MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE   REGULAR SESSION 2022

By: Representative Arnold   To: Public Health and Human
                                            Services

HOUSE BILL NO. 861

1   AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT LICENSED HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONERS
2   HAVE THE RIGHT AND FREEDOM TO PUBLICLY DISCUSS THE METHODS,
3   RESOURCES, TECHNOLOGY AND MEDICATIONS THAT THEY USE OR HAVE USED
4   FOR THE TREATMENT AND CARE OF THEIR PATIENTS, WITHOUT REPERCUSSION
5   FROM THE PRACTITIONER'S STATE LICENSING AGENCY; TO PROHIBIT STATE
6   PROFESSIONAL OR OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING AGENCIES FROM ORDERING OR
7   TAKING ANY OTHER ACTION TO PROHIBIT, LIMIT OR DISCOURAGE HEALTH
8   CARE PRACTITIONERS FROM PUBLIC DISCUSSION AS AUTHORIZED AND
9   PROTECTED UNDER THIS ACT OR TAKING OR THREATENING ANY DISCIPLINARY
10 AGAINST HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONERS UNDER THEIR JURISDICTION FOR ANY
11 SUCH PUBLIC DISCUSSION; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

13   **SECTION 1.** (1) Any health care practitioner licensed in the

14 State of Mississippi has the right and freedom to publicly

15 discuss, whether in person, in writing or online, the methods,

16 resources, technology and medications that they use or have used

17 for the treatment and care of their patients, without repercussion

18 from the practitioner's state licensing agency for that public

19 discussion, provided that the practitioner complies with the

20 Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)

21 regarding the protected health information and medical records of

22 their patients and does not otherwise violate the privacy rights

23 of any patient.

24   (2) No state professional or occupational licensing agency

25 shall order or take any other action to prohibit, limit or

26 discourage health care practitioners under their jurisdiction from

27 public discussion as authorized and protected under this section,

28 or take or threaten any disciplinary against health care

29 practitioners under their jurisdiction for any such public

30 discussion.

31   **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from

32 and after July 1, 2022.

H. B. No. 861 ||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| **~ OFFICIAL ~**
22/HR43/R429   ST: Health care practitioners; have right and
PAGE 2 (RF\EW)   freedom to publicly discuss treatment methods
                                     without repercussion from licensing agencies.