

By: Representative Franks

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 1259

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 45-1-27, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 AUTHORIZE THE USE OF AFFIDAVITS BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE CRIME  
3 LABORATORY AND LAB TECHNICIANS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 45-1-27, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
6 amended as follows:

7 45-1-27. The director shall have responsibilities and duties  
8 including, but not limited to, the following:

9 (a) To plan and give general direction to activities or  
10 programs for which he is responsible, through the issuance of  
11 directives and orders.

12 (b) To review proposed changes in policies affecting  
13 the operation of the division under his direction.

14 (c) To maintain liaison with other agencies, divisions  
15 or departments of state and federal government.

16 (d) To approve and maintain uniform procedures and  
17 standards of operation for the laboratory.

18 (e) To supervise and approve procedures and processing  
19 of physical evidence.

20 (f) To present testimony in court by live testimony or  
21 affidavit in analysis of physical evidence or authorize the  
22 testimony or affidavit of lab technicians employed by the crime  
23 laboratory.

24 (g) To supervise the State Medical Examiner.

25 (h) To attend scientific conferences and hold classes  
26 for law enforcement officers.

27                   (i) To present budget requests to the Legislative  
28 Budget Office and to legislative committees.

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