

By: Representative Holland

To: Public Health and Human Services

HOUSE BILL NO. 813  
(As Passed the House)

1 AN ACT TO PRESCRIBE CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT  
2 OF HUMAN SERVICES IN THE OPERATION OF THE CHILD CARE AND  
3 DEVELOPMENT FUND/TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM;  
4 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 SECTION 1. (1) The Department of Human Services is  
7 Mississippi's lead agency in the federal Child Care and  
8 Development Fund (CCDF) program. CCDF is comprised of the  
9 following funding streams: discretionary, mandatory, federal  
10 matching, and state matching. In addition, as allowed by federal  
11 regulation, Mississippi currently transfers twenty percent (20%)  
12 of the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) grant into  
13 CCDF. The CCDF/TANF program helps eligible working parents pay  
14 for early care and education services for their children.

15 (2) In the operation of the CCDF/TANF program, the  
16 Department of Human Services shall comply with the following  
17 requirements:

18 (a) The department shall maintain records and post  
19 quarterly on a publicly accessible web site for each county the  
20 information required for all federal and state reports related to  
21 CCDF (42 USCS, Chapter 105, Subchapter II-B).

22 (b) The department shall establish performance level  
23 standards including the following requirements in CCDF/TANF  
24 certificate subcontracts: measurable outcome-based contract  
25 measures, clear statements of expectations, evaluation criteria,  
26 documentation, and the explicit descriptions of reporting  
27 requirements. The State Department of Audit shall annually audit  
28 the expenditures by the department and subcontractors (currently

29 known as "Designated Agents"). In addition, the State Department  
30 of Audit shall periodically, but not less than once every three  
31 (3) years, conduct performance audits for the purposes of  
32 assessing program impact. The State Department of Audit shall  
33 provide copies of each of the audits to the Chairmen of the House  
34 Public Health and Human Services Committee and the Senate Public  
35 Health and Welfare Committee.

36 (c) The department shall provide to the custodial  
37 parents all information and a plain-language explanation of all  
38 program criteria to qualify for a CCDF/TANF certificate to obtain  
39 early care and education for a child from birth to twelve (12)  
40 years of age.

41 (d) The department shall require child care providers  
42 participating in the CCDF/TANF certificate program to provide  
43 developmentally appropriate early childhood educational  
44 activities, including reading and writing where age appropriate.

45 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
46 and after July 1, 2005.