

By: Representative Moody

To: Public Health and Human Services

HOUSE BILL NO. 717

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 41-89-1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 CHANGE THE GOVERNOR'S APPOINTMENTS OF VOTING MEMBERS ON THE INFANT
3 MORTALITY TASK FORCE FROM CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS TO SUPREME COURT
4 DISTRICTS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 41-89-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 41-89-1. (1) There is created the Infant Mortality Task
9 Force, the purpose of which is to foster the reduction of infant
10 mortality and morbidity in Mississippi and to improve the health
11 status of mothers and infants.

12 (2) The Infant Mortality Task Force is * * * continued and
13 reconstituted as follows: The task force shall be composed of
14 eleven (11) voting members appointed as follows:

15 (a) The Governor shall appoint seven (7) members, with
16 two (2) from each Mississippi Supreme Court district and one (1)
17 from the state at large.

18 (b) The Lieutenant Governor shall appoint two (2)
19 members from the state at large.

20 (c) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall
21 appoint two (2) members from the state at large.

22 (d) The task force shall be comprised of persons with a
23 professional association with or special interest in maternal and
24 infant health and well-being.

25 (e) Any member of the Infant Mortality Task Force
26 appointed and serving prior to July 1, 1995, shall be eligible for
27 reappointment to the task force.

28 (3) The Governor shall appoint two (2) members for initial
29 terms that expire on June 30, 1996, two (2) members for initial
30 terms that expire on June 30, 1997, and three (3) members for
31 initial terms that expire on June 30, 1998. The Lieutenant
32 Governor and Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint
33 one (1) member for an initial term that expires on June 30, 1997,
34 and one (1) member for an initial term that expires on June 30,
35 1998. Thereafter, all members shall be appointed for terms of
36 three (3) years from the expiration of the previous term. No
37 member shall serve more than two (2) successive full terms. Any
38 vacancy occurring other than by expiration of a term shall be
39 filled for the unexpired term by the appropriate appointing
40 authority. An appointment to fill an unexpired term shall not be
41 considered as a full term.

42 (4) The administrative head of the following state agencies
43 shall designate one (1) employee to serve in an advisory capacity
44 as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the Infant Mortality Task
45 Force: (a) Mississippi Department of Health; (b) State Department
46 of Education; (c) Department of Human Services; (d) Mississippi
47 Department of Mental Health; (e) Division of Medicaid; and (f) the
48 University Medical Center. In addition there shall be one (1)
49 member of the Mississippi Primary Health Care Association who
50 shall serve in an advisory capacity as an ex officio nonvoting
51 member.

52 (5) The Chairman of the Senate Public Health and Welfare
53 Committee and one (1) member of the committee to be designated by
54 the chairman, and the Chairman of the House Public Health and
55 Welfare Committee and one (1) member of the committee to be
56 designated by the chairman shall serve in an advisory capacity as
57 ex officio nonvoting members of the Infant Mortality Task Force.

58 (6) This section shall stand repealed on July 1, 2005.

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