

By: Representatives Banks, Paden

To: Judiciary A

HOUSE BILL NO. 648

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE CHANCERY COURTS TO ORDER PERSONS WITH  
2 SEXUAL OFFENDER PROPENSITIES TO BE HELD PENDING EVALUATION; AND  
3 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** If the chancery court finds, through evidence and  
6 testimony, during any proceeding before such court that a person  
7 has a propensity to commit an act that would be considered a sex  
8 offense, as defined in Section 45-33-23, then the court shall  
9 order such person to be evaluated by a licensed physician of a  
10 mental health facility. If the physician determines that the  
11 person has such propensity, then the person shall be committed to  
12 a mental health facility, and remain in the facility until two (2)  
13 licensed physicians determine through physical and mental  
14 examination that such person no longer has a propensity to commit  
15 an act that would be considered a sex offense as defined in  
16 Section 45-33-23. For purposes of this section, the term "mental  
17 facility" means owned or operated by the Department of Mental  
18 Health.



19           **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
20 and after July 1, 2018.

