By: Martinson

To: Public Health and Welfare

HOUSE BILL NO. 944

AN ACT TO REENACT SECTIONS 73-38-1 THROUGH 73-38-36, 1 2 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH PROVIDE THE EDUCATION AND 3 LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR AUDIOLOGISTS; TO AMEND SECTION 4 73-38-38, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO EXTEND THE DATE OF THE 5 REPEALER; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI: 6 7 SECTION 1. Section 73-38-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 8 reenacted as follows: 73-38-1. The State Board of Health, established and 9 empowered by Section 41-3-1 et seq., shall discharge as additional 10 duties and responsibilities the provisions of this chapter in the 11 examination, licensing and regulation of persons who provide 12 13 services in the areas of speech-language pathology and audiology. 14 SECTION 2. Section 73-38-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is reenacted as follows: 15 73-38-3. The following definitions apply as used in this 16 chapter, unless the context otherwise requires: 17 (a) "Board" means the Mississippi State Board of 18 Health. 19 "Council" means the Mississippi Council of Advisors 20 (b) 21 in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology as established in 22 Section 73-38-11. (c) "Person" means any individual, organization or 23 corporate body, except that only an individual may be licensed 2.4 25 under this chapter. "Speech-language pathologist" means an individual 26 (d) 27 who practices speech-language pathology and who presents himself

to the public by any title or description of services incorporating the words "speech pathologist," "speech-language pathologist," "speech therapist," "speech correctionist," "speech clinician," "language pathologist," "language therapist," "logopedist," "communicologist," "voice therapist," "voice pathologist," or any similar title or description of services.

(e) "Speech-language pathology" means the application
of principles, methods and procedures for the measurement,
testing, evaluation, prediction, counseling, instruction,
habilitation or rehabilitation related to the development and
disorders of speech, voice, language or for the purpose of
evaluating, preventing, ameliorating or modifying such disorders
and conditions in individuals and/or groups of individuals.

(f) "Audiologist" means an individual who practices audiology and who presents himself to the public by any title or description of services incorporating the words "audiologist," "hearing clinician," "hearing therapist," or any similar title or description of service.

46 (g) "Audiology" means the application of principles, 47 methods and procedures of measurement, testing, evaluation, prediction, consultation, counseling, instruction, habilitation or 48 49 rehabilitation related to hearing and disorders of hearing for the purpose of evaluating, identifying, preventing, ameliorating or 50 modifying such disorders and conditions in individuals and/or 51 52 groups of individuals; and for the purpose of this subsection the words "habilitation" and "rehabilitation" include, but are not 53 54 limited to hearing aid evaluation, and auditory training, and speech reading. 55

(h) "Speech-language pathology aide" means an
individual who meets minimum qualifications which the council may
establish for speech-language pathology aides, which
qualifications shall be less than those established by this
chapter as necessary for licensure as a speech-language
pathologist, and who works under the supervision of a licensed
speech-language pathologist.

(i) "Audiology aide" means an individual who meetsminimum qualifications which the council may establish for

65 audiology aides, which qualifications shall be less than those 66 established by this chapter as necessary for licensure as an 67 audiologist, and who works under the supervision of a licensed 68 audiologist.

69 (j) "ASHA" means the American Speech-Language-Hearing70 Association.

71 SECTION 3. Section 73-38-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 72 reenacted as follows:

73 73-38-5. (1) Licensure shall be granted either in 74 speech-language pathology or audiology independently. A person 75 may be licensed in both areas if he meets the respective 76 qualifications.

(2) No person shall practice or represent himself as a
speech-language pathologist or audiologist in this state unless he
is licensed in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.
SECTION 4. Section 73-38-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is

81 reenacted as follows:

82 73-38-7. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as83 preventing or restricting:

(a) A physician from engaging in the practice of
medicine in this state, or a person using an audiometer to test
hearing under the direct supervision of a licensed physician,
provided such person does not present himself to the public by any
title or description of services incorporating the words
"audiologist," "hearing clinician," "hearing therapist," or any
similar title or description of services;

