

By: Senator(s) Hopson

To: Judiciary, Division A

SENATE BILL NO. 2853

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 93-9-15, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 CLARIFY THE JURISDICTION OF THE COURT OVER THE AWARD OF CUSTODY IN  
3 THE COURSE OF A PATERNITY PROCEEDING; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 93-9-15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
6 amended as follows:

7 93-9-15. The county court, the circuit court, or the  
8 chancery court has jurisdiction of an action under Sections 93-9-1  
9 through 93-9-49, and all remedies for the enforcement of orders  
10 awarding custody or for expenses of pregnancy and confinement for  
11 a wife, or for education, necessary support and maintenance, or  
12 funeral expenses for legitimate children shall apply. The  
13 defendant must defend the cause in whichever court the action is  
14 commenced. The court has continuing jurisdiction to modify or  
15 revoke an order and to increase or decrease amounts fixed by order  
16 for future education and necessary support and maintenance. All  
17 remedies under the Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act,  
18 and amendments thereto, are available for enforcement of duties of  
19 support and maintenance under Sections 93-9-1 through 93-9-49.  
20 Parties to an action to establish paternity shall not be entitled  
21 to a jury trial.

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

