

By: Representative Fleming

To: Public Health and Welfare

HOUSE BILL NO. 165

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

5 WHEREAS, ninety-eight thousand (98,000) Americans die each
6 year as a result of preventable medical errors; and

7 WHEREAS, the cost in lost income, disability and health care
8 costs is as much as Twenty-nine Billion Dollars
9 (\$29,000,000,000.00) annually; and

10 WHEREAS, more than twenty (20) states have laws or
11 regulations regarding medical errors; and

12 WHEREAS, the Democratic and Republican parties have included
13 reducing medical errors on their agenda as a priority; NOW
14 THEREFORE,

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

16 **SECTION 1.** (1) There is created a task force to study the
17 impact of medical errors on the citizens of the State of
18 Mississippi. The task force shall make a report of its findings
19 and recommendations to the Legislature by December 1, 2003,
20 including any recommended legislation.

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

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

26 (b) One (1) senator from each of the five (5)
27 congressional districts to be appointed by the Lieutenant
28 Governor, for a total of five (5) senators.



29 (3) Appointments shall be made within thirty (30) days after
30 the effective date of this act, and, within fifteen (15) days
31 thereafter on a day to be designated jointly by the Speaker of the
32 House and the Lieutenant Governor, the task force shall meet and
33 organize.

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

37 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
38 and after July 1, 2003.

