

By: Representative Franks

To: Public Health and Human Services

HOUSE BILL NO. 1261

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-33-155, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO REVISE THE COMPOSITION OF THE STATE BOARD OF REHABILITATION
3 SERVICES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-33-155, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 37-33-155. (1) There is created the State Board of
8 Rehabilitation Services, which shall be reconstituted as follows
9 on July 1, 2006: The board shall consist of seven (7) members,
10 four (4) members to be appointed by the Governor, three (3)
11 members to be appointed by the Lieutenant Governor.

12 Of the * * * members appointed by the Governor, one (1) shall
13 be a person who is visually impaired, one (1) shall be a person
14 who is hearing impaired or hard of hearing, one (1) shall be a
15 person who is physically impaired and one (1) shall be a person
16 who is mentally impaired or the parent of a person who is mentally
17 impaired. Of the members appointed by the Governor, each member
18 shall be from separate congressional districts, with one (1)
19 appointed for a term to expire on July 1, 2007, one (1) appointed
20 for a term to expire on July 1, 2008, one (1) appointed for a term
21 to expire on July 1, 2009, and one (1) appointed for a term to
22 expire on July 1, 2010. The members appointed by the Lieutenant
23 Governor shall be from the state at large, with one (1) appointed
24 for a term to expire on July 1, 2009, one (1) appointed for a term
25 to expire on July 1, 2010, and one (1) appointed for a term to
26 expire on July 1, 2011. Upon the expiration of the initial terms,
27 the members shall be appointed for terms of five (5) years from

28 the expiration date of the previous term. All original and
29 subsequent appointments shall be with the advice and consent of
30 the Senate. An appointment to fill a vacancy, other than by
31 expiration of a term of office, shall be made for the balance of
32 the unexpired term. No board appointee shall be an employee or
33 elected official of the State of Mississippi or a political
34 subdivision thereof, * * * or an employee of the State Department
35 of Rehabilitation Services after June 30, 1991.

36 (2) The board shall elect a chairperson from its membership
37 at the first meeting of the original board members and every two
38 (2) years thereafter on July 15 of the year. A majority of the
39 membership of the board shall constitute a quorum for the
40 transaction of any business, and the board shall meet at least
41 quarterly and hold other meetings as are necessary for the purpose
42 of conducting required business. All meetings of the board shall
43 be called by the chairperson, except the first meeting of the
44 original board members, which shall be called by the Governor.

45 (3) The * * * members of the board shall be compensated at a
46 per diem rate as authorized by Section 25-3-69, plus actual and
47 necessary expenses as authorized by Section 25-3-41. * * *

48 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
49 and after July 1, 2006.