March 25, 2003

Bulletin No. 2003-2

TO ALL LICENSED HOME WARRANTY COMPANIES AND
ALL LICENSED PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANIES OFFERING
HOME WARRANTIES IN THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

During the 2003 Regular Session the Mississippi Legislature enacted the Mississippi Service Contract Act (HB 1073) which took effect as of March 14, 2003. The Act repeals Sections 83-57-1 through 83-57-79, Mississippi Code of 1972, which provided for the regulation of Home Warranties by the Commissioner of Insurance.

The complete bill text (as Sent to Governor) can be viewed on the Mississippi Legislature website, <www.ls.ms.state.us>, Bill Status, House Bill 1073, or direct link:
http://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/2003/html/history/HB/HB1073.htm

Home Warranties are now defined as Service Contracts and are subject to the provisions of the Mississippi Consumer Protection Act, Section 75-24-1 et seq, Mississippi Code of 1972. Home Warranties are no longer defined as insurance; therefore, the Commissioner of Insurance does not have the authority to regulate or license companies or agents in the selling of Home Warranties. Companies are not required to file rates, forms or financial statements pertaining to the sale of Home Warranties with the Commissioner of Insurance.

If there are any questions concerning the subjects herein, contact the Mississippi Insurance Department at (601) 359-3569.

George Dale, Commissioner of Insurance