

By: Representatives Evans, Scott (80th)

To: Public Health and
Welfare; AppropriationsCOMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 929

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PROPOSED
2 COMPREHENSIVE STATE PLAN FOR THE PROVISION OF SERVICES TO PERSONS
3 WITH DISABILITIES IN THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI IN THE MOST
4 INTEGRATED SETTING APPROPRIATE; TO PROVIDE ISSUES FOR
5 CONSIDERATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROPOSED PLAN; TO PROVIDE
6 PRINCIPLES FOR CONSIDERATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROPOSED
7 PLAN; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

9 SECTION 1. The State of Mississippi is committed to
10 providing options to persons with disabilities and families that
11 include members who are persons with disabilities for services to
12 be provided in the most integrated setting appropriate. The State
13 of Mississippi is further committed to developing a comprehensive
14 plan to address needs, service options, opportunities, and service
15 settings appropriate for persons with disabilities and families
16 that include members who are persons with disabilities so that
17 they may participate in community life to the greatest extent that
18 is possible and that they desire.

19 SECTION 2. The following state agencies shall organize a
20 statewide work group to develop a proposed plan: the Department
21 of Mental Health, the State Department of Rehabilitation Services,
22 the Department of Human Services, the State Department of
23 Education, the State Department of Health and the Division of
24 Medicaid. The lead agency shall be the Division of Medicaid. The
25 statewide work group shall include any other state agencies that
26 are responsible for providing services to persons with
27 disabilities or to families that include members who are persons
28 with disabilities and any advocacy groups, consumer groups,

consumers, providers, provider groups, associations, and any other persons, organizations, or entities interested in the mission of the work group. The work group shall seek input from the public, particularly from persons with disabilities and families that include members who are persons with disabilities. The statewide work group shall submit a recommendation for the proposed plan to the Legislature no later than September 30, 2001.

SECTION 3. In developing the proposed plan, the following issues shall be considered:

- (a) Expansion of home and community-based services;
- (b) Prevention of premature or inappropriate out-of-home placement;
- (c) Development of support services and networks including, but not limited to:
 - (i) Communication services;
 - (ii) Counseling services;
 - (iii) Crisis intervention;
 - (iv) Day care;
 - (v) Dental and medical care that are not otherwise covered;
 - (vi) Equipment and supplies and other assistive technology;
 - (vii) Financial assistance;
 - (viii) Home and vehicle modifications;
 - (ix) Home health services;
 - (x) Homemaker services;
 - (xi) Parent education and training;
 - (xii) Personal assistance services;
 - (xiii) Recreation;
 - (xiv) Respite care;
 - (xv) Self-advocacy training;
 - (xvi) Service coordination;
 - (xvii) Specialized diagnosis and evaluation;

(xviii) Specialized nutrition and clothing;
(xix) Specified utility costs;
(xx) Therapeutic and nursing services;
(xxi) Transportation;
(xxii) Vocational and employment supports;
(xxiii) Alternative living arrangements, such as
group homes and supervised and supported living programs;
(xxiv) Housing;

(d) Appropriate maintenance of institutional services
for those persons with disabilities who desire or need them.

The proposed plan shall consider any other issues pertinent
to the goal of the plan in addition to the issues listed in this
section.

SECTION 4. The following principles shall be considered in
the development of the proposed plan:

(a) Individuals with disabilities and their families
are best able to determine their own needs and should be empowered
to make decisions concerning necessary, desirable, and appropriate
services.

(b) Individuals with disabilities should receive the
support necessary for them to live as independently as possible at
home if recommended by their treatment team and if they choose.

(c) Family support should be responsive to the needs of
the entire family unit.

(d) Supports should be sensitive to the unique needs
and strengths of individuals and families.

(e) Supports should build on existing social networks
and natural sources of support.

(f) Supports will usually be needed throughout the life
span of the individual who has a disability.

(g) Supports should encourage the integration of people
with disabilities into the community as much as possible and when

recommended by their treatment team and if the consumer prefers that integration.

(h) Support services should be flexible enough to accommodate unique needs of individuals and families as they evolve over time.

(i) Support services should be consistent with the cultural preferences and orientations of individuals and families.

(j) Support services should be comprehensive and coordinated across the agencies that provide resources and services, or both, to individuals and families.

(k) Individual and family home-based support services should be based on the principles for sharing ordinary places, developing meaningful relationships, learning things that are useful, and making choices, as well as increasing the self-esteem and status, and enhancing the reputation of the individuals served.

(l) Supports should be developed and expanded in the state that are necessary, desirable, and appropriate to support individuals and families.

(m) Supports and services should enhance the development of the individual with a disability and the family.

(n) A comprehensive, coordinated system of supports to families effectively uses existing resources and minimizes gaps in supports to families and individuals in all areas of the state.

(o) Services should be coordinated with other services.

(p) No individual who wishes to remain in or requests services in an institutional setting will be forced to receive support services in a noninstitutional or home-based setting, including any individual whose professional team determines that an institutional setting is the most integrated and appropriate setting.

SECTION 5. (1) The proposed plan shall provide the following:

127 (a) An estimate of the number of persons with
128 disabilities in the State of Mississippi who need services or will
129 need services;

130 (b) An estimate of the amount of appropriations
131 necessary over the course of the proposed schedule to accomplish
132 the proposed plan;

133 (c) A proposal for funding the proposed plan.

134 (2) It shall be the goal of the proposed plan that, not
135 later than June 30, 2011, the State of Mississippi will have
136 available community services for persons with disabilities where
137 their professional teams recommend those services and the persons
138 request those services.

139 SECTION 6. Sections 1 through 5 of this act shall stand
140 repealed on July 1, 2003.

141 SECTION 7. This act shall take effect and be in force from
142 and after its passage.