

By: Representatives Hobgood-Wilkes,  
Carpenter

To: Public Health and Human  
Services

HOUSE BILL NO. 317

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SHALL  
 2 DESIGN AND CAUSE TO BE CONSTRUCTED AND MAINTAINED AN EMERGENCY  
 3 MEDICAL SERVICES MEMORIAL TO HONOR THOSE EMERGENCY MEDICAL  
 4 SERVICES PERSONNEL WHO HAVE GIVEN THEIR LIVES IN THE PERFORMANCE  
 5 OF THEIR OFFICIAL DUTIES AND THOSE WHO HAVE MADE A DRAMATIC IMPACT  
 6 ON OR SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES IN  
 7 MISSISSIPPI; TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT SHALL FORM, ESTABLISH  
 8 AND/OR COLLABORATE WITH A PRIVATE FOUNDATION OR NONPROFIT  
 9 CORPORATION TO MAINTAIN THE MEMORIAL IN PERPETUITY AND DETERMINE  
 10 THE ELIGIBILITY OF THOSE PERSONS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE MEMORIAL;  
 11 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

13 **SECTION 1.** (1) The State Department of Health, in  
 14 cooperation with the Department of Archives and History and the  
 15 Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management and  
 16 subject to funds being made available, shall design and cause to  
 17 be constructed and maintained on state-owned lands at some  
 18 suitable and appropriate place in or near the City of Jackson, an  
 19 Emergency Medical Services Memorial to honor those Emergency  
 20 Medical Services personnel who have given their lives in the  
 21 performance of their official duties and those who have made a  
 22 dramatic impact on or substantial contribution to emergency



23 medical services in Mississippi. The Department of Health shall  
24 consult with organizations and communities of interest relating to  
25 emergency medical services in designing the memorial, and the  
26 memorial shall be designed and constructed not later than July 1,  
27 2025.

28 (2) The Department of Health shall form, establish and/or  
29 collaborate with a private foundation or nonprofit corporation to  
30 maintain the memorial in perpetuity and determine the eligibility  
31 of those persons to be included on the memorial. The foundation  
32 or nonprofit corporation shall solicit and receive funds from  
33 public and private sources and donations to carry out its  
34 responsibilities under this section.

35 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
36 and after July 1, 2024.