91 (b) Any person licensed as a hearing aid dispenser from 92 measuring and testing hearing in relation to the fitting, usage 93 and dispensing of hearing aids or rendering post fitting services 94 to his clients or using any title provided in Sections 73-14-1 95 through 73-14-47;

96 (c) Any person licensed in this state by any other law 97 from engaging in the profession or occupation for which he is

98 licensed;

A person from being employed or working in a 99 (d) 100 volunteer capacity without a license, as provided in this chapter, as a speech-language pathologist or audiologist by the government 101 102 of the United States or by the governing authority of any school district or private or parochial school in this state, if such 103 104 person performs speech-language pathology or audiology services 105 solely within the confines or under the jurisdiction of the organization by which he is employed, or working in a volunteer 106 107 capacity; however, such person may, without obtaining a license under this chapter, consult with or disseminate his research 108 109 findings and other scientific information to speech-language 110 pathologists and audiologists outside the jurisdiction of the organization by which he is employed; such person may also offer 111 lectures to the public for a fee, monetary or other, without being 112 113 licensed under this chapter; such person may additionally elect to 114 be subject to this chapter.

(e) The activities and services of persons pursuing a 115 116 course of study leading to a degree in speech-language pathology at a college or university if such activities and services 117 118 constitute a part of the supervised course of study and that such person is designated speech-language pathology intern, 119 120 speech-language pathology trainee, or by other such titles clearly 121 indicating the training status appropriate to his level of 122 training;

(f) The activities and services of a person pursuing a course of study leading to a degree in audiology at a college or university if such activities and services constitute a part of a supervised course of study and such person is designated audiology intern, audiology trainee, or by any other such titles clearly indicating the training status appropriate to his level of training; or

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(g) The performance of speech-language pathology or

131 audiology services in this state by any person not a resident of this state who is not licensed under this chapter if such services 132 133 are performed for no more than five (5) days in any calendar year and in cooperation with a speech-language pathologist or 134 135 audiologist licensed under this chapter, and if such person meets the qualifications and requirements for application for licensure 136 described in subsections (a) through (c) of Section 73-38-9; 137 138 however, a person not a resident of this state who is not licensed 139 under this chapter, but who is licensed under the law of another 140 state which has established licensure requirements at least equivalent to those established by Section 73-38-9, or who is the 141 142 holder of the ASHA Certificate of Clinical Competence in 143 Speech-Language Pathology or Audiology or its equivalent, may 144 offer speech-language pathology or audiology services in this 145 state for no more than thirty (30) days in any calendar year if 146 such services are performed in cooperation with a speech-language 147 pathologist or audiologist licensed under this chapter; or

(h) Any person employed by a private industry or firm
for the purpose of conducting hearing tests incident to the
operations of such firm or industry relative to its employees and
employment practices.

SECTION 5. Section 73-38-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is reenacted as follows:

154 73-38-9. To be eligible for licensure by the board as a 155 speech-language pathologist or audiologist and to be eligible for 156 registration as a speech-language pathology aide or audiology 157 aide, a person shall:

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(a) Be of good moral character;

(b) (1) For speech-language pathologists or audiologists, possess at least a master's degree or its equivalent in the area of speech-language pathology or audiology, as the case may be, from an educational institution recognized by the board; (2) For speech-language pathology aide or

164 audiology aide, the board shall set minimum educational standards 165 which shall be less than a bachelor's degree;

166 (c) For speech-language pathologists and audiologists, 167 submit evidence of the completion of the educational, clinical 168 experience and employment requirements, which requirements shall 169 be based on appropriate national standards and prescribed by the 170 rules and regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter;

(d) For speech-language pathologists and audiologists, pass an examination approved by the board. This examination may be taken either before or after the completion of the employment requirement specified pursuant to subsection (c) of this section;

175 (e) For speech-language pathology aides and audiology176 aides, no examination shall be required.

177 SECTION 6. Section 73-38-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 178 reenacted as follows:

179 73-38-11. (1) There is established the Mississippi Council
180 of Advisors in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology under the
181 jurisdiction of the Mississippi State Board of Health.

