

By: Representatives Barnett, Bondurant

To: Public Health and Human Services

HOUSE BILL NO. 714

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 73-25-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 REQUIRE BACKGROUND CHECKS AND FINGERPRINTING FOR THE INITIAL
3 LICENSURE OF PHYSICIANS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 73-25-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 73-25-3. Every person who desires to obtain a license to
8 practice medicine must apply therefor, in writing, to the State
9 Board of Medical Licensure at least ten (10) days before the date
10 of the examination and must be examined by said board according to
11 the methods deemed by it to be the most practical and expeditious
12 to test the applicants' qualifications, and if the applicant be
13 found by the board, upon examination, to possess sufficient
14 learning in said branches and to be of good moral character, the
15 board shall issue him a license to practice medicine; provided
16 that no applicant shall be granted a license unless said applicant
17 shall hold a diploma from a reputable medical college or college
18 of osteopathic medicine that requires a four-year course of at
19 least thirty-two (32) weeks for each session, or its equivalent.

20 To qualify for a Mississippi medical license, an applicant
21 for the initial license, or an applicant who has received
22 disciplinary action from the board or from the medical licensing
23 board of another state, must have successfully been cleared for
24 licensure through an investigation, which shall consist of a
25 determination as to good moral character and verification that the
26 prospective licensee is not guilty of or in violation of any
27 statutory ground for denial of licensure as set forth in Sections

28 73-25-29 and 73-25-83. To assist the board in conducting its
29 licensure investigation, all applicants shall be fingerprinted.
30 All fingerprints taken shall be forwarded to the Federal Bureau of
31 Investigation or other law enforcement agency for analysis.

32 This section shall not apply to applicants for a special
33 volunteer medical license authorized under Section 73-25-18.

34 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
35 and after July 1, 2004.