

**Adopted
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO 1 PROPOSED TO**

Senate Bill No. 2781

BY: Committee

**Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting
in lieu thereof the following:**

29 SECTION 1. (1) For the purpose of this section, the term
30 "agencies" means the State Department of Health, the Department of
31 Human Services, the Department of Child Protection Services and
32 the Division of Medicaid, and the term "agency" means any one of
33 those entities.

34 (2) The agencies shall jointly develop a program to
35 coordinate and promote information and services related to
36 pregnancy, childbirth and care for dependent children for
37 expectant mothers and new parents. The program shall be fully
38 operational not later than January 1, 2024.



39 (3) The program shall include, but shall not be limited to,
40 providing comprehensive information and resources related to
41 adoption assistance, child care, domestic abuse protection, early
42 intervention, food, clothing and supplies related to pregnancy and
43 newborn care, job training and placement, paternity, parenting
44 skills, and prenatal and postpartum care provided by:

45 (a) The State of Mississippi or any other governmental
46 entity; or

47 (b) Relevant nonprofit organizations, including
48 religious institutions.

49 (4) Each agency shall determine, in cooperation with the
50 other agencies, which aspects and topics of the program that the
51 agency will oversee and how the agency will promote the program.
52 The agencies shall make information related to the program
53 available on a separate website that is accessible from each
54 agency's main website and the county health departments' websites
55 not later than October 1, 2023. The mobile application referenced
56 in subsection (5) of this section shall be available to the public
57 not later than January 1, 2024.

58 (5) The agencies shall jointly establish a promotional
59 campaign to educate the public about the program, including, but
60 not limited to, the implementation of a separate website as
61 provided in subsection (4) of this section social media graphics
62 and any other awareness activity, including the creation of a
63 mobile application.



64 (6) The agencies shall apply for any federal grants that may
65 be available to assist in paying the costs of implementing and
66 operating the program.

67 (7) The agencies shall jointly promulgate such rules as
68 necessary to implement this program.

69 (8) Not later than October 1, 2024, the agencies shall
70 report to the Chairs of the House and Senate Judiciary A
71 Committees, the House Public Health and Human Services Committee
72 and the Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee on the
73 operation and status of the program.

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

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1 AN ACT TO DIRECT THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, THE
2 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILD PROTECTION
3 SERVICES AND THE DIVISION OF MEDICAID TO JOINTLY DEVELOP A PROGRAM
4 TO COORDINATE AND PROMOTE INFORMATION AND SERVICES RELATED TO
5 PREGNANCY, CHILDBIRTH AND CARE FOR DEPENDENT CHILDREN FOR
6 EXPECTANT MOTHERS AND NEW PARENTS; TO REQUIRE THAT THE PROGRAM BE
7 FULLY OPERATIONAL NOT LATER THAN JANUARY 1, 2024; TO REQUIRE THE
8 PROGRAM TO PROVIDE CERTAIN RESOURCES RELATED TO ADOPTION
9 ASSISTANCE, CHILD CARE, DOMESTIC ABUSE PROTECTION, EARLY
10 INTERVENTION, FOOD, CLOTHING AND SUPPLIES RELATED TO PREGNANCY AND
11 NEWBORN CARE, JOB TRAINING AND PLACEMENT, PATERNITY, PARENTING
12 SKILLS, AND PRENATAL AND POSTPARTUM CARE; TO REQUIRE EACH AGENCY
13 TO DETERMINE, IN COOPERATION WITH THE OTHER AGENCIES, WHICH
14 ASPECTS AND TOPICS OF THE PROGRAM THAT THE AGENCY WILL OVERSEE AND
15 HOW THE AGENCY WILL PROMOTE THE PROGRAM; TO REQUIRE THE AGENCIES
16 TO MAKE INFORMATION RELATED TO THE PROGRAM AVAILABLE ON A SEPARATE
17 WEBSITE THAT IS ACCESSIBLE FROM EACH AGENCY'S MAIN WEBSITE AND THE
18 COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENTS' WEBSITES NOT LATER THAN OCTOBER 1,
19 2023; TO REQUIRE THE AGENCIES TO JOINTLY ESTABLISH A PROMOTIONAL
20 CAMPAIGN TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE PROGRAM; TO DIRECT THE



21 AGENCIES TO APPLY FOR ANY FEDERAL GRANTS THAT MAY BE AVAILABLE TO
22 ASSIST IN PAYING THE COSTS OF IMPLEMENTING AND OPERATING THE
23 PROGRAM; TO REQUIRE THE AGENCIES TO JOINTLY PROMULGATE SUCH RULES
24 AS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM; TO REQUIRE THE AGENCIES TO
25 REPORT TO THE CHAIRS OF CERTAIN LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES ON THE
26 OPERATION AND STATUS OF THE PROGRAM NOT LATER THAN OCTOBER 1,
27 2024; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

