

By: Senator(s) Tollison

To: Judiciary, Division B;  
Accountability, Efficiency,  
Transparency

SENATE BILL NO. 2628

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 41-61-75, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO INCREASE THE FEE TO BE PAID TO THE PATHOLOGIST COMPLETING AN  
3 AUTOPSY CONNECTED TO A DEATH AFFECTING THE PUBLIC INTEREST; AND  
4 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 41-61-75, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
7 amended as follows:

8 41-61-75. (1) For each investigation with the preparation  
9 and submission of the required reports, the following fees shall  
10 be billed to and paid by the county for which the service is  
11 provided:

12 (a) A medical examiner or his deputy shall receive One  
13 Hundred Twenty-five Dollars (\$125.00) for each completed report of  
14 investigation of death, plus the examiner's actual expenses. In  
15 addition to that fee, in cases where the cause of death was sudden  
16 infant death syndrome (SIDS) and the medical examiner provides a  
17 SIDS Death Scene Investigation report, the medical examiner shall  
18 receive for completing that report an additional Fifty Dollars  
19 (\$50.00), or an additional One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) if the



20 medical examiner has received advanced training in child death  
21 investigations and presents to the county a certificate of  
22 completion of that advanced training. The State Medical Examiner  
23 shall develop and prescribe a uniform format and list of matters  
24 to be contained in SIDS/Child Death Scene Investigation reports,  
25 which shall be used by all county medical examiners and county  
26 medical examiner investigators in the state.

27 (b) The pathologist performing autopsies as provided in  
28 Section 41-61-65 shall receive \* \* \* One Thousand Five Hundred  
29 Dollars (\$1,500.00) per completed autopsy, plus mileage expenses  
30 to and from the site of the autopsy, and shall be reimbursed for  
31 any out-of-pocket expenses for third-party testing, not to exceed  
32 One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per autopsy.

33 (2) Any medical examiner, physician or pathologist who is  
34 subpoenaed for appearance and testimony before a grand jury,  
35 courtroom trial or deposition shall be entitled to an expert  
36 witness hourly fee to be set by the court and mileage expenses to  
37 and from the site of the testimony, and such amount shall be paid  
38 by the jurisdiction or party issuing the subpoena.

39 (3) This section shall stand repealed on July 1, 2020.

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

