

By: Representative Malone

To: Penitentiary

HOUSE BILL NO. 1293

1 AN ACT TO CREATE A COUNCIL TO STUDY PREVENTION OF HEPATITIS
2 IN PRISONS AND THE PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES TO PERSONS WITH
3 HEPATITIS IN PRISON; TO PROVIDE FOR REPRESENTATIVES FROM STATE
4 AGENCIES TO BE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** (1) There is created an Interagency Coordinating
7 Council to study and to develop policies relating to hepatitis in
8 prisons.

9 (2) The council shall consist of one (1) representative from
10 each of the following agencies appointed by the executive director
11 or commissioner of each agency:

- 12 (a) Mississippi Department of Corrections;
- 13 (b) State Department of Health;
- 14 (c) Office of the Attorney General;
- 15 (d) University of Mississippi Medical Center; and
- 16 (e) State Department of Human Services.

17 The representative from the Mississippi Department of
18 Corrections shall serve as chairperson of the council.

19 (3) (a) The council shall meet at least once each quarter
20 on meeting dates set by the council. Each agency that has a
21 representative appointed to the council shall ensure that a
22 representative of the agency attends at least three (3) quarterly
23 meetings of the council each year.

24 (b) Members of the council may not receive per diem for
25 attending council meetings.

26 (4) The council shall:



27 (a) Coordinate communication among the member agencies
28 concerning each agency's programs in providing hepatitis services;
29 and

30 (b) Develop a plan that facilitates coordination of
31 agency programs for:

32 (i) Prevention of hepatitis; and

33 (ii) The provision of services to individuals who
34 have hepatitis in prisons.

35 (5) Before September 1 of each even-numbered year, the
36 council shall file a report with the Legislature and the Governor
37 containing policy recommendations relating to:

38 (a) Prevention of hepatitis in prisons; and

39 (b) The delivery of health services to individuals who
40 have hepatitis in prison.

41 (6) The council shall establish advisory committees composed
42 of representatives from associations, consumer advocates and
43 regulatory agencies, boards or commissions as needed to assist in
44 carrying out its duties under this section.

45 (7) The Department of Corrections shall provide
46 administrative support to the council.

47 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
48 and after July 1, 2002.

