

By: Senator(s) Kirby

To: Insurance

SENATE BILL NO. 2644
(As Sent to Governor)

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 TO ADD THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
4 STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES AND THE EXECUTIVE
5 DIRECTOR OF THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM; AND FOR
6 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

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

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

- 19 (a) The Chairman of the Workers' Compensation
20 Commission;
- 21 (b) The State Personnel Director;
- 22 (c) The Commissioner of Insurance;
- 23 (d) The Commissioner of Higher Education;
- 24 (e) The State Superintendent of Public Education;
- 25 (f) The Executive Director of the Department of Finance
26 and Administration;
- 27 (g) The Executive Director of the State Board for
28 Community and Junior Colleges;

29 (h) The Executive Director of the Public Employees'
30 Retirement System;

31 (i) Two (2) appointees of the Governor whose terms
32 shall be concurrent with that of the Governor, one (1) of whom
33 shall have experience in providing actuarial advice to companies
34 that provide health insurance to large groups and one (1) of whom
35 shall have experience in the day-to-day management and
36 administration of a large self-funded health insurance group;

37 (j) The Chairman of the Senate Insurance Committee, or
38 his designee;

39 (k) The Chairman of the House of Representatives
40 Insurance Committee, or his designee;

41 (l) The Chairman of the Senate Appropriations
42 Committee, or his designee; and

43 (m) The Chairman of the House of Representatives
44 Appropriations Committee, or his designee.

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

47 The Executive Director of the Department of Finance and
48 Administration shall be the chairman of the board.

49 (3) The board shall meet at least monthly and maintain
50 minutes of the meetings. A quorum shall consist of a majority of
51 the authorized voting membership of the board. The board shall
52 have the sole authority to promulgate rules and regulations
53 governing the operations of the insurance plans and shall be
54 vested with all legal authority necessary and proper to perform
55 this function including, but not limited to:

56 (a) Defining the scope and coverages provided by the
57 insurance plan;

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

61 (c) Developing and adopting strategic plans and budgets
62 for the insurance plan.

63 The department shall employ a State Insurance Administrator,
64 who shall be responsible for the day-to-day management and
65 administration of the insurance plan. The board shall employ a
66 Deputy State Insurance Administrator who shall be an actuary and a
67 member of the American Academy of Actuaries. The Deputy State
68 Insurance Administrator shall have experience in providing
69 actuarial services to companies that provide health insurance to
70 large groups. The deputy administrator shall receive a salary set
71 by the board and shall not be subject to the authority of the
72 State Personnel Board for any purpose. The Department of Finance
73 and Administration shall provide to the board on a full-time basis
74 personnel and technical support necessary and sufficient to
75 effectively and efficiently carry out the requirements of this
76 section.

77 (4) Members of the board shall not receive any compensation
78 or per diem, but may receive travel reimbursement provided for
79 under Section 25-3-41 except that the legislators shall receive
80 per diem and expenses, which shall be paid from the contingent
81 expense funds of their respective houses in the same amounts as
82 provided for committee meetings when the Legislature is not in
83 session; however, no per diem and expenses for attending meetings
84 of the board shall be paid while the Legislature is in session.

85 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
86 and after July 1, 2007.