

## House Amendments to Senate Bill No. 2988

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE:

THIS IS TO INFORM YOU THAT THE HOUSE 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:

8           **SECTION 1.** Section 73-25-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
9 amended as follows:

10           73-25-3. Every person who desires to obtain a license to  
11 practice medicine must apply therefor, in writing, to the State  
12 Board of Medical Licensure at least ten (10) days before the date  
13 of the examination and must be examined by the board according to  
14 the methods deemed by it to be the most practical and expeditious  
15 to test the applicants' qualifications. If the applicant is found  
16 by the board, upon examination, to possess sufficient learning in  
17 those branches and to be of good moral character, the board shall  
18 issue him a license to practice medicine; however, no applicant  
19 shall be granted a license unless the applicant \* \* \* holds a  
20 diploma from a reputable medical college or college of osteopathic  
21 medicine that requires a four-year course of at least thirty-two  
22 (32) weeks for each session, or its equivalent.

23           To qualify for a Mississippi medical license, an applicant  
24 must have successfully been cleared for licensure through an  
25 investigation that shall consist of a determination as to good  
26 moral character and verification that the prospective licensee is  
27 not guilty of or in violation of any statutory ground for denial  
28 of licensure as set forth in Sections 73-25-29 and 73-25-83. To  
29 assist the board in conducting its licensure investigation, all  
30 applicants shall undergo a fingerprint-based criminal history  
31 records check of the Mississippi central criminal database and the  
32 Federal Bureau of Investigation criminal history database. Each  
33 applicant shall submit a full set of the applicant's fingerprints

34 in a form and manner prescribed by the board, which shall be  
35 forwarded to the Mississippi Department of Public Safety  
36 (department) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation  
37 Identification Division for this purpose.

38 Any and all state or national criminal history records  
39 information obtained by the board that is not already a matter of  
40 public record shall be deemed nonpublic and confidential  
41 information restricted to the exclusive use of the board, its  
42 members, officers, investigators, agents and attorneys in  
43 evaluating the applicant's eligibility or disqualification for  
44 licensure, and shall be exempt from the Mississippi Public Records  
45 Act of 1983. Except when introduced into evidence in a hearing  
46 before the board to determine licensure, no such information or  
47 records related thereto shall, except with the written consent of  
48 the applicant or by order of a court of competent jurisdiction, be  
49 released or otherwise disclosed by the board to any other person  
50 or agency.

51 The board shall provide to the department the fingerprints of  
52 the applicant, any additional information that may be required by  
53 the department, and a form signed by the applicant consenting to  
54 the check of the criminal records and to the use of the  
55 fingerprints and other identifying information required by the  
56 state or national repositories.

57 The board shall charge and collect from the applicant, in  
58 addition to all other applicable fees and costs, such amount as  
59 may be incurred by the board in requesting and obtaining state and  
60 national criminal history records information on the applicant.

61 This section shall not apply to applicants for a special  
62 volunteer medical license authorized under Section 73-25-18.

63 **SECTION 2.** Section 73-27-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
64 amended as follows:

65 73-27-5. All applicants for license shall have attained the  
66 age of twenty-one (21) years, and shall be of good moral  
67 character; they shall have had at least four (4) years high school  
68 and be graduates of same; they shall have at least one (1) year

69 prepodiatry college education and be graduates of some college of  
70 podiatry recognized as being in good standing by the State Board  
71 of Medical Licensure. No college of podiatry or chiropody shall  
72 be accredited by the board as a college of good standing that does  
73 not require for graduation a course of study of at least four (4)  
74 years (eight and one-half (8-1/2) months each) and be recognized  
75 by the Council on Education of the American Podiatry  
76 Association. \* \* \* However, \* \* \* all podiatrists actively  
77 engaged in the practice of podiatry in the State of Mississippi,  
78 prior to January 1, 1938, whether graduates or not, shall, upon  
79 furnishing proof thereof by displaying their state privilege tax  
80 license to the Secretary of the State Board of Medical Licensure,  
81 and upon payment of fee of Ten Dollars and Twenty-five Cents  
82 (\$10.25), be entitled to a license without an examination, and  
83 applications for the license shall be filed not later than sixty  
84 (60) days after the passage of this chapter. Upon payment of a  
85 fee prescribed by the State Board of Medical Licensure, not to  
86 exceed Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), a license without  
87 examination may be issued to podiatrists of other states  
88 maintaining equal statutory requirements for the practice of  
89 podiatry and extending the same reciprocal privileges to this  
90 state. \* \* \* The State Board of Medical Licensure may affiliate  
91 with the National Board of Chiropody or Podiatry Licensure in  
92 granting licenses to practice podiatry in Mississippi, provided  
93 the written examination covers at least two-thirds (2/3) of the  
94 subjects set forth in Section 73-27-9.

