

By: Representatives Scoggin, Anthony,
Summers

To: Workforce Development

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 907

1 AN ACT TO CREATE THE MISSISSIPPI CHILDCARE TEACHERS SHORTAGE
2 STUDY COMMITTEE; TO PROVIDE THAT THE COMMITTEE IS TO STUDY THE
3 MISSISSIPPI CHILDCARE WORKER SHORTAGE AND HOW TO INCREASE THE
4 SUPPLY OF AFFORDABLE CHILDCARE SEATS WHILE ALSO RECOGNIZING
5 EDUCATORS FOR THEIR ONGOING EFFORTS TO IMPROVE MISSISSIPPI'S EARLY
6 EDUCATION AND CARE SYSTEM; TO PROVIDE THE MEMBERS OF THE
7 COMMITTEE; TO PROVIDE WHAT THE STUDY COMMITTEE SHALL REVIEW; TO
8 REQUIRE THE STUDY COMMITTEE TO REPORT TO CERTAIN OFFICIALS BY
9 DECEMBER 1, 2024; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

11 **SECTION 1.** (1) There is created the Mississippi Childcare
12 Teachers Shortage Study Committee. The purpose of the committee
13 is to study the Mississippi childcare worker shortage and how to
14 increase the supply of affordable childcare seats while also
15 recognizing educators for their ongoing efforts to improve
16 Mississippi's early education and care system.

17 (2) The Mississippi Childcare Teachers Shortage Study
18 Committee shall be comprised of the following members:

19 (a) One (1) member of the Mississippi Senate, to be
20 appointed by the Lieutenant Governor;



21 (b) One (1) member of the Mississippi House, to be
22 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

23 (c) The Executive Director of the Mississippi
24 Department of Human Services, or a designee, as an ex officio
25 member;

26 (d) The Executive Director of the Mississippi
27 Department of Employment Services, or a designee, as an ex officio
28 member;

29 (e) One (1) representative of the childcare provider
30 community, to be appointed by the Executive Director of the
31 Mississippi Office of Workforce Development;

32 (f) One (1) representative of the economic development
33 community, to be appointed by the Executive Director of the
34 Mississippi Office of Workforce Development; and

35 (g) One (1) representative of business and industry, to
36 be appointed by the Executive Director of the Mississippi Office
37 of Workforce Development.

38 (3) Appointments shall be made within thirty (30) days after
39 the sine die adjournment of the 2024 Regular Session. At the
40 first meeting, the study committee shall elect a chair and a vice
41 chair. The study committee shall meet and organize fifteen (15)
42 days after all appointments have been made. The vice chair shall
43 also serve as secretary and shall be responsible for keeping all
44 records of the study committee. A majority of the members of the
45 study committee shall constitute a quorum. In the selection of



46 its officers and the adoption of rules, resolutions and reports,
47 an affirmative vote of a majority of the study committee shall be
48 required. All members shall be notified in writing of all
49 meetings, such notices to be mailed at least fifteen (15) days
50 before the date on which a meeting is to be held. Members of the
51 study committee shall not be compensated or reimbursed for travel
52 expenses.

53 (4) The study committee shall study and make a report on the
54 following:

55 (a) Whether a wage incentive program for childcare
56 teachers would yield positive results in Mississippi;

57 (b) The wage incentive programs offered to childcare
58 teachers in other states;

59 (c) How to address the childcare teacher shortage in
60 Mississippi;

61 (d) How other states have addressed their childcare
62 teacher shortages; and

63 (e) Other childcare related issues that the committee
64 deems necessary to review and study.

65 (5) The study committee shall submit its report to the
66 Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the House of
67 Representatives, Chairmen of the House and Senate Appropriations
68 Committees, the Chairman of the House Workforce Development
69 Committee and the Chairman of the Senate Economic and Workforce



70 Development Committee by December 1, 2024. After such report is
71 submitted, the study committee shall be dissolved.

72 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
73 and after its passage.

