

By: Representative Owen

To: Judiciary A

HOUSE BILL NO. 1111

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 93-15-105, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO AUTHORIZE YOUTH COURT, IN ABUSE OR NEGLECT PROCEEDINGS, TO HAVE
3 ORIGINAL, EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION OF BOTH VOLUNTARY AND INVOLUNTARY
4 TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS ACTIONS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 93-15-105, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 93-15-105. (1) The chancery court has original exclusive
9 jurisdiction over all termination of parental rights proceedings
10 except when a county court sitting as a youth court has acquired
11 jurisdiction of a child in an abuse or neglect proceeding, then
12 the county court shall have original exclusive jurisdiction to
13 hear * * * petitions for both voluntary and involuntary
14 termination of parental rights actions against a parent of that
15 child pursuant to the procedures of this chapter.

16 (2) (a) Venue in a county court sitting as a youth court
17 for any termination of parental rights proceedings shall be in the
18 county in which the court has jurisdiction of the child in the
19 abuse or neglect proceedings. Venue in chancery court for



20 termination of parental rights proceedings shall be proper either
21 in the county in which the defendant resides, the child resides or
22 in the county where an agency or institution having custody of the
23 child is located.

24 (b) Transfers of venue shall be governed by the
25 Mississippi Rules of Civil Procedure.

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

