AN ACT TO CREATE A TASK FORCE TO EVALUATE THE IMPACT OF
MEDICAL ERRORS ON THE CITIZENS OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI AND TO
MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS THEREON TO THE LEGISLATURE; AND FOR RELATED
PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, ninety-eight thousand (98,000) Americans die each
year as a result of preventable medical errors; and
WHEREAS, the cost in lost income, disability and health care
costs is as much as Twenty-nine Billion Dollars
($29,000,000,000.00) annually; and
WHEREAS, more than twenty (20) states have laws or
regulations regarding medical errors; and
WHEREAS, the Democratic and Republican parties have included
reducing medical errors on their agenda as a priority; NOW
THEREFORE,

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

SECTION 1. (1) There is created a task force to study the
impact of medical errors on the citizens of the State of
Mississippi. The task force shall make a report of its findings
and recommendations to the Legislature by December 1, 2001,
including any recommended legislation.

(2) The task force shall be composed of the following ten
members:

(a) One (1) representative from each of the five (5)
congressional districts to be appointed by the Speaker of the
House for a total of five (5) representatives;

(b) One (1) senator from each of the five (5)
congressional districts to be appointed by the Lieutenant
Governor, for a total of five (5) senators.
(3) Appointments shall be made within thirty (30) days after
the effective date of this act, and, within fifteen (15) days
thereafter on a day to be designated jointly by the Speaker of the
House and the Lieutenant Governor, the task force shall meet and
organize.

(4) The task force shall study and make recommendations
regarding the impact of medical errors on the citizens of the
State of Mississippi.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
and after July 1, 2001.