

By: Representative Mims

To: Public Health and Human Services

HOUSE BILL NO. 1101

1 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE MISSISSIPPI ENHANCED HOSPITAL