

By: Representatives Barnett, Bondurant

To: Public Health and Human Services

HOUSE BILL NO. 715

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 73-25-14 AND 73-27-12, MISSISSIPPI
2 CODE OF 1972, TO AUTHORIZE THE RENEWAL OF LICENSES TO PRACTICE
3 MEDICINE OR OSTEOPATHY AND PODIATRY BY ELECTRONIC MEANS; AND FOR
4 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 73-25-14, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 73-25-14. (1) The license of every person licensed to
9 practice medicine or osteopathy in the State of Mississippi shall
10 be renewed annually.

11 On or before May 1 of each year, the State Board of Medical
12 Licensure shall mail a notice of renewal of license to every
13 physician or osteopath to whom a license was issued or renewed
14 during the current licensing year. The notice shall provide
15 instructions for obtaining and submitting applications for
16 renewal. The State Board of Medical Licensure is authorized to
17 make applications for renewal available via electronic means. The
18 applicant shall obtain and complete the application and submit it
19 to the board in the manner prescribed by the board in the notice
20 before June 30 with the renewal fee of an amount established by
21 the board, but not to exceed Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00), a
22 portion of which fee shall be used to support a program to aid
23 impaired physicians and osteopaths. The payment of the annual
24 license renewal fee shall be optional with all physicians over the
25 age of seventy (70) years. Upon receipt of the application and
26 fee, the board shall verify the accuracy of the application and
27 issue to applicant a certificate of renewal for the ensuing year,
28 beginning July 1 and expiring June 30 of the succeeding calendar

29 year. That renewal shall render the holder thereof a legal
30 practitioner as stated on the renewal form.

31 (2) Any physician or osteopath practicing in Mississippi who
32 allows his license to lapse by failing to renew the license as
33 provided in subsection (1) may be reinstated by the board on
34 satisfactory explanation for the failure to renew, by completion
35 of a reinstatement form, and upon payment of the renewal fee for
36 the current year, and shall be assessed a fine of Twenty-five
37 Dollars (\$25.00) plus an additional fine of Five Dollars (\$5.00)
38 for each month thereafter that the license renewal remains
39 delinquent.

40 (3) Any physician or osteopath not practicing in Mississippi
41 who allows his license to lapse by failing to renew the license as
42 provided in subsection (1) may be reinstated by the board on
43 satisfactory explanation for the failure to renew, by completion
44 of a reinstatement form and upon payment of the arrearages for the
45 previous five (5) years and the renewal fee for the current year.

46 (4) Any physician or osteopath who allows his license to
47 lapse shall be notified by the board within thirty (30) days of
48 such lapse.

49 (5) Any person practicing as a licensed physician or
50 osteopath during the time his license has lapsed shall be
51 considered an illegal practitioner and shall be subject to
52 penalties provided for violation of the Medical Practice Act,
53 provided he had not submitted the required reinstatement form and
54 fee within fifteen (15) days after notification by the board of
55 the lapse.

56 (6) Any physician or osteopath practicing in the State of
57 Mississippi whose license has lapsed and is deemed an illegal
58 practitioner under subsection (5) of this section may petition the
59 board for reinstatement of his license on a retroactive basis, if
60 the physician or osteopath was unable to meet the June 30 deadline
61 due to extraordinary or other legitimate reasons, and retroactive

62 reinstatement of licensure shall be granted or may be denied by
63 the board only for good cause. Failure to advise the board of
64 change of address shall not be considered a basis of
65 reinstatement.

66 (7) None of the fees or fines provided for in this section
67 shall be applicable to the renewal of a special volunteer medical
68 license authorized under Section 73-25-18.

69 (8) Fees collected under the provisions of this section
70 shall be used by the board to defray expenses of administering the
71 licensure provisions of the Medical Practice Act (Title 73,
72 Chapter 25, Mississippi Code of 1972) and to support a program to
73 aid impaired physicians and osteopaths in an amount determined by
74 the board.

75 **SECTION 2.** Section 73-27-12, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
76 amended as follows:

77 73-27-12. (1) The license of every person licensed to
78 practice podiatry in the State of Mississippi shall be renewed
79 annually.

80 On or before May 1 of each year, the board shall mail a
81 notice of renewal of license to every podiatrist to whom a license
82 was issued or renewed during the current licensing year. The
83 notice shall provide instructions for obtaining and submitting
84 applications for renewal. The State Board of Medical Licensure is
85 authorized to make applications for renewal available via
86 electronic means. The applicant shall obtain and complete the
87 application and submit it to the board in the manner prescribed by
88 the board in the notice before June 30 with the renewal fee of an
89 amount established by the board, but not to exceed Two Hundred
90 Dollars (\$200.00), a portion of which fee shall be used to support
91 a program to aid impaired podiatrists. Upon receipt of the
92 application and fee, the board shall verify the accuracy of the
93 application and issue to applicant a certificate of renewal for
94 the ensuing year, beginning July 1 and expiring June 30 of the

95 succeeding calendar year. That renewal shall render the holder
96 thereof a legal practitioner as stated on the renewal form.

97 (2) Any podiatrist practicing in Mississippi who allows his
98 license to lapse by failing to renew the license as provided in
99 subsection (1) may be reinstated by the board on satisfactory
100 explanation for the failure to renew, by completion of a
101 reinstatement form, and upon payment of the renewal fee for the
102 current year, and shall be assessed a fine of Twenty-five Dollars
103 (\$25.00) plus an additional fine of Five Dollars (\$5.00) for each
104 month thereafter that the license renewal remains delinquent.

105 (3) Any podiatrist not practicing in Mississippi who allows
106 his license to lapse by failing to renew the license as provided
107 in subsection (1) may be reinstated by the board on satisfactory
108 explanation for the failure to renew, by completion of a
109 reinstatement form and upon payment of the arrearages for the
110 previous five (5) years and the renewal fee for the current year.

111 (4) Any podiatrist who allows his license to lapse shall be
112 notified by the board within thirty (30) days of such lapse.

113 (5) Any person practicing as a licensed podiatrist during
114 the time his license has lapsed shall be considered an illegal
115 practitioner and shall be subject to penalties set forth in
116 Section 73-27-17, provided he has not submitted the required
117 reinstatement form and fee within fifteen (15) days after
118 notification by the board of the lapse.

119 (6) Any podiatrist practicing in the State of Mississippi
120 whose license has lapsed and is deemed an illegal practitioner
121 under subsection (5) of this section may petition the board for
122 reinstatement of his license on a retroactive basis, if the
123 podiatrist was unable to meet the June 30 deadline due to
124 extraordinary or other legitimate reasons, and retroactive
125 reinstatement of licensure shall be granted or may be denied by
126 the board only for good cause. Failure to advise the board of

127 change of address shall not be considered a basis for
128 reinstatement.

129 (7) Fees collected under the provisions of this section
130 shall be used by the board to defray expenses of administering the
131 licensure provisions of Title 73, Chapter 27, Mississippi Code of
132 1972, and to support a program to aid impaired podiatrists in an
133 amount determined by the board.

134 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
135 and after its passage.