182 The council shall be comprised of five (5) members. (2) Two 183 (2) council members shall be speech-language pathologists and two 184 (2) council members shall be audiologists with the fifth council member being a licensed physician, board certified in 185 186 otolaryngology. All council members who are speech-language 187 pathologists or audiologists shall at all times be holders of active and valid licenses for the practice of speech-language 188 189 pathology and audiology in this state and shall be holders of the ASHA Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language 190 191 Pathology or Audiology or its equivalent.

(3) One (1) member shall be appointed from each Supreme Court district as presently constituted; and two (2) members shall be appointed from the state at large. No more than two (2) members of the council shall be appointed from any one (1) Supreme Court district as presently constituted. Appointments made shall

197 be for three-year terms, with no person being eligible to serve 198 more than two (2) full consecutive terms. Terms shall begin on 199 the first day of the calendar year and end on the last day of the 200 calendar year.

201 (4) Not less than sixty (60) days before the end of each 202 calendar year, the Mississippi Speech-Language-Hearing Association 203 will submit the names of at least three (3) persons for each 204 speech-language pathologist or audiologist vacancy and the 205 Mississippi Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Association will submit the 206 names of at least three (3) persons for an otolaryngologist 207 vacancy occurring at the end of the calendar year. The board 208 shall make all appointments of council members from the list of names submitted by each association within sixty (60) days after 209 210 receiving the lists. In the event of a vacancy, the board shall, 211 within thirty (30) days after such vacancy, appoint a person from 212 the previous list of names submitted who shall fill the unexpired 213 term.

(5) The council shall meet during the first month of each 214 215 calendar year to select a chairman and for other appropriate At least one (1) additional meeting shall be held 216 purposes. 217 before the end of each calendar year. Further meetings may be 218 convened at the call of the chairman or the written request of any 219 two (2) council members. All meetings of the council shall be 220 open to the public, except that the council may hold closed sessions to prepare, approve, grade or administer examinations, or 221 222 upon request of an applicant who fails an examination, to prepare a response indicating any reason for his failure. The public 223 224 shall be notified of meetings of the council through at least one 225 (1) newspaper of general circulation in the state and public information channels not less than ten (10) calendar days before 226 227 such meetings are held.

(6) Three (3) members of the council shall constitute aquorum for all purposes, but in no instance shall a meeting of

four (4) council members be considered a quorum if there is not at least one (1) speech-language pathologist and one (1) audiologist present.

233 SECTION 7. Section 73-38-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 234 reenacted as follows:

73-38-13. (1) The board shall have full authority to investigate and evaluate each and every applicant applying for a license to practice speech-language pathology or a license to practice audiology with the advice of the council.

(2) The board shall have the authority to issue subpoenas,
examine witnesses and administer oaths, and shall, at its
discretion, investigate allegations or practices violating the
provisions of this chapter.

(3) The board shall adopt such rules and regulations not inconsistent with the laws of this state as may be necessary to effectuate the provisions of this chapter and may amend or repeal the same as may be necessary for such purposes, with the advice of the council.

(4) The conferral or enumeration of specific powers
elsewhere in this chapter shall not be construed as a limitation
of the general functions conferred by this section.

251 SECTION 8. Section 73-38-15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 252 reenacted as follows:

73-38-15. (1) The administration of the provisions of this chapter shall be financed from income accruing from fees, licenses and other charges assessed and collected by the board and from such other funds available to the board.

(2) The board shall receive and account for all funds received and shall keep such funds in a separate fund. Funds collected under the provisions of this chapter shall be used solely for the compensation and expenses of the council and the board and to administer the provisions of this chapter, which may include full or partial financing of continuing education programs

263 promulgated by the council under Section 73-38-33. Such funds 264 shall be subject to audit by the Auditor of the State of 265 Mississippi.

(3) Members of the council shall receive no compensation for
their services, but shall receive travel and other expenses
necessarily incurred in the discharge of official duties.

269 SECTION 9. Section 73-38-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 270 reenacted as follows:

73-38-17. (1) The board shall issue licenses and notices of
renewal, revocation, suspension or reinstatement and shall publish
annually the names of persons licensed under this chapter.

