2008 Mississippi Legislative Session - Department of Insurance - New Laws

HB 1388- Commissioner of Insurance; authorize to establish bonding/insurance requirements for factory-built homes licensees.	Approved 4/8/2008 Effective 7/1/2008	Amends § 75-49-11 to allow the Commissioner of Insurance to establish rules and regulations establishing the bonding and/or insurance requirements as part of the licensing requirements for manufacturers. modular contractors, retailers and transporters of factory-built homes.
HB 1405 - Mississippi trauma system; require participation by hospitals and increase fees earmarked for trauma care fund.	Approved 5/12/2008 Effective 7/1/2008	Allows hospitals to charge an activation fee to insurance companies should a trauma team be activated, even if the trauma teams services are not used.
HB 1435 - Factory-built homes; authorize Commissioner of Insurance to change manufacturers an installation inspection fee.	Approved 3/31/2008 Effective 7/1/2008	Amends § 75-49-3 and 75-49-9 to allow the Department of Insurance to contract with HUD to conduct installation inspections of factory-built homes, and also to charge a fee for said service as provided by HUD.
HB 1465- Building Codes; require adoption by local governments, allow fire protection funds to be used for compliance.	Approved 3/15/2008 Effective 7/1/2008	Amends §§ 17-2-5; 83-1-37; and 83-1-39. Establishes that any county or municipality adopting building codes after 7/1/08 must adopt at a minimum the Mississippi Building Codes. Also, any county or municipality that adopted a version of building codes that is earlier that 1/1/00, must adopt by 7/1/2010 the Mississippi Building Code. Act also establishes funding through the Municipal and County fire rebate programs to assist counties with training of personnel to conduct building code inspections.
HB 1617 - Appropriation; Department of Insurance	Approved 5/8/2008 Effective 7/1/2008	Section 12 of this bill provides the Commissioner with the authority to grant a paid internship to students pursuing junior or senior undergraduate level year coursework toward a Bachelor's Degree in Insurance or Risk Management, or graduate level coursework towards a Master's Degree in Insurance or Risk Management.
HB 1640 - Appropriation; Department of Insurance, Windstorm Reinsurance; additional for FY 2008	Approved 3/20/2008 Effective 3/20/2008	Appropriated \$25 million to the Windpool Reinsurance Assistance Fund to help defray the cost of reinsurance for the Windpool.

SB 2475 - Health Insurance policies; remove repealer on law requiring reimbursement for marriage/family therapist services.	Approved 3/24/2008 Effective 7/1/2008	Amends Miss. Code Ann. § 83-41-211 to remove the repealer on the provision which requires health insurance policies to provide reimbursement for services rendered by marriage and family therapists.
SB 2502 - Commissioner of Insurance; authorize to establish expedited review procedure for life, health and accident filings.	Approved 4/7/2008 Effective 7/1/2008	Amends Miss. Code Ann. § 83-7-17 and 83-9-3 to allow the Commissioner to establish an expedited review procedure for life, health and accident filings.
SB 2507 -Bail agents; revise continuing education requirements.	Approved 4/14/2008 Effective 7/1/2008	Amends Miss. Code Ann. § 83-39-3 to allow for biennial licenses and to require that bail agents take eight hours of continuing education each year. Failure to have obtained twelve hours of continuing education each year would result in automatic denial of renewal of license. Those persons would be required to submit to pre-licensing education before their license would be renewed.
SB 2914- Bonds; revise distribution of bond proceeds between the Supplementary Rural Fire Truck and the Rural Fire Truck Fund	Approved 3/31/2008 Effective 3/31/2008	Revised the distribution of the bond proceeds between the Supplementary Rural Fire Truck and the Rural Fire Truck Fund . and to extend the authority to issue said bonds from July 1, 2008 to July 1, 2009.
SB 2979 - Commissioner of Insurance; increase certain fees paid by insurance companies for services performed by Commissioner.	Approved 4/7/2008 Effective 4/7/2008	Amends Miss. Code Ann. §§ 83-5-73; 83-5-75; and 83-5-77 to increase certain fees paid by insurance companies for services provided by the Department. Please refer to MID Bulletin 2008-4 for more information.
SB 2985- Foreign insurance companies; authorize the Commissioner of Insurance to contract with third party to assist in regulation of.	Approved 5/12/2008 Effective 5/12/2008	Bill amends §83-21-21 to allow the Department to contract with a third party to assist with the regulation of surplus lines companies in lieu of the Mississippi Surplus Lines Association.
SB 2987- Insurance companies; include credit property as a classification of insurance.	Approved 3/24/2008 Effective 7/1/2008	Amends § 83-19-1 to include credit property as a property line of insurance.