

By: Representative Newman

To: Public Health and Human Services

HOUSE BILL NO. 983

1 AN ACT TO CREATE THE PREGNANCY RESOURCES GRANT PROGRAM TO BE
 2 ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES; TO
 3 PROVIDE THAT THE PROGRAM SHALL BE A COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM USED
 4 BY THE DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO CRISIS PREGNANCY
 5 ORGANIZATIONS, PREGNANCY RESOURCES ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER
 6 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS THAT OFFER SUPPORT SERVICES TO WOMEN
 7 BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER PREGNANCY; TO SPECIFY THE TYPES OF
 8 CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS THAT ARE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A GRANT
 9 UNDER THE PROGRAM; TO SPECIFY THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH AN
 10 ORGANIZATION MAY USE GRANT FUNDS; TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT TO
 11 MAKE AN ANNUAL REPORT ABOUT THE PROGRAM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

13 **SECTION 1.** (1) There is created the Pregnancy Resources
 14 Grant Program to be administered by the Department of Child
 15 Protection Services. The program shall be a competitive grant
 16 program used by the department to provide funds to crisis
 17 pregnancy organizations, pregnancy resources organizations and
 18 other nonprofit organizations that offer support services to women
 19 before, during and after pregnancy.

20 (2) The program shall be funded from monies appropriated by
 21 the Legislature to the department for that purpose. The
 22 department may use not more than two percent (2%) of the funds



23 appropriated for the program for the administration of the
24 program. Any funds appropriated for the program that are not
25 expended by the department during the fiscal year for which they
26 are provided shall be reappropriated to the department for the
27 program for the next fiscal year.

28 (3) The department shall adopt rules and regulations
29 regarding the operation of the program, and shall prescribe the
30 terms and conditions of grants awarded under the program. To be
31 eligible to receive a grant under the program, an organization
32 must be an "eligible charitable organization" as defined in
33 Section 27-7-22.41(1)(b)(i) or in Section 27-7-22.43(2)(b) that
34 provides all or some of the following services: health care
35 services, parenting education, prenatal care, pregnancy diagnosis,
36 ultrasounds and STI testing.

37 (4) An organization may use grant funds for any of the
38 following purposes:

- 39 (a) Staffing;
- 40 (b) Upgrades and purchases of medical equipment;
- 41 (c) Educational materials;
- 42 (d) Outreach; and
- 43 (e) Such other purposes as authorized by the
44 department.

45 (5) In order to receive a grant, an organization must
46 provide the following information to the department:



47 (a) The total amount of grant funds that the
48 organization is requesting;

49 (b) How the grant funds will be used by the
50 organization to provide support services to women; and

51 (c) Any other information required by the department.

52 (6) The department shall submit an annual report on the
53 program to the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor and the Speaker
54 of the House of Representatives. The report shall contain a
55 detailed explanation of how the funds appropriated for the program
56 were awarded, how those grants were used by organizations to
57 provide support services to women, and whether more funds are
58 needed for the program.

59 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
60 and after July 1, 2023.

