

By: Representatives Holland, Bailey, Banks, Barnett (116th), Barnett (92nd), Blackmon, Bourdeaux, Bowles, Bozeman, Broomfield, Brown, Cameron, Capps, Chaney, Clark, Clarke, Coleman (29th), Comans, Cummings, Davis, Dedeaux, Dickson, Eaton, Ellis, Ellzey, Endt, Evans, Flaggs, Foster, Franks, Fredericks, Frierson, Gadd, Gibbs, Green (34th), Green (96th), Grist, Guice, Hamilton, Henderson (26th), Henderson (9th), Holden, Horne, Huddleston, Hudson, Ishee, Janus, Jennings, King, Livingston, Malone, Manning, Maples, Markham, Martinson, McBride, McCoy, McElwain, McInnis, Middleton, Miles, Miller, Mitchell, Moak, Moody, Moore, Moss, Myers, Nettles, Peranich, Perkins, Perry, Read, Reeves, Reynolds, Roberson, Robertson, Robinson (63rd), Robinson (84th), Rogers, Rotenberry, Ryan, Scott (17th), Scott (80th), Shows, Simmons, Simpson, Smith (27th), Smith (39th), Smith (59th), Stevens, Straughter, Taylor, Thomas, Thornton, Vince, Walker, Wallace, Warren, Watson, Weathersby, Wells-Smith, West, Woods, Young

To: Public Health and Welfare; Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 976  
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 41-86-5, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 PROVIDE THAT CHILDREN WHOSE FAMILY INCOMES DO NOT EXCEED 200% OF  
3 THE POVERTY LEVEL WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE CHILDREN'S HEALTH CARE  
4 PROGRAM; TO CODIFY SECTION 41-86-19, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
5 PROVIDE FOR A CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM ENROLLMENT  
6 OUTREACH INITIATIVE IN THE DIVISION OF MEDICAID; TO CODIFY SECTION  
7 41-86-21, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO ESTABLISH AND EMPOWER A  
8 C.H.I.P. ADVISORY BOARD AND A JOINT LEGISLATIVE C.H.I.P. ADVISORY  
9 COMMITTEE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

11 SECTION 1. Section 41-86-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
12 amended as follows:

13 41-86-5. As used in Sections 41-86-5 through 41-86-17, the  
14 following definitions shall have the meanings ascribed in this  
15 section, unless the context indicates otherwise:

16 (a) "Act" means the Mississippi Children's Health Care  
17 Act.

18 (b) "Administering agency" means the agency designated  
19 by the Mississippi Children's Health Insurance Program Commission  
20 to administer the program.

21 (c) "Board" means the State and Public School Employees  
22 Health Insurance Management Board created under Section 25-15-303.

23 (d) "Child" means an individual who is under nineteen  
24 (19) years of age who is not eligible for Medicaid benefits and is  
25 not covered by other health insurance.

26 (e) "Commission" means the Mississippi Children's  
27 Health Insurance Program Commission created by Section 41-86-7.

28 (f) "Covered benefits" means the types of health care

29 benefits and services provided to eligible recipients  
30 under the Children's Health Care Program.

31 (g) "Division" means the Division of Medicaid in the  
32 Office of the Governor.

33 (h) "Low-income child" means a child whose family  
34 income does not exceed two hundred percent (200%) of the poverty  
35 level for a family of the size involved.

36 (i) "Plan" means the State Child Health Plan.

37 (j) "Program" means the Children's Health Care Program  
38 established by Sections 41-86-5 through 41-86-17.

39 (k) "Recipient" means a person who is eligible for  
40 assistance under the program.

41 (l) "State Child Health Plan" means the permanent plan  
42 that sets forth the manner and means by which the State of  
43 Mississippi will provide health care assistance to eligible  
44 uninsured, low-income children consistent with the provisions of  
45 Title XXI of the federal Social Security Act, as amended.

46 SECTION 2. The following provision shall be codified as  
47 Section 41-86-19, Mississippi Code of 1972:

48 41-86-19. The Division of Medicaid shall develop a  
49 Children's Health Insurance Program enrollment outreach initiative  
50 in cooperation with the State Department of Education's federal  
51 free and reduced lunch program, the State Department of Health,  
52 the Department of Human Services, the Department of Finance and  
53 Administration, community health centers, the Mississippi State  
54 Medical Association, the Mississippi State Hospital Association,  
55 other health provider associations and community action  
56 agencies/Headstart centers. The enrollment outreach initiative  
57 shall be the responsibility of the C.H.I.P. Information  
58 Coordinator within the Division of Medicaid. The Division of  
59 Medicaid is authorized to maintain a statewide in-coming wide area  
60 telephone service for the purpose of providing information for and  
61 encouraging Children's Health Insurance Program enrollment.

62 SECTION 3. The following provision shall be codified as

63 Section 41-86-21, Mississippi Code of 1972:

64 41-86-21. (1) There is hereby established a C.H.I.P.  
65 Advisory Board to advise the State and Public School Employees  
66 Health Insurance Management Board relative to the Children's  
67 Health Insurance Program. The C.H.I.P. Advisory Board shall be  
68 composed of the Executive Director of the Mississippi State  
69 Department of Health, the Executive Director of the Division of  
70 Medicaid, Office of the Governor, one (1) member of the State and  
71 Public School Employees' Health Insurance Management Board to be  
72 appointed by the chairman of the board, and two (2) health care  
73 providers of services to children appointed by the Governor for  
74 terms concurrent with that of the Governor. For attending  
75 meetings of the C.H.I.P. Advisory Board, those members who are not  
76 state officials or state employees shall receive the per diem  
77 authorized under Section 25-3-69 and shall receive expense  
78 reimbursement as authorized under Section 25-3-41.

79 (2) There is hereby established a Joint C.H.I.P. Advisory  
80 Committee to meet with the C.H.I.P. Advisory Board and advise the  
81 State and Public School Employees Health Insurance Management  
82 Board relative to the Children's Health Insurance Program. The  
83 Joint C.H.I.P. Advisory Committee shall be composed of the  
84 Chairman of the House Public Health and Welfare Committee, the  
85 Chairman of the Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee, one  
86 (1) member of the Senate appointed by the Lieutenant Governor to  
87 serve at the will and pleasure of the Lieutenant Governor, and one  
88 (1) member of the House of Representatives appointed by the  
89 Speaker of the House to serve at the will and pleasure of the  
90 Speaker. The committee shall meet upon the call of the Chairman  
91 of the C.H.I.P. Advisory Board. The appointing authorities may  
92 designate an alternate member from their respective houses to  
93 serve when the regular designee is unable to attend such meetings  
94 of the committee. For attending meetings of the Joint C.H.I.P.  
95 Advisory Committee, such legislators shall receive per diem and  
96 expenses which shall be paid from the contingent expense funds of

97 their respective houses in the same amounts as provided for  
98 committee meetings when the Legislature is not in session;  
99 however, no per diem and expenses for attending meetings of the  
100 committee will be paid while the Legislature is in session.

101 SECTION 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
102 and after its passage.