

## House Amendments to Senate Bill No. 2621

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE:

THIS IS TO INFORM YOU THAT THE HOUSE HAS ADOPTED THE AMENDMENTS SET OUT BELOW:

### AMENDMENT NO. 1

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

7           SECTION 1. (1) There is hereby established the "Task Force  
8 to Study Mississippi's Laws Regarding the Awarding and Calculating  
9 of Child Support, Alimony and Other Related Matters in Domestic  
10 Law" to develop a recommendation to the Legislature and the  
11 Mississippi Supreme Court relative to revising Mississippi's  
12 domestic relations laws to reflect current jurisprudence in these  
13 areas and to propose legislation and rule changes based upon its  
14 recommendation.

15           (2) The members of the Task Force shall be as follows:

16                 (a) The Chairmen of the Judiciary A Committees of the  
17 Mississippi Senate and the Mississippi House of Representatives;

18                 (b) One (1) designee of the Mississippi Supreme Court  
19 to be named by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court;

20                 (c) Two (2) sitting Chancellors to be named by the  
21 Chief Justice of the Supreme Court;

22                 (d) Two (2) practicing attorneys in the State of  
23 Mississippi with expertise in the area of domestic relations, one

24 (1) from each of the federal judicial districts to be named by the  
25 Mississippi Bar Association;

26 (e) One (1) practicing attorney who is a general  
27 practitioner with expertise in the area of domestic relations and  
28 who practices in a firm with five (5) or fewer licensed attorneys  
29 to be named by the Mississippi Bar Association;

30 (f) Two (2) practicing guardians-ad-litem to be named  
31 by the Mississippi Bar Association;

32 (g) One (1) practicing or retired attorney with  
33 expertise in disability law and domestic law to be named by the  
34 Mississippi Bar Association;

35 (h) One (1) designee of the Child Support Unit of the  
36 Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services to be named by  
37 the executive director of the department;

38 (i) One (1) professor of law with expertise in domestic  
39 law to be named by the Dean of the University of Mississippi  
40 School of Law; and

41 (j) One (1) professor of law with expertise in domestic  
42 law to be named by the Dean of the Mississippi College School of  
43 Law.

44 (3) The Task Force shall meet within forty-five (45) days of  
45 the effective date of this act, upon the call of the Governor, and  
46 shall evaluate the current domestic laws and cases in Mississippi.  
47 Specifically the Task Force shall:

48 (a) Review the models used by states to determine the  
49 base child support amount due, including the "Income Shares

50 Model," the "Percentage of Income Model" and the "Melson Formula,"  
51 which incorporate a self-support reserve for the obligor and take  
52 into consideration the health care expenses of the children;

53 (b) Review special provisions for child care expenses,  
54 formulas for shared custody, split custody and extraordinary  
55 visitation, and deductions for the support of previous and  
56 subsequent children;

57 (c) Review the current trends of law regarding  
58 "No-Fault Divorce";

59 (d) Review the current trends in the imposition and  
60 cost of fees for guardian-ad-litem and related issues on  
61 guardians; and

62 (e) Any other matters related to the above issues or  
63 related to domestic law.

64 (4) The Task Force may request the assistance of the  
65 University of Mississippi School of Law and the Mississippi  
66 College School of Law, the Mississippi Judicial College and the  
67 proper section of the Mississippi Bar Association, or any other  
68 related organization with expertise in domestic relations.

69 (5) The members of the Task Force shall elect a Chair from  
70 among the members. The Task Force shall develop and report its  
71 findings and recommendations for proposed legislation to the  
72 Legislature and proposed rule changes to the Mississippi Supreme  
73 Court on or before December 1, 2021. A quorum of the membership  
74 shall be required to approve any final report and recommendation.  
75 Members of the Task Force shall be reimbursed for necessary travel

76 expense in the same manner as public employees are reimbursed for  
77 official duties from any available funds and members of the  
78 Legislature shall be reimbursed in the same manner as for  
79 attending out-of-session committee meetings.

80 (6) The Mississippi Bar Association and the Mississippi  
81 Judicial College shall provide necessary clerical support for the  
82 meetings of the Task Force and the preparation of the report.  
83 Proposed legislation shall be prepared by the Legislative Services  
84 Offices of the Senate and House as requested.

85 (7) Upon presentation of its report the Task Force shall be  
86 dissolved.

87 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
88 and after July 1, 2021, and shall stand repealed on June 30, 2021.

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

1 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A "TASK FORCE TO STUDY MISSISSIPPI'S LAWS  
2 REGARDING THE AWARDING AND CALCULATING OF CHILD SUPPORT, ALIMONY  
3 AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS IN DOMESTIC LAW"; TO PRESCRIBE THE  
4 MEMBERSHIP OF THE TASK FORCE AND PROVIDE FOR ITS ORGANIZATION; TO  
5 PROVIDE FOR A REPORT BY THE TASK FORCE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

HR26\SB2621A.2J

Andrew Ketchings  
Clerk of the House of Representatives