By: Representatives Banks, Crudup, Stamps To: Judiciary B

## HOUSE BILL NO. 1286

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE CHANCERY COURTS TO ORDER CERTAIN PERSONS 2 WITH SEXUAL OFFENDER PROPENSITIES TO BE HELD PENDING EVALUATION; 3 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

- BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI: 4
- SECTION 1. If the chancery court finds, through evidence and 5
- 6 testimony, during any proceeding before the court that a person
- 7 has a propensity to commit an act that would be considered a sex
- offense, as defined in Section 45-33-23, then the court shall 8
- 9 order the person to be evaluated by a licensed physician of a
- mental health facility. If the physician determines that the 10
- 11 person has such propensity, then the person must be committed to a
- mental health facility and remain in the facility until two (2) 12
- 13 licensed physicians determine through physical and mental
- 14 examination that the person no longer has a propensity to commit
- an act that would be considered a sex offense, as defined in 15
- 16 Section 45-33-23. For purposes of this section, the term "mental
- health facility" means a facility administered by the State 17
- 18 Department of Mental Health.

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

20 and after July 1, 2022.