(2) The board shall publish and disseminate to all
licensees, in an appropriate manner, the licensure standards
prescribed by this chapter, any amendments thereto, and such rules
and regulations as the board may adopt under the authority vested
by Section 73-38-13 within sixty (60) days of their adoptions.

279 SECTION 10. Section 73-38-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 280 reenacted as follows:

73-38-19. (1) A person eligible for licensure under Section 73-38-9 and desirous of licensure shall make application for examination to the board at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of examination upon a form and in such manner as the board shall prescribe.

286 (2) Any application shall be accompanied by the fee 287 prescribed by Section 73-38-31, which fee shall in no case be 288 refunded.

(3) A person who fails an examination may make application
for reexamination if he again meets the requirements of
subsections (1) and (2) of this section.

(4) A person certified by ASHA or licensed under the law of another state, a territory of the United States, or the District of Columbia as a speech-language pathologist or audiologist who has applied for examination under this section may perform

296 speech-language pathology and audiology services in this state 297 prior to a determination by the board that such person has 298 successfully completed examination for licensure.

(5) Each application or filing made under this section shall
include the Social Security number(s) of the applicant in
accordance with Section 93-11-64, Mississippi Code of 1972.

302 SECTION 11. Section 73-38-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 303 reenacted as follows:

304 73-38-21. (1) Each applicant for licensure under this
305 chapter shall be examined by the board in written examination.
306 Standards for acceptable performance shall be established by the
307 board with the advice of the council.

Applicants for licensure shall be examined at a time and 308 (2) place and under such supervision as the board may determine. 309 310 Examinations shall be given at such places within this state as 311 the board may determine at least twice each year and the board 312 shall make public, in a manner it considers appropriate, notice of such examinations at least sixty (60) days prior to their 313 314 administration, and shall appropriately notify all individual 315 examination applicants of the time and place of their 316 administration.

317 (3) The board may examine in whatever theoretical or applied 318 field of speech-language pathology and audiology it considers 319 appropriate and may examine with regard to a person's professional 320 skills and judgment in the utilization of speech-language 321 pathology or audiology techniques and methods.

322 (4) The board shall maintain a permanent record of all323 examination scores.

324 SECTION 12. Section 73-38-23, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 325 reenacted as follows:

326 73-38-23. (1) The board shall waive the requirements of 327 subsections (b) and (c) of Section 73-38-9 for those applicants 328 for licensure who, on the effective date of this section, are

329 actually engaged in this state in the practice of speech-language 330 pathology or audiology, upon proof of bona fide practice presented 331 to the board. However, any such applicant must meet the 332 requirements of subsections (b) through (d) of Section 73-38-9 333 within five (5) years of the effective date of this section.

334 (2) The board may waive the examination for licensure of any 335 applicant who shall present proof of current licensure in another 336 state, including the District of Columbia, or territory of the 337 United States which maintains professional standards considered by 338 the council to be equivalent to those set forth in this chapter.

339 (3) The board shall waive the examination for licensure of
340 any person certified as clinically competent by ASHA in the area
341 for which such person is applying for licensure.

342 SECTION 13. Section 73-38-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 343 reenacted as follows:

344 73-38-25. (1) The board shall issue a license to any person
345 who meets the requirements of this chapter and who pays to the
346 board the fees prescribed in Section 73-38-31.

347 (2) (a) An applicant who fulfills all the requirements for
348 licensure except professional employment and/or examination or
349 persons granted a waiver under subsection (1) of Section 73-38-23
350 may apply to the board for a temporary license.

351 (b) Upon receiving an application provided under 352 subsection (2)(a), the board shall issue a temporary license which 353 entitles the applicant to practice speech-language pathology or 354 audiology under the supervision of a licensee with licensure in 355 the appropriate specialty while completing the requirements for 356 licensure.

357 (c) No temporary license shall be issued by the board 358 under this section unless the applicant shows to the satisfaction 359 of the board that he is or will be supervised and trained by a 360 person who holds a license in the appropriate specialty or unless 361 the applicant is granted a waiver under subsection (1) of Section

362 73-38-23.

(d) The temporary license shall be effective for one
(1) licensure period and may be renewed upon board approval.
(3) (a) Each person licensed under this chapter who
supervises a speech-language pathology or audiology aide shall
register the same with the board.

