

By: Senator(s) Hall

To: Judiciary

SENATE BILL NO. 2047

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 43-21-355, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROVIDE THAT NO EMPLOYEE OF A CHILD CARE FACILITY OR
3 INSTITUTION SHALL BE DISCHARGED OR RECEIVE ANY EMPLOYMENT
4 RETALIATION FOR REPORTING INFORMATION ON CHILD ABUSE OR
5 PARTICIPATING IN A JUDICIAL PROCEEDING RESULTING THEREFROM; AND
6 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8 SECTION 1. Section 43-21-355, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
9 amended as follows:

10 43-21-355. (1) Any attorney, physician, dentist, intern,
11 resident, nurse, psychologist, social worker, child care giver,
12 minister, law enforcement officer, school attendance officer,
13 public school district employee, nonpublic school employee, or any
14 other person participating in the making of a required report
15 pursuant to Section 43-21-353 or participating in the judicial
16 proceeding resulting therefrom shall be presumed to be acting in
17 good faith. Any person or institution reporting in good faith
18 shall be immune from any liability, civil or criminal, that might
19 otherwise be incurred or imposed.

20 (2) No person shall terminate from employment, demote,
21 reject for promotion or otherwise sanction, punish or retaliate
22 against any employee of a child care facility, institution or
23 other child care giver, who in good faith makes a required report
24 pursuant to Section 43-21-353 or participates in any
25 administrative or judicial proceeding regarding matters arising
26 therefrom.

27 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
28 and after July 1, 1999.