SENATE BILL NO. 2863

AN ACT TO CREATE THE TRAUMA CARE TASK FORCE TO CONDUCT A
STUDY OF THE STATUS OF TRAUMA CARE AND BURN CARE IN MISSISSIPPI
AND DEVELOP A REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND THE 2008 REGULAR SESSION
OF THE LEGISLATURE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

SECTION 1. (1) There is created the Trauma Care Task Force, which shall be composed of thirteen (13) members as follows:

(a) One (1) regional trauma registrar designated by the Trauma Care Committee of the Mississippi Hospital Association.

(b) One (1) licensed physician appointed by the Governor from a list of nominees from the Mississippi Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians;

(c) One (1) licensed physician appointed by the Governor from a list of nominees from the Mississippi Chapter of the American College of Surgeons;

(d) Two (2) hospital administrators designated by the Trauma Care Committee of Mississippi Hospital Association;

(e) Two (2) trauma nurse coordinators named by the Mississippi Association of Trauma Administrators;

(f) Two (2) members of the Mississippi House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House;

(g) Two (2) members of the Senate appointed by the Lieutenant Governor;

(h) One (1) member appointed by the Governor, who shall be a person who has been a recipient of trauma care in Mississippi or who has an immediate family member who has been a recipient of trauma care in Mississippi;
(i) One (1) licensed physician or an appropriate administrator involved in the practice and/or delivery of trauma care at University Medical Center appointed by the Governor.

(2) All members of the task force shall be designated or appointed in accordance with Section 1 above and shall be so designated or appointed in sufficient time so as to allow for all members of the task force to be identified prior to the first meeting of the task force.

(3) The first meeting of the task force shall take place no later than June 1, 2007, on the call of the Governor at a place designated by him. At the first meeting of the task force, the two (2) hospital administrators designated in accordance with Section 1 shall act as temporary chairmen of the task force in order to organize and to elect a chairman and vice chairman from its membership. Following the election of the chairman and vice chairman, the task force shall adopt rules for transacting its business and keeping records. Members of the task force other than the legislative members shall receive reimbursement for travel expenses incurred while engaged in official business of the task force in accordance with Section 25-3-41, and the legislative members of the task force shall receive the compensation authorized for committee meetings when the Legislature is not in session. Payment of such expenses set forth herein shall be from funds made available therefor by the Legislature or from any other public or private source.

(4) (a) The duties of the task force shall be to:

(i) Conduct a study of the status of trauma care, including burn care, in Mississippi; and

(ii) Review and determine the efficacy of the Mississippi Trauma Care Plan; and

(iii) Determine adequate funding requirements and research existing and potential funding mechanisms necessary to provide for trauma care in Mississippi; and
(iv) Make appropriate findings and recommendations regarding the matters considered in accordance with the trauma care study in subsection (1) and regarding its review of the Mississippi Trauma Care Plan. Such findings and recommendations shall address, at a minimum, the status of the state's trauma care system and any legislative action that may be needed to further enhance the delivery of trauma care in Mississippi.

(b) Before December 1, 2007, the task force shall make a report presenting such findings and recommendations to the Governor and to all members of the Legislature for consideration during the 2008 Regular Session.

(5) The State Department of Health shall provide appropriate staff support and shall designate an appropriate department employee to act as a point of contact for the provision of staff support to the task force. All other agencies, departments, offices and institutions of the state, including all state universities and community and junior colleges, shall cooperate with the task force and provide such assistance as requested by the task force.

(6) Upon presentation of its report, the task force shall be dissolved.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.