

By: Representative Shanks

To: Insurance;
Appropriations A

HOUSE BILL NO. 1276

1 AN ACT TO CREATE A STUDY COMMITTEE FOR THE PURPOSE OF
 2 STUDYING THE FUNDING AND FULL PAYMENT OF HEALTH INSURANCE FOR ALL
 3 CERTIFIED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS, FIREFIGHTERS AND OTHER FIRST
 4 RESPONDERS WHO HAVE ATTAINED THE AGE OF RETIREMENT UNDER THE RULES
 5 AND REGULATIONS OF THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM, AND
 6 FOR ANY OTHER RELATED PURPOSE; TO PROVIDE THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE
 7 COMMITTEE; TO PROVIDE FOR A QUORUM; TO PROVIDE THAT THE PEER
 8 COMMITTEE SHALL PROVIDE THE STAFF AND OTHER SUPPORT NECESSARY FOR
 9 THE STUDY COMMITTEE TO PERFORM ITS DUTIES; AND FOR RELATED
 10 PURPOSES.

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

12 **SECTION 1.** (1) There is created a study committee for the
 13 purpose of studying the funding and full payment of health
 14 insurance for all certified law enforcement officers, firefighters
 15 and other first responders who have attained the age of retirement
 16 under the rules and regulations of the Public Employees'
 17 Retirement System, and for any other related purpose. The
 18 committee shall be comprised of the following nine (9) members:

19 (a) The President of the Mississippi Law Enforcement
 20 Officers Association, or his or her designee;

21 (b) The President of the Mississippi Sheriffs
 22 Association, or his or her designee;



23 (c) The President of the Mississippi Association of
24 Chiefs of Police, or his or her designee;

25 (d) The President of the Mississippi Fire Chiefs
26 Association, or his or her designee;

27 (e) The President of the Mississippi Firefighters
28 Association, or his or her designee;

29 (f) One (1) member of the Senate, appointed by the
30 Lieutenant Governor;

31 (g) One (1) member of the House of Representatives,
32 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

33 (h) One (1) member from the Mississippi Department of
34 Finance and Administration, appointed by the Governor; and

35 (i) One (1) member who currently serves on the Board of
36 Trustees for the Mississippi Public Employees' Retirement System,
37 appointed by the chair of that board.

38 (2) Appointments to the study committee shall be made within
39 thirty (30) days of the effective date of this act. At the first
40 meeting, the committee shall elect from among its membership a
41 chair, a vice chair and any other officers determined to be
42 necessary, and shall adopt rules for transacting business and
43 keeping records.

44 (3) A majority of the members of the study committee shall
45 constitute a quorum. In the adoption of rules, resolutions and
46 reports, and in the election of a chair, vice chair and any other



47 officers determined to be necessary, an affirmative vote of a
48 majority of the members present shall be required.

49 (4) The Joint Legislative Committee on Performance
50 Evaluation and Expenditure Review (PEER) shall provide the staff
51 and other support necessary for the study committee to perform its
52 duties.

53 (5) To effectuate the purposes of this act, any department,
54 division, board, bureau, committee, institution or agency of the
55 state, or any political subdivision thereof, shall, at the request
56 of the chair of the study committee, provide the facilities,
57 assistance, information and data needed to enable the study
58 committee to carry out its duties.

59 (6) The study committee shall be dissolved on or before
60 January 1, 2025.

61 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
62 and after its passage.

