

By: Representative Formby

To: Insurance;  
Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1324

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-15-303, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO REVISE THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE STATE AND SCHOOL EMPLOYEES HEALTH  
3 INSURANCE MANAGEMENT BOARD; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 25-15-303, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
6 amended as follows:

7 25-15-303. (1) There is created the State and School  
8 Employees Health Insurance Management Board, which shall  
9 administer the State and School Employees Life and Health  
10 Insurance Plan provided for under Section 25-15-3 et seq. The  
11 State and School Employees Health Insurance Management Board,  
12 hereafter referred to as the "board," shall also be responsible  
13 for administering all procedures for selecting third-party  
14 administrators provided for in Section 25-15-301.

15 (2) The board shall consist of the following:

- 16 (a) The State Personnel Director;
- 17 (b) The Commissioner of Insurance;
- 18 (c) The Commissioner of Higher Education;
- 19 (d) The State Superintendent of Education;
- 20 (e) The Executive Director of the Department of Finance  
21 and Administration;

22 (f) Two (2) appointees of the Governor whose terms  
23 shall be concurrent with that of the Governor, one (1) of whom  
24 shall have experience in providing actuarial advice to companies  
25 that provide health insurance to large groups and one (1) of whom  
26 shall have experience in the day-to-day management and  
27 administration of a large self-funded health insurance group;

28           (g) The Chairman of the Senate Insurance Committee, or  
29 his designee;

30           (h) The Chairman of the House of Representatives  
31 Insurance Committee, or his designee;

32           (i) The Chairman of the Senate Appropriations  
33 Committee, or his designee; and

34           (j) The Chairman of the House of Representatives  
35 Appropriations Committee, or his designee.

36           The legislators, or their designees, shall serve as ex  
37 officio, nonvoting members of the board.

38           The Executive Director of the Department of Finance and  
39 Administration shall be the chairman of the board.

40           (3) The board shall meet at least monthly and maintain  
41 minutes of such meetings. A quorum shall consist of a majority of  
42 the authorized voting membership of the board. The board shall  
43 have the sole authority to promulgate rules and regulations  
44 governing the operations of the insurance plans and shall be  
45 vested with all legal authority necessary and proper to perform  
46 this function, including, but not limited to:

47           (a) Defining the scope and coverages provided by the  
48 insurance plan;

49           (b) Seeking proposals for services or insurance through  
50 competitive processes where required by law and selecting service  
51 providers or insurers under procedures provided for by law; and

52           (c) Developing and adopting strategic plans and budgets  
53 for the insurance plan.

54           The department shall employ a State Insurance Administrator,  
55 who shall be responsible for the day-to-day management and  
56 administration of the insurance plan. The board shall employ a  
57 Deputy State Insurance Administrator who shall be an actuary and a  
58 member of the American Academy of Actuaries. The Deputy State  
59 Insurance Administrator shall have experience in providing  
60 actuarial services to companies which provide health insurance to

61 large groups. The deputy administrator shall receive a salary set  
62 by the board and shall not be subject to the authority of the  
63 State Personnel Board for any purpose. The Department of Finance  
64 and Administration shall provide to the board on a full-time basis  
65 personnel and technical support necessary and sufficient to  
66 effectively and efficiently carry out the requirements of this  
67 section.

68 (4) Members of the board shall not receive any compensation  
69 or per diem, but may receive travel reimbursement provided for  
70 under Section 25-3-41 except that the legislators shall receive  
71 per diem and expenses which shall be paid from the contingent  
72 expense funds of their respective houses in the same amounts as  
73 provided for committee meetings when the Legislature is not in  
74 session; however, no per diem and expenses for attending meetings  
75 of the board shall be paid while the Legislature is in session.

76 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
77 and after July 1, 2005.