor vehicle liability policy, and such excess or additional coverage 56 57 shall not be subject to the provisions of this chapter. With 58 respect to a policy which grants such excess or additional 59 coverage, the term "motor vehicle liability policy" shall apply 60 only to that part of the coverage which is required by this section. 61

62 (5) Any motor vehicle liability policy may provide that the 63 insured shall reimburse the insurance company for any payment the 64 insurance company would not have been obligated to make under the 65 terms of the policy except for the provisions of this chapter.

66 (6) Any motor vehicle liability policy may provide for the
 67 prorating of the insurance thereunder with other valid and
 68 collectible insurance.

H. B. No. 810 ~ OFFICIAL ~ 22/HR12/R1218 PAGE 3 (CAA\AM) 69 (7) The requirements for a motor vehicle liability policy 70 may be fulfilled by the policies of one or more insurance 71 companies which policies together meet such requirements. 72 (8) Any binder issued pending the issuance of a motor 73 vehicle liability policy shall be deemed to fulfill the 74 requirements for such a policy. 75 (9) Every motor vehicle liability policy shall include a 76 provision for medical payment coverage in the amount of at least 77 Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00). 78 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from 79 and after July 1, 2022.