

By: Senator(s) Bryan, Burton, Dearing

To: Public Health and Welfare

SENATE BILL NO. 2573

1 AN ACT TO CODIFY SECTION 41-3-21, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO ESTABLISH THE MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY WITHIN THE  
3 STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH; TO PROVIDE FOR POWERS AND DUTIES OF  
4 THE MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY; AND FOR RELATED  
5 PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** The following shall be codified as Section  
8 41-3-21, Mississippi Code of 1972:

9 41-3-21. (1) There is hereby established the Mississippi  
10 Public Health Laboratory in the Mississippi State Department of  
11 Health.

12 (2) The Mississippi Public Health Laboratory shall have the  
13 following powers and duties:

14 (a) To perform such laboratory tests and procedures as  
15 shall be determined beneficial to the health of the people of  
16 Mississippi;

17 (b) To apply for and maintain any and all necessary  
18 federal or other certifications and/or licenses for the  
19 performance of its duties, unless such authority shall be  
20 otherwise assigned by official action of the State Board of  
21 Health;

22 (c) The Mississippi Public Health Laboratory shall be  
23 under the management of a director, who shall be appointed by the  
24 State Health Officer. The responsibility for the laboratory shall  
25 be vested in the director. The director shall be the  
26 administrative officer of the Mississippi Public Health Laboratory  
27 and shall perform the duties as may be assigned to him or her by  
28 the State Board of Health. The director shall receive



29 compensation as may be fixed by the State Board of Health, subject  
30 to the approval of the State Personnel Board. The State Health  
31 Officer may employ such other persons as may be necessary to carry  
32 out the provisions of this act. The compensation and the terms  
33 and conditions of their employment shall be determined by the  
34 State Board of Health in accordance with applicable state law and  
35 rules and regulations of the State Personnel Board.

36 **SECTION 2.** (1) There is established in the State Treasury a  
37 special fund to be known as the Mississippi Public Health  
38 Laboratory Fund, which shall be comprised of any funds that are  
39 authorized or required to be deposited in the special fund  
40 including, but not limited to, all laboratory fees collected and  
41 other income generated by the laboratory. Monies in the fund  
42 shall be used for the operations of the Mississippi Public Health  
43 Laboratory or the administration thereof. All income from the  
44 investment of the funds in the special fund shall be credited to  
45 the account of the special fund. Any funds in the special fund at  
46 the end of a fiscal year shall not lapse into the State General  
47 Fund.

48 (2) The State Department of Health is authorized to utilize  
49 any other funds not otherwise specifically appropriated by the  
50 Legislature for the support of the Mississippi Public Health  
51 Laboratory as necessary.

52 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
53 and after its passage.

