

By: Ford

To: Public Health and
Welfare

HOUSE BILL NO. 252
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 41-89-1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 EXTEND THE DATE OF THE REPEALER ON THE INFANT MORTALITY TASK
3 FORCE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 41-89-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 41-89-1. (1) There is created the Infant Mortality Task
8 Force, the purpose of which is to foster the reduction of infant
9 mortality and morbidity in Mississippi and to improve the health
10 status of mothers and infants.

11 (2) The Infant Mortality Task Force is hereby continued and
12 reconstituted as follows: The task force shall be composed of
13 eleven (11) voting members appointed as follows:

14 (a) The Governor shall appoint seven (7) members, one
15 (1) from each Mississippi congressional district and two (2) from
16 the state at large.

17 (b) The Lieutenant Governor shall appoint two (2)
18 members from the state at large.

19 (c) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall
20 appoint two (2) members from the state at large.

21 (d) It is the intent of the Legislature that the task
22 force be comprised of persons with a professional association with
23 or special interest in maternal and infant health and well-being.

24 (e) Any member of the Infant Mortality Task Force
25 appointed and serving prior to July 1, 1995, shall be eligible for
26 reappointment to the task force.

27 (3) The Governor shall appoint two (2) members for initial
28 terms that expire on June 30, 1996, two (2) members for initial
29 terms that expire on June 30, 1997, and three (3) members for
30 initial terms that expire on June 30, 1998. The Lieutenant
31 Governor and Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint
32 one (1) member for an initial term that expires on June 30, 1997,
33 and one (1) member for an initial term that expires on June 30,
34 1998. Thereafter, all members shall be appointed for terms of
35 three (3) years from the expiration of the previous term. No
36 member shall serve more than two (2) successive full terms. Any
37 vacancy occurring other than by expiration of a term shall be
38 filled for the unexpired term by the appropriate appointing
39 authority. An appointment to fill an unexpired term shall not be
40 considered as a full term.

41 (4) The administrative head of the following state agencies
42 shall designate one (1) employee to serve in an advisory capacity
43 as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the Infant Mortality Task
44 Force: (a) Mississippi Department of Health; (b) State Department
45 of Education; (c) Department of Human Services; (d) Mississippi
46 Department of Mental Health; (e) Division of Medicaid; and (f) the
47 University Medical Center. In addition there shall be one (1)
48 member of the Mississippi Primary Health Care Association who
49 shall serve in an advisory capacity as an ex officio nonvoting
50 member.

51 (5) The Chairman of the Senate Public Health and Welfare
52 Committee and one (1) member of said committee to be designated by
53 the chairman, and the Chairman of the House Public Health and
54 Welfare Committee and one (1) member of said committee to be
55 designated by the chairman shall serve in an advisory capacity as
56 ex officio nonvoting members of the Infant Mortality Task Force.

57 (6) This section shall stand repealed on July 1, 2001.

58 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
59 and after July 1, 2000.