

## Senate Amendments to House Bill No. 298

TO THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE:

THIS IS TO INFORM YOU THAT THE SENATE HAS ADOPTED THE AMENDMENTS SET OUT BELOW:

### AMENDMENT NO. 1

Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

6           **SECTION 1.** (1) There is created a Study Committee on  
7 Indigent Juvenile Appeals. The study committee shall study  
8 whether the Mississippi Office of Indigent Appeals should handle  
9 appeals of minors from the Youth Court System to the Appellate  
10 Courts as well as the need for attorneys who represent juveniles  
11 named in delinquency petitions to receive advice, education and  
12 support from the Mississippi Office of Indigent Appeals. The  
13 study committee may also develop performance guidelines for  
14 juvenile defense attorneys. The committee shall report to the  
15 Legislature no later than November 15, 2006.

16           (2) The study committee shall consist of the following  
17 members:

18                 (a) One (1) Justice of the Supreme Court appointed by  
19 the Chief Justice, who shall chair the committee;

20                 (b) One (1) youth court judge appointed by the  
21 Mississippi Council of Youth Court Judges;

22                 (c) One (1) public defender with significant youth  
23 court experience appointed by the Mississippi Public Defenders  
24 Association;

25                 (d) One (1) youth court prosecutor appointed by the  
26 Mississippi Prosecutors Association; and

27                 (e) The Director of the Mississippi Office of Indigent  
28 Appeals.

29           (3) (a) Appointments shall be made within thirty (30) days  
30 of the effective date of this act.

31           (4) Any department, division, board, bureau, commission or  
32 agency of the state or any political subdivision thereof, at the  
33 request of the chairman of the study committee, shall provide  
34 assistance as will enable the study committee to properly carry  
35 out its duties.

36           **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
37 and after May 1, 2006.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and  
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1           AN ACT TO CREATE A STUDY COMMITTEE ON THE POTENTIAL NEED FOR  
2 AN ATTORNEY TO SERVE AS FULL-TIME INDIGENT JUVENILE APPEALS  
3 RESOURCE COUNSEL WITHIN THE OFFICE OF INDIGENT APPEALS; AND FOR  
4 RELATED PURPOSES.

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John O. Gilbert  
Secretary of the Senate