368 (b) The licensee who supervises aides is responsible 369 for the services provided to the client by said aides and may 370 suffer suspension, revocation or other appropriate penalty for 371 failure to exercise his responsibilities in the supervision of 372 aides.

373 (c) Speech-language pathology and audiology aides shall
374 pay to the board a registration fee as prescribed in Section
375 73-38-31, subsection (1).

376 SECTION 14. Section 73-38-27, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 377 reenacted as follows:

378 73-38-27. (1) The board may refuse to issue or renew a 379 license, or may suspend or revoke a license where the licensee or 380 applicant for license has been guilty of unprofessional conduct 381 which has endangered or is likely to endanger the health, welfare 382 or safety of the public. Such unprofessional conduct may result 383 from:

384 (a) Obtaining a license by means of fraud,
385 misrepresentation or concealment of material facts;

386 (b) Being guilty of unprofessional conduct as defined387 by the rules established by the board;

388 (c) Being convicted of a felony in any court of the 389 United States if the acts for which he is convicted are found by 390 the board to have a direct bearing on whether he should be 391 entrusted to serve the public in the capacity of a speech-language 392 pathologist or audiologist;

393 (d) Violating any lawful order, rule or regulation 394 rendered or adopted by the board;

395 (e) Violating any provisions of this chapter. The board may deny an application for, or suspend, 396 (2) 397 revoke or impose probationary conditions upon a license upon recommendations of the council made after a hearing as provided in 398 399 this chapter. One (1) year from the date of revocation of a 400 license under this section, application may be made to the board 401 for reinstatement. The board shall have discretion to accept or 402 reject an application for reinstatement and may require an 403 examination for such reinstatement.

404 (3) A plea or verdict of guilty, or a conviction following a 405 plea of nolo contendere, made to a charge of a felony or of any 406 offense involving moral turpitude is a conviction within the 407 meaning of this section. After due notice and administrative 408 hearing, the license of the person so convicted shall be suspended 409 or revoked or the board shall decline to issue a license when:

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(a) The time for appeal has elapsed;

411 (b) The judgment of conviction has been affirmed on 412 appeal; or

(c) An order granting probation has been made suspending the imposition of sentence, without regard to a subsequent order allowing the withdrawal of a guilty plea and the substitution therefor of a not guilty plea, or the setting aside of a guilty verdict, or the dismissal of the acquisition, information or indictment.

(4) Within thirty (30) days after any order or act of the
board, any person aggrieved thereby may appeal to the chancery
court of the county where such person resides.

(5) Notice of appeals shall be filed in the office of the clerk of the court, who shall issue a writ of certiorari directed to the board, commanding it within ten (10) days after service thereof to certify to such court its entire record in the matter in which the appeal has been taken. The appeal shall thereupon be heard in the due course by said court, and the court shall review

428 the record and make its determination of the cause between the 429 parties.

(6) Any order, rule or decision of the board shall not take effect until after the time of appeal in the said court shall have expired. In the event an appeal is taken by a defendant, such appeal shall not act as a supersedeas, and the court shall enter its decision promptly.

435 (7) Any person taking an appeal shall post a satisfactory
436 bond in the amount of Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) for payment of
437 any cost which may be adjudged against him.

In addition to the reasons specified in subsection (1) 438 (8) 439 of this section, the board shall be authorized to suspend the 440 license of any licensee for being out of compliance with an order 441 for support, as defined in Section 2 of this act. The procedure 442 for suspension of a license for being out of compliance with an 443 order for support, and the procedure for the reissuance or 444 reinstatement of a license suspended for that purpose, and the payment of any fees for the reissuance or reinstatement of a 445 446 license suspended for that purpose, shall be governed by Section 4 447 or 7 of this act, as the case may be. Actions taken by the board 448 in suspending a license when required by Section 4 or 7 of this 449 act are not actions from which an appeal may be taken under this 450 section. Any appeal of a license suspension that is required by 451 Section 4 or 7 of this act shall be taken in accordance with the 452 appeal procedure specified in Section 4 or 7 of this act, as the 453 case may be, rather than the procedure specified in this section. 454 If there is any conflict between any provision of Section 4 or 7 455 of this act and any provision of this chapter, the provisions of 456 Section 4 or 7 of this act, as the case may be, shall control.

