

**Adopted  
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO 1 PROPOSED TO**

**House Bill No. 94**

**BY: Committee**

**Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting  
in lieu thereof the following:**

14        **SECTION 1.** (1) The Mississippi Center for Rural Health  
15        Innovation is established within the Office of Rural Health of the  
16        State Department of Health. The purpose of the center is to  
17        provide services and resources to rural hospitals, critical access  
18        hospitals, rural health clinics and rural federally qualified  
19        health centers, including expert analysis, guidance, training  
20        opportunities and telehealth investment. For the purposes of this  
21        section, the term "rural hospital" means a licensed Mississippi  
22        hospital that:



23 (a) Has fifty (50) or fewer licensed general acute,  
24 nonspecialty beds; or

25 (b) Is located within the geographic boundaries of a  
26 municipality that has a population of less than seven thousand  
27 four hundred (7,400) people according to the 2010 U.S. Census.

28 (2) The specific areas of service to be provided by the  
29 center shall be, at a minimum:

30 (a) Expert consultation, including, but not limited to,  
31 detailed financial evaluation, service line assessment, contract  
32 review and transitional planning;

33 (b) Telehealth innovation, including, but not limited  
34 to, telehealth expert consultation and telehealth development  
35 grants;

36 (c) Business development training grants, including,  
37 but not limited to, billing specialist training grants and  
38 administrative development grants;

39 (d) Peer support network services; and

40 (e) Any other related services as determined by the  
41 State Board of Health.

42 (3) The department shall provide personnel and resources as  
43 necessary to provide for the operation of the center, and shall be  
44 authorized to enter into contracts as necessary to carry out the  
45 purpose of the center.

46 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
47 and after July 1, 2020.



**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE MISSISSIPPI CENTER FOR RURAL HEALTH  
2 INNOVATION WITHIN THE OFFICE OF RURAL HEALTH OF THE STATE  
3 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH; TO PROVIDE THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE CENTER IS  
4 TO PROVIDE SERVICES AND RESOURCES TO RURAL HOSPITALS, CRITICAL  
5 ACCESS HOSPITALS, RURAL HEALTH CLINICS AND RURAL FEDERALLY  
6 QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTERS, INCLUDING EXPERT ANALYSIS, GUIDANCE,  
7 TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES AND TELEHEALTH INVESTMENT; TO SPECIFY THE  
8 MINIMUM AREAS OF SERVICE TO BE PROVIDED BY THE CENTER; TO PROVIDE  
9 THAT THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE PERSONNEL AND RESOURCES AS  
10 NECESSARY TO PROVIDE FOR THE OPERATION OF THE CENTER, AND SHALL BE  
11 AUTHORIZED TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS AS NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE  
12 PURPOSE OF THE CENTER; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