95 To qualify for a Mississippi podiatry license, an applicant  
96 must have successfully been cleared for licensure through an  
97 investigation that shall consist of a determination as to good  
98 moral character and verification that the prospective licensee is  
99 not guilty of or in violation of any statutory ground for denial  
100 of licensure as set forth in Section 73-27-13. To assist the  
101 board in conducting its licensure investigation, all applicants  
102 shall undergo a fingerprint-based criminal history records check  
103 of the Mississippi central criminal database and the Federal

104 Bureau of Investigation criminal history database. Each applicant  
105 shall submit a full set of the applicant's fingerprints in a form  
106 and manner prescribed by the board, which shall be forwarded to  
107 the Mississippi Department of Public Safety (department) and the  
108 Federal Bureau of Investigation Identification Division for this  
109 purpose.

110 Any and all state or national criminal history records  
111 information obtained by the board that is not already a matter of  
112 public record shall be deemed nonpublic and confidential  
113 information restricted to the exclusive use of the board, its  
114 members, officers, investigators, agents and attorneys in  
115 evaluating the applicant's eligibility or disqualification for  
116 licensure, and shall be exempt from the Mississippi Public Records  
117 Act of 1983. Except when introduced into evidence in a hearing  
118 before the board to determine licensure, no such information or  
119 records related thereto shall, except with the written consent of  
120 the applicant or by order of a court of competent jurisdiction, be  
121 released or otherwise disclosed by the board to any other person  
122 or agency.

123 The board shall provide to the department the fingerprints of  
124 the applicant, any additional information that may be required by  
125 the department, and a form signed by the applicant consenting to  
126 the check of the criminal records and to the use of the  
127 fingerprints and other identifying information required by the  
128 state or national repositories.

129 The board shall charge and collect from the applicant, in  
130 addition to all other applicable fees and costs, such amount as  
131 may be incurred by the board in requesting and obtaining state and  
132 national criminal history records information on the applicant.

133 Each application or filing made under this section shall  
134 include the social security number(s) of the applicant in  
135 accordance with Section 93-11-64.

136 **SECTION 3.** Section 73-26-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
137 amended as follows:

138           73-26-3. (1) The State Board of Medical Licensure shall  
139 license and regulate the practice of physician assistants in  
140 accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

141           (2) All physician assistants who are employed as physician  
142 assistants by a Department of Veterans Affairs health care  
143 facility, a branch of the United States military or the Federal  
144 Bureau of Prisons, and who are practicing as physician assistants  
145 in a federal facility in Mississippi on July 1, 2000, and those  
146 physician assistants who trained in a Mississippi physician  
147 assistant program and have been continuously practicing as a  
148 physician assistant in Mississippi since 1976, shall be eligible  
149 for licensure if they submit an application for licensure to the  
150 board by December 31, 2000. Physician assistants licensed under  
151 this subsection will be eligible for license renewal so long as  
152 they meet standard renewal requirements.

153           (3) Before December 31, 2004, applicants for physician  
154 assistant licensure, except those licensed under subsection (2) of  
155 this section, must be graduates of physician assistant educational  
156 programs accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied  
157 Health Educational Programs or its predecessor or successor  
158 agency, have passed the certification examination administered by  
159 the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants  
160 (NCCPA), have current NCCPA certification, and possess a minimum  
161 of a baccalaureate degree. Physician assistants meeting these  
162 licensure requirements will be eligible for license renewal so  
163 long as they meet standard renewal requirements.

164           (4) On or after December 31, 2004, applicants for physician  
165 assistant licensure must meet all of the requirements in  
166 subsection (3) of this section and, in addition, must have  
167 obtained a minimum of a master's degree in a health-related or  
168 science field.

169           (5) Applicants for licensure who meet all licensure  
170 requirements except for the master's degree may be granted a  
171 temporary license by the board so long as they can show proof of  
172 enrollment in a master's program that will, when completed, meet

173 the master's degree requirement. The temporary license will be  
174 valid for no longer than one (1) year, and may not be renewed.  
175 This subsection shall take effect and be in force from and after  
176 March 9, 2006. This subsection shall stand repealed on July 1,  
177 2010.

