

**Adopted
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO 1 PROPOSED TO**

Senate Bill No. 2621

BY: Committee

**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 AWARDED 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.

