

By: Senator(s) Burton

To: Public Health and Welfare

SENATE BILL NO. 2581

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 41-111-1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO EXTEND THE DATE OF THE REPEALER ON THE CHILD DEATH REVIEW
3 PANEL; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

7 41-111-1. (1) There is created the Child Death Review
8 Panel, whose primary purpose is to foster the reduction of infant
9 and child mortality and morbidity in Mississippi and to improve
10 the health status of infants and children.

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

24 (3) The Chairman of the Child Death Review Panel shall be
25 elected annually by the Review Panel membership. The Review Panel
26 shall develop and implement such procedures and policies necessary
27 for its operation, including obtaining and protecting confidential



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

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

50 (5) This section shall stand repealed on July 1, 2013.

51 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
52 and after July 1, 2010.