178 (6) For new graduate physician assistants and all physician  
179 assistants receiving initial licenses in the state, except those  
180 licensed under subsection (2) of this section, supervision shall  
181 require the on-site presence of a supervising physician for one  
182 hundred twenty (120) days.

183 (7) To qualify for a Mississippi physician assistant  
184 license, an applicant must have successfully been cleared for  
185 licensure through an investigation that shall consist of a  
186 determination as to good moral character and verification that the  
187 prospective licensee is not guilty of or in violation of any  
188 statutory ground for denial of licensure. To assist the board in  
189 conducting its licensure investigation, all applicants shall  
190 undergo a fingerprint-based criminal history records check of the  
191 Mississippi central criminal database and the Federal Bureau of  
192 Investigation criminal history database. Each applicant shall  
193 submit a full set of the applicant's fingerprints in a form and  
194 manner prescribed by the board, which shall be forwarded to the  
195 Mississippi Department of Public Safety (department) and the  
196 Federal Bureau of Investigation Identification Division for this  
197 purpose.

198 Any and all state or national criminal history records  
199 information obtained by the board that is not already a matter of  
200 public record shall be deemed nonpublic and confidential  
201 information restricted to the exclusive use of the board, its  
202 members, officers, investigators, agents and attorneys in  
203 evaluating the applicant's eligibility or disqualification for  
204 licensure, and shall be exempt from the Mississippi Public Records  
205 Act of 1983. Except when introduced into evidence in a hearing  
206 before the board to determine licensure, no such information or  
207 records related thereto shall, except with the written consent of

208 the applicant or by order of a court of competent jurisdiction, be  
209 released or otherwise disclosed by the board to any other person  
210 or agency.

211 The board shall provide to the department the fingerprints of  
212 the applicant, any additional information that may be required by  
213 the department, and a form signed by the applicant consenting to  
214 the check of the criminal records and to the use of the  
215 fingerprints and other identifying information required by the  
216 state or national repositories.

217 The board shall charge and collect from the applicant, in  
218 addition to all other applicable fees and costs, such amount as  
219 may be incurred by the board in requesting and obtaining state and  
220 national criminal history records information on the applicant.

221 **SECTION 4.** Section 73-25-32, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
222 amended as follows:

223 73-25-32. (1) A person whose license to practice medicine  
224 or osteopathy has been revoked or suspended may petition the  
225 Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure to reinstate this  
226 license after a period of not less than one (1) year has elapsed  
227 from the date of the revocation or suspension. The procedure for  
228 the reinstatement of a license that is suspended for being out of  
229 compliance with an order for support, as defined in Section  
230 93-11-153, shall be governed by Section 93-11-157 or 93-11-163, as  
231 the case may be.

232 (2) The petition shall be accompanied by two (2) or more  
233 verified recommendations from physicians or osteopaths licensed by  
234 the Board of Medical Licensure to which the petition is addressed  
235 and by two (2) or more recommendations from citizens each having  
236 personal knowledge of the activities of the petitioner since the  
237 disciplinary penalty was imposed and such facts as may be required  
238 by the Board of Medical Licensure.

239 The petition may be heard at the next regular meeting of the  
240 Board of Medical Licensure but not earlier than thirty (30) days  
241 after the petition was filed. No petition shall be considered  
242 while the petitioner is under sentence for any criminal offense,

243 including any period during which he is under probation or parole.  
244 The hearing may be continued from time to time as the Board of  
245 Medical Licensure finds necessary.

246 (3) In determining whether the disciplinary penalty should  
247 be set aside and the terms and conditions, if any, that should be  
248 imposed if the disciplinary penalty is set aside, the Board of  
249 Medical Licensure may investigate and consider all activities of  
250 the petitioner since the disciplinary action was taken against  
251 him, the offense for which he was disciplined, his activity during  
252 the time his certificate was in good standing, his general  
253 reputation for truth, professional ability and good character; and  
254 it may require the petitioner to pass an oral examination.

255 (4) The investigation shall require the petitioner to  
256 undergo a fingerprint-based criminal history records check of the  
257 Mississippi central criminal database and the Federal Bureau of  
258 Investigation criminal history database. Each petitioner shall  
259 submit a full set of the petitioner's fingerprints in a form and  
260 manner prescribed by the board, which shall be forwarded to the  
261 Mississippi Department of Public Safety (department) and the  
262 Federal Bureau of Investigation Identification Division for this  
263 purpose.

