

**2018 LEGISLATIVE BILL SUMMARY
MISSISSIPPI INSURANCE DEPARTMENT**

COMMISSIONER MIKE CHANEY

2018 Mississippi Legislative Session - Department of Insurance – Legislative Summary

General:

<p><u>SB 2311</u> – Insurance Companies; revise notice requirements when transferring policies</p>	<p>Approved: 3/5/2018 Effective: 7/1/2018</p>	<p>Amends §§ 71-3-77; 83-5-28; 83-11-1; 83-11-07; 83-11-101 to provide that a notice of nonrenewal is not required when a replacement policy form is issued by the same insurer or when an insured is transferred to a licensed affiliate of the insurer, so long as the transfer or replacement results in the same or substantially similar coverage; and to require the transferring insurer provide notice of the policy transfer to the MID and to the policyholder.</p>
<p><u>SB 2527</u> – Insurance; prohibit civil liability against a person or entity for reporting insurance fraud.</p>	<p>Approved: 3/26/2018 Effective: 7/1/ 2018</p>	<p>Provides for civil immunity for any person that is furnishing reports of insurance fraud to any law enforcement, investigatory, prosecutorial or regulatory agent or agency, insurer or statutory residential market plan, as long as the person did not act in bad faith in making said report..</p>

Health:

<p><u>HB 1196</u> – Comprehensive Health Insurance Risk Pool; require approval before expending remaining monies after cessation.</p>	<p>Approved: 3/19/2018 Effective: Upon Passage</p>	<p>With the passage of the ACA, persons who had pre-existing conditions that made it difficult or impossible to find coverage in the admitted market could no longer be denied coverage. Therefore, there no longer was a need for MCHIRPA, and the association no longer writes coverage and is currently winding down operations and the monies currently held will have to be disbursed. The bill gives the Commissioner oversight over how the association will distribute the monies it holds once MCHIRPA ceases its operations.</p>
<p><u>SB 2296</u> – Group Health Insurance plan coverage for prescription drugs; authorize medication</p>	<p>Approved: 3/5/2018 Effective: 1/1/2019</p>	<p>This bill will allow for the pharmacists to adjust the prescription refill dates to allow for all of a consumer’s prescriptions to be refilled at the</p>

synchronization for beneficiaries.		same time; thereby allowing a consumer to only make one trip a month to a pharmacy.
SB 2466 – State & School Employees Health Insurance; extend repealer on payment of premiums.	Approved: 3/5/2018 Effective: 7/1/2018	Reenacts and amends § 25-15-15 which provides for the payment of premiums for the State and School Employees Health Insurance Plan. Section now set to repeal on July 1, 2022.

Property and Casualty:

HB 326 – Relating to allow a County Board of Supervisors to expend funds to maintain and repair and to purchase liability insurance, tags and decals for any personal property acquired through the Firefighter Property Program	Approved: 3/5/2018 Effective: 7/1/2018	Amends § 19-3-41 to allow a County Board of Supervisors to expend funds necessary to maintain and repair any personal property acquired through the Firefighter Property Program, and to purchase liability insurance, tag and decals for said personal property.
HB 887 – Compressive Hurricane Damage Mitigation Program	Approved: 3/19/2018 Effective: 7/1/2018	Amends § 83-1-191 to extend the repealer to July 1, 2021.
SB 2465 – Homeowners insurance; require premium discount for new home tornado mitigation construction in any county.	Approved: 3/5/2018 Effective: 7/1/2018	Amends § 83-75-1 to provide for an insurance premium discount or reduction for new homes built in the state that are built to withstand tornadoes or other catastrophic windstorm events. The provisions of SB 2465 applies to newly constructed insurance property as defined in <u>Miss. Code Ann. § 83-75-5</u> ; that definition does not include mobile homes as insurance property. Insurers may provide these discounts or reductions to insureds by July 1, 2019
SB 2467 – MS Windstorm Underwriting Association; extend repealer on nonadmitted policy fee.	Approved: 4/13/2018 Effective: 7/1/2018	Reenacts and amends §§ 17-23-1 and 83-34-4. Section 83-34-4 is amended to require for one (1) year beginning July 1, 2018, to divert \$4,500,000.00 derived from the nonadmitted policy fee to the Rural Fire Truck or Supplementary Rural Fire Fund and \$1,500,000.00 derived from the nonadmitted policy fee to the Capital Expense Fund

		before any monies are forwarded to the Mississippi Windstorm Underwriting Association. Section 17-23-1 is amended to authorize an additional round for RFTAAP. MID has promulgated 19 Miss. Administrative Code, Part 1, Chapter 42 “Non-Admitted Policy Fee Account Regulation” providing further information.
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Appropriation:

HB 1588 – Appropriation; Mississippi Insurance Department	Approved: 4/11/2018 Effective: 7/1/2018	Provides an appropriation from the General Fund to the MID for FY19. Includes a \$2,700,000 appropriation to RFTAAP in FY19.
HB 1589 – Appropriation; State Fire Academy	Approve: 4/11/2018 Effective: 7/1/2018	Provides an appropriation from the General Fund to the State Fire Academy for FY19.
HB 1617 – Appropriations; additional for various state agencies for FY18.	Approved: 4/11/2018 Effective: Section 19 - from and after July 1, 2018.	Provides additional appropriations to various state agencies. Section 19 provides an appropriation of \$1,800,000.00 to MID for RFTAAP, of which \$500,000 is to be used for fire apparatus used for fighting or extinguishing fire used with automobile fire engines or ladder trucks.