

By: Representative Holland

To: Public Health and Human Services

HOUSE BILL NO. 1064

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 41-111-1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO PROVIDE THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SHALL PROVIDE  
3 ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT FOR THE CHILD DEATH REVIEW PANEL; AND FOR  
4 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 41-111-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
7 amended as follows:

8 41-111-1. (1) There is created the Child Death Review  
9 Panel, whose primary purpose is to foster the reduction of infant  
10 and child mortality and morbidity in Mississippi and to improve  
11 the health status of infants and children.

12 (2) The Child Death Review Panel shall be composed of  
13 fifteen (15) voting members: the State Medical Examiner or his  
14 representative, a pathologist on staff at the University of  
15 Mississippi Medical Center, an appointee of the Lieutenant  
16 Governor, an appointee of the Speaker of the House of  
17 Representatives, and one (1) representative from each of the  
18 following: the State Coroners Association, the Mississippi  
19 Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Office of Vital  
20 Statistics in the State Department of Health, the Attorney  
21 General's Office, the State Sheriff's Association, the Mississippi  
22 Police Chiefs Association, the Department of Human Services, the  
23 Children's Advocacy Center, the State Chapter of the March of  
24 Dimes, the State SIDS Alliance, and Compassionate Friends.

25 (3) The Chairman of the Child Death Review Panel shall be  
26 elected annually by the Review Panel membership. The Review Panel  
27 shall develop and implement such procedures and policies necessary



28 for its operation, including obtaining and protecting confidential  
29 records from the agencies and officials specified in subsection  
30 (4) of this section. The Review Panel shall be assigned to the  
31 State Department of Health for administrative purposes only, and  
32 the department shall designate staff to assist the Review Panel.

33 (4) The Child Death Review Panel shall submit a report  
34 annually to the Chairmen of the House Public Health and Human  
35 Services Committee and the Senate Public Health and Welfare  
36 Committee on or before December 1. The report shall include the  
37 numbers, causes and relevant demographic information on child and  
38 infant deaths in Mississippi, and appropriate recommendations to  
39 the Legislature on how to most effectively direct state resources  
40 to decrease infant and child deaths in Mississippi. Data for the  
41 Review Panel's review and reporting shall be provided to the  
42 Review Panel, upon the request of the Review Panel, by the State  
43 Medical Examiner's Office, State Department of Health, Department  
44 of Human Services, medical examiners, coroners, health care  
45 providers, law enforcement agencies, any other agencies or  
46 officials having information that is necessary for the Review  
47 Panel to carry out its duties under this section. The State  
48 Department of Health shall also be responsible for printing and  
49 distributing the annual report(s) on child and infant deaths in  
50 Mississippi.

51 (5) This section shall stand repealed on July 1, 2010.

52 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
53 and after July 1, 2008.

