

By: Representative Turner

To: Public Health and Human
Services

HOUSE BILL NO. 118

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 41-61-75, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO EXTEND THE DATE OF THE REPEALER ON THE STATUTE PRESCRIBING
3 MEDICAL EXAMINER AND PATHOLOGIST FEES FOR DEATH INVESTIGATIONS AND
4 AUTOPSIES; AND 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 Seventy-five Dollars (\$175.00) for each completed report
14 of investigation of death, plus the examiner's actual expenses.
15 In addition to that fee, in cases where the cause of death was
16 sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) and the medical examiner
17 provides a SIDS Death Scene Investigation report, the medical
18 examiner shall receive for completing that report an additional
19 Fifty Dollars (\$50.00), or an additional One Hundred Dollars



20 (\$100.00) if the medical examiner has received advanced training
21 in child death investigations and presents to the county a
22 certificate of completion of that advanced training. The State
23 Medical Examiner shall develop and prescribe a uniform format and
24 list of matters to be contained in SIDS/Child Death Scene
25 Investigation reports, which shall be used by all county medical
26 examiners and county medical examiner investigators in the state.

27 (b) The pathologist performing autopsies as provided in
28 Section 41-61-65 shall receive One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00)
29 per completed autopsy, plus mileage expenses to and from the site
30 of the autopsy, and shall be reimbursed for any out-of-pocket
31 expenses for third-party testing, not to exceed One Hundred
32 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39 (3) This section shall stand repealed on July 1, * * * 2024.

40 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
41 and after July 1, 2021.

