

By: Senator(s) Parks

To: Universities and  
Colleges

SENATE BILL NO. 2691

1 AN ACT TO CREATE THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER  
 2 HOSPITAL BOARD FOR THE PURPOSE OF OVERSEEING THE FINANCES AND  
 3 BUSINESS OPERATIONS OF THE HOSPITAL; TO PROVIDE FOR THE  
 4 COMPOSITION AND APPOINTMENTS OF THE BOARD; TO SET THE VOTING  
 5 REQUIREMENTS OF THE BOARD; TO PROVIDE THAT THE BOARD SHALL BE  
 6 RESPONSIBLE FOR APPROVING A MULTI-YEAR BUSINESS PLAN FOR THE  
 7 HOSPITAL'S OPERATION ALONG WITH THE GENERAL OVERSIGHT OF THE  
 8 HOSPITAL'S FINANCIAL OPERATION; TO PROVIDE THAT THE BOARD SHALL  
 9 NOT HAVE AUTHORITY OVER THE TEACHING, RESEARCH ENDEAVORS OR  
 10 PERSONNEL OF THE MEDICAL CENTER; TO REQUIRE THE BOARD TO PROVIDE A  
 11 COMPREHENSIVE REPORT ON THE HOSPITAL TO THE GOVERNOR, LIEUTENANT  
 12 GOVERNOR, SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND CHAIRMEN OF  
 13 SPECIFIC COMMITTEES IN THE HOUSE AND SENATE BY OCTOBER 1 OF EVERY  
 14 YEAR; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

16 **SECTION 1.** (1) There is hereby created the University of  
 17 Mississippi Medical Center Hospital Board for the purpose of  
 18 overseeing the finances and business operations of the hospital.

19 (2) The board shall be composed of the following five (5)  
 20 members:

- 21 (a) Two (2) members to be appointed by the Governor;
- 22 (b) Two (2) members to be appointed by the Lieutenant
- 23 Governor; and



24 (c) One (1) current member of the Board of Trustees of  
25 State Institutions of Higher Learning selected by the Commissioner  
26 of Higher Education.

27 (3) Members of the board appointed by the Governor and  
28 Lieutenant Governor shall be Mississippi residents with at least  
29 five (5) years experience in the business, financial or healthcare  
30 industry sectors, and be of the highest order of intelligence,  
31 character, learning and fitness for the performance of such  
32 duties.

33 (4) Members of the board shall receive per diem authorized  
34 by Section 25-3-69, plus actual and necessary expenses and mileage  
35 as authorized by Section 25-3-41, for each day actually spent in  
36 attending the meetings of the board. The expenses of the board  
37 shall be paid out of any funds available for the operation of the  
38 University of Mississippi Medical Center.

39 (5) Appointments to the board shall be made within  
40 forty-five (45) days of the effective date of this act. At the  
41 first meeting, the board shall elect from among its membership a  
42 chairman, a vice chairman and any other officers determined to be  
43 necessary, and shall adopt rules for transacting business and  
44 keeping records.

45 (6) The board shall meet at least quarterly. A majority of  
46 the members of the board shall constitute a quorum. In the  
47 adoption of rules, resolutions and reports, and in the election of  
48 a chairman, vice chairman and any other officers determined to be



49 necessary, an affirmative vote of a majority of the members  
50 present shall be required.

51 (7) The board shall be responsible for:

52 (a) Approving a multi-year business plan for the  
53 hospital's operations, including any expansion of the hospital's  
54 physical plant, providers, or healthcare services, in  
55 consideration with the hospital's mission to provide charity  
56 hospitalization of indigent persons and qualified beneficiaries of  
57 the State Medicaid Program; and

58 (b) Overseeing the physical plant of the hospital;

59 (c) Overseeing the financial operations of the  
60 hospital;

61 (d) Overseeing patient quality and safety in acute care  
62 services; and

63 (e) Hiring and firing of the hospital administrator,  
64 subject to the final approval of the Board of Trustees of the  
65 State Institutions of Higher Learning.

66 (8) The board shall not have the authority over the  
67 University of Mississippi Medical Center's academic, teaching or  
68 research endeavors, including personnel, buildings and other  
69 tangible and intangible resources connected therewith, or any  
70 other authority delegated to the Board of Trustees for the State  
71 Institutions of Higher Learning as described in Section 37-101-15,  
72 Mississippi Code of 1972.



73           (9) The Vice-Chancellor of Health Affairs shall provide the  
74 staff and other support necessary for the board to perform its  
75 duties. The hospital administrator shall continue to report to  
76 the Vice Chancellor of Health Affairs.

77           (10) The board shall provide a comprehensive report on the  
78 hospital's business plan and finances to the Governor, Lieutenant  
79 Governor, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Chairs of  
80 the Senate and House Appropriations Committees, Chairs of the  
81 House and Senate Universities and Colleges Committees, Chair of  
82 the House Public Health and Human Services Committee, and Chair of  
83 the Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee by October 1 of  
84 each year.

85           **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
86 and after July 1, 2022.