264 Any and all state or national criminal history records  
265 information obtained by the board that is not already a matter of  
266 public record shall be deemed nonpublic and confidential  
267 information restricted to the exclusive use of the board, its  
268 members, officers, investigators, agents and attorneys in  
269 evaluating the applicant's eligibility or disqualification for  
270 licensure, and shall be exempt from the Mississippi Public Records  
271 Act of 1983. Except when introduced into evidence in a hearing  
272 before the board to determine licensure, no such information or  
273 records related thereto shall, except with the written consent of  
274 the applicant or by order of a court of competent jurisdiction, be  
275 released or otherwise disclosed by the board to any other person  
276 or agency.



277       The board shall provide to the department the fingerprints of  
278 the petitioner, any additional information that may be required by  
279 the department, and a form signed by the petitioner consenting to  
280 the check of the criminal records and to the use of the  
281 fingerprints and other identifying information required by the  
282 state or national repositories.

283       The board shall charge and collect from the petitioner, in  
284 addition to all other applicable fees and costs, such amount as  
285 may be incurred by the board in requesting and obtaining state and  
286 national criminal history records information on the applicant.

287       (5) The Secretary-Treasurer of the Board of Medical  
288 Licensure shall enter into his records of the case all actions of  
289 the board in setting aside a disciplinary penalty under this  
290 section and he shall certify notices to the proper court clerk.  
291 The clerk shall make such changes on his records as may be  
292 necessary.

293       **SECTION 5.** Section 73-27-12, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
294 amended as follows:

295       73-27-12. (1) The license of every person licensed to  
296 practice podiatry in the State of Mississippi shall be renewed  
297 annually.

298       On or before May 1 of each year, the board shall mail a  
299 notice of renewal of license to every podiatrist to whom a license  
300 was issued or renewed during the current licensing year. The  
301 notice shall provide instructions for obtaining and submitting  
302 applications for renewal. The State Board of Medical Licensure is  
303 authorized to make applications for renewal available via  
304 electronic means. The applicant shall obtain and complete the  
305 application and submit it to the board in the manner prescribed by  
306 the board in the notice before June 30 with the renewal fee of an  
307 amount established by the board, but not to exceed Two Hundred  
308 Dollars (\$200.00), a portion of which fee shall be used to support  
309 a program to aid impaired podiatrists. Upon receipt of the  
310 application and fee, the board shall verify the accuracy of the  
311 application and issue to applicant a certificate of renewal for

312 the ensuing year, beginning July 1 and expiring June 30 of the  
313 succeeding calendar year. That renewal shall render the holder  
314 thereof a legal practitioner as stated on the renewal form.

315 (2) Any podiatrist practicing in Mississippi who allows his  
316 or her license to lapse by failing to renew the license as  
317 provided in subsection (1) may be reinstated by the board on  
318 satisfactory explanation for the failure to renew, by completion  
319 of a reinstatement form, and upon payment of the renewal fee for  
320 the current year, and shall be assessed a fine of Twenty-five  
321 Dollars (\$25.00) plus an additional fine of Five Dollars (\$5.00)  
322 for each month thereafter that the license renewal remains  
323 delinquent.

324 (3) Any podiatrist not practicing in Mississippi who allows  
325 his or her license to lapse by failing to renew the license as  
326 provided in subsection (1) may be reinstated by the board on  
327 satisfactory explanation for the failure to renew, by completion  
328 of a reinstatement form and upon payment of the arrearages for the  
329 previous five (5) years and the renewal fee for the current year.

330 (4) Any podiatrist who allows his or her license to lapse  
331 shall be notified by the board within thirty (30) days of that  
332 lapse.

333 (5) Any person practicing as a licensed podiatrist during  
334 the time his or her license has lapsed shall be considered an  
335 illegal practitioner and shall be subject to penalties set forth  
336 in Section 73-27-17, provided that he or she has not submitted the  
337 required reinstatement form and fee within fifteen (15) days after  
338 notification by the board of the lapse.

339 (6) Any podiatrist practicing in the State of Mississippi  
340 whose license has lapsed and is deemed an illegal practitioner  
341 under subsection (5) of this section may petition the board for  
342 reinstatement of his or her license on a retroactive basis, if the  
343 podiatrist was unable to meet the June 30 deadline due to  
344 extraordinary or other legitimate reasons, and retroactive  
345 reinstatement of licensure shall be granted or may be denied by  
346 the board only for good cause. Failure to advise the board of

347 change of address shall not be considered a basis for  
348 reinstatement.