457 SECTION 15. Section 73-38-29, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 458 reenacted as follows:

459 73-38-29. (1) Licenses issued under this chapter shall
460 expire and become invalid at midnight.

461 (2) Every person licensed under this chapter shall, on or before the license expiration date, pay a fee for the biennial 462 463 renewal of license to the board. The board may suspend the 464 license of any person who fails to have his license renewed by the 465 expiration date. After the expiration date, the board may renew a 466 license upon payment of a fee to the board. No person who 467 requests renewal of license, whose license has expired, shall be 468 required to submit to examination as a condition to renewal, if 469 such renewal application is made within two (2) years from the 470 date of such expiration.

(3) A suspended license is subject to expiration and may be renewed as provided in this section, but such renewal shall not entitle the licensee, while the license remains suspended and until it is reinstated, to engage in the licensed activity, or in any other conduct or activity in violation of the order or judgment by which the license was suspended.

477 (4) A license revoked on disciplinary grounds is subject to 478 expiration as provided in subsection (1) of this section, but it 479 may not be renewed. If such license is reinstated after its 480 expiration, the licensee, as a condition of reinstatement, shall 481 pay a reinstatement fee in an amount equal to the fee for a 482 license issued after the expiration date which is in effect on the 483 last preceding regular renewal date before the date on which it is 484 reinstated. The procedure for the reinstatement of a license that 485 is suspended for being out of compliance with an order for 486 support, as defined in Section 93-11-153, shall be governed by 487 Section 93-11-157 or 93-11-163, as the case may be.

(5) Any person who fails to renew his license within the two (2) years after the date of its expiration may not renew it, and it may not be restored, reissued or reinstated thereafter, but such person may apply for and obtain a new license if he meets the requirements of this chapter.

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SECTION 16. Section 73-38-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, is

494 reenacted as follows:

495 73-38-31. (1) The board shall assess fees for the following 496 purposes:

497 (a) Initial licensing;

498 (b) Renewal of licensure;

- 499 (c) License issued after expiration date;
- 500 (d) Late renewal payment penalty;
- 501 (e) Temporary license;
- 502 (f) Renewal of temporary license; and
- 503 (g) Registration of aides.

(2) Every person to whom a license is issued pursuant to this chapter shall, as a condition precedent to its issuance, and in addition to any application, examination or other fee, pay the prescribed initial license fee.

508 (3) Fees prescribed in subsection (1) of this section shall 509 be exclusive and no municipality shall have the right to require 510 any person licensed under this chapter to furnish any bond, pass 511 any examination, or pay any license fee or occupational tax.

(4) Fees listed in subsection (1) of this section shall be commensurate to the extent feasible with the cost of fulfilling the duties of the board and council as defined by this chapter; however, no individual fee shall exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00).

517 SECTION 17. Section 73-38-33, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 518 reenacted as follows:

519 73-38-33. The board shall require the applicant for license 520 renewal to present evidence of the satisfactory completion of 521 continuing education requirements as determined by the board. 522 SECTION 18. Section 73-38-35, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 523 reenacted as follows:

524 73-38-35. Any person who violates any provision of this 525 chapter shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor and 526 shall be punished by a fine of not more than One Thousand Dollars

527 (\$1,000.00) or imprisoned in the county jail for a period not 528 exceeding six (6) months, or both.

529 SECTION 19. Section 73-38-36, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 530 reenacted as follows:

531 73-38-36. All fees collected by the State Board of Health 532 under this chapter and any penalties collected by the board for 533 violations of this chapter shall be deposited in a special fund 534 hereby created in the State Treasury and shall be used for the 535 implementation and administration of this chapter when 536 appropriated by the Legislature for such purpose.

537 SECTION 20. Section 73-38-38, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 538 amended as follows:

539 73-38-38. Sections 73-38-1 through 73-38-36 shall stand
540 repealed on July 1, <u>2012</u>.

541 SECTION 21. This act shall take effect and be in force from 542 and after July 1, 2000.