349 (7) Fees collected under the provisions of this section  
350 shall be used by the board to defray expenses of administering the  
351 licensure provisions of Title 73, Chapter 27, Mississippi Code of  
352 1972, and to support a program to aid impaired podiatrists in an  
353 amount determined by the board.

354 (8) In order for a podiatrist whose podiatric medical  
355 license has been expired for five (5) years or more to qualify for  
356 reinstatement of license, the podiatrist must have successfully  
357 been cleared for reinstatement through an investigation that shall  
358 consist of a determination as to good moral character and  
359 verification that the prospective licensee is not guilty of or in  
360 violation of any statutory ground for denial of licensure as set  
361 forth in Section 73-27-13. To assist the board in conducting its  
362 licensure investigation, all applicants shall undergo a  
363 fingerprint-based criminal history records check of the  
364 Mississippi central criminal database and the Federal Bureau of  
365 Investigation criminal history database. Each applicant shall  
366 submit a full set of the applicant's fingerprints in a form and  
367 manner prescribed by the board, which shall be forwarded to the  
368 Mississippi Department of Public Safety (department) and the  
369 Federal Bureau of Investigation Identification Division for this  
370 purpose.

371 Any and all state or national criminal history records  
372 information obtained by the board that is not already a matter of  
373 public record shall be deemed nonpublic and confidential  
374 information restricted to the exclusive use of the board, its  
375 members, officers, investigators, agents and attorneys in  
376 evaluating the applicant's eligibility or disqualification for  
377 licensure, and shall be exempt from the Mississippi Public Records  
378 Act of 1983. Except when introduced into evidence in a hearing  
379 before the board to determine licensure, no such information or  
380 records related thereto shall, except with the written consent of  
381 the applicant or by order of a court of competent jurisdiction, be

382 released or otherwise disclosed by the board to any other person  
383 or agency.

384 The board shall provide to the department the fingerprints of  
385 the applicant, any additional information that may be required by  
386 the department, and a form signed by the applicant consenting to  
387 the check of the criminal records and to the use of the  
388 fingerprints and other identifying information required by the  
389 state or national repositories.

390 The board shall charge and collect from the applicant, in  
391 addition to all other applicable fees and costs, such amount as  
392 may be incurred by the board in requesting and obtaining state and  
393 national criminal history records information on the applicant.

394 **SECTION 6.** Section 73-25-14, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
395 amended as follows:

396 73-25-14. (1) The license of every person licensed to  
397 practice medicine or osteopathy in the State of Mississippi shall  
398 be renewed annually.

399 On or before May 1 of each year, the State Board of Medical  
400 Licensure shall mail a notice of renewal of license to every  
401 physician or osteopath to whom a license was issued or renewed  
402 during the current licensing year. The notice shall provide  
403 instructions for obtaining and submitting applications for  
404 renewal. The State Board of Medical Licensure is authorized to  
405 make applications for renewal available via electronic means. The  
406 applicant shall obtain and complete the application and submit it  
407 to the board in the manner prescribed by the board in the notice  
408 before June 30 with the renewal fee of an amount established by  
409 the board, but not to exceed Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00), a  
410 portion of which fee shall be used to support a program to aid  
411 impaired physicians and osteopaths. The payment of the annual  
412 license renewal fee shall be optional with all physicians over the  
413 age of seventy (70) years. Upon receipt of the application and  
414 fee, the board shall verify the accuracy of the application and  
415 issue to applicant a certificate of renewal for the ensuing year,  
416 beginning July 1 and expiring June 30 of the succeeding calendar

417 year. That renewal shall render the holder thereof a legal  
418 practitioner as stated on the renewal form.

419 (2) Any physician or osteopath practicing in Mississippi who  
420 allows his or her license to lapse by failing to renew the license  
421 as provided in subsection (1) may be reinstated by the board on  
422 satisfactory explanation for the failure to renew, by completion  
423 of a reinstatement form, and upon payment of the renewal fee for  
424 the current year, and shall be assessed a fine of Twenty-five  
425 Dollars (\$25.00) plus an additional fine of Five Dollars (\$5.00)  
426 for each month thereafter that the license renewal remains  
427 delinquent.

428 (3) Any physician or osteopath not practicing in Mississippi  
429 who allows his or her license to lapse by failing to renew the  
430 license as provided in subsection (1) may be reinstated by the  
431 board on satisfactory explanation for the failure to renew, by  
432 completion of a reinstatement form and upon payment of the  
433 arrearages for the previous five (5) years and the renewal fee for  
434 the current year.

435 (4) Any physician or osteopath who allows his or her license  
436 to lapse shall be notified by the board within thirty (30) days of  
437 that lapse.

438 (5) Any person practicing as a licensed physician or  
439 osteopath during the time his or her license has lapsed shall be  
440 considered an illegal practitioner and shall be subject to  
441 penalties provided for violation of the Medical Practice Act, if  
442 he or she had not submitted the required reinstatement form and  
443 fee within fifteen (15) days after notification by the board of  
444 the lapse.

445 (6) Any physician or osteopath practicing in the State of  
446 Mississippi whose license has lapsed and is deemed an illegal  
447 practitioner under subsection (5) of this section may petition the  
448 board for reinstatement of his or her license on a retroactive  
449 basis, if the physician or osteopath was unable to meet the June  
450 30 deadline due to extraordinary or other legitimate reasons, and  
451 retroactive reinstatement of licensure shall be granted or may be

452 denied by the board only for good cause. Failure to advise the  
453 board of change of address shall not be considered a basis of  
454 reinstatement.

455 (7) None of the fees or fines provided for in this section  
456 shall be applicable to the renewal of a special volunteer medical  
457 license authorized under Section 73-25-18.

458 (8) Fees collected under the provisions of this section  
459 shall be used by the board to defray expenses of administering the  
460 licensure provisions of the Medical Practice Act (Title 73,  
461 Chapter 25, Mississippi Code of 1972) and to support a program to  
462 aid impaired physicians and osteopaths in an amount determined by  
463 the board.

464 (9) In order for a physician or osteopath whose medical  
465 license has been expired for five (5) years or more to qualify for  
466 reinstatement of license, the physician or osteopath must have  
467 successfully been cleared for reinstatement through an  
468 investigation that shall consist of a determination as to good  
469 moral character and verification that the prospective licensee is  
470 not guilty of or in violation of any statutory ground for denial  
471 of licensure as set forth in Sections 73-25-29 and 73-25-83. To  
472 assist the board in conducting its licensure investigation, all  
473 applicants shall undergo a fingerprint-based criminal history  
474 records check of the Mississippi central criminal database and the  
475 Federal Bureau of Investigation criminal history database. Each  
476 applicant shall submit a full set of the applicant's fingerprints  
477 in a form and manner prescribed by the board, which shall be  
478 forwarded to the Mississippi Department of Public Safety  
479 (department) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation  
480 Identification Division for this purpose.

481 Any and all state or national criminal history records  
482 information obtained by the board that is not already a matter of  
483 public record shall be deemed nonpublic and confidential  
484 information restricted to the exclusive use of the board, its  
485 members, officers, investigators, agents and attorneys in  
486 evaluating the applicant's eligibility or disqualification for

487 licensure, and shall be exempt from the Mississippi Public Records  
488 Act of 1983. Except when introduced into evidence in a hearing  
489 before the board to determine licensure, no such information or  
490 records related thereto shall, except with the written consent of  
491 the applicant or by order of a court of competent jurisdiction, be  
492 released or otherwise disclosed by the board to any other person  
493 or agency.

494 The board shall provide to the department the fingerprints of  
495 the applicant, any additional information that may be required by  
496 the department, and a form signed by the applicant consenting to  
497 the check of the criminal records and to the use of the  
498 fingerprints and other identifying information required by the  
499 state or national repositories.

500 The board shall charge and collect from the applicant, in  
501 addition to all other applicable fees and costs, such amount as  
502 may be incurred by the board in requesting and obtaining state and  
503 national criminal history records information on the applicant.

504 **SECTION 7.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
505 and after July 1, 2007.

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

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 73-25-3, 73-27-5, 73-26-3, 73-25-32,  
2 73-27-12 AND 73-25-14, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REQUIRE A  
3 CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECK ON APPLICANTS FOR MEDICAL LICENSURE,  
4 OSTEOPATHIC LICENSURE, PODIATRIC LICENSURE AND PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT  
5 LICENSURE, AND ON APPLICANTS FOR REINSTATEMENT OF A LICENSE; AND  
6 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

HR40\SB2988A.J

Don Richardson  
Clerk of the House of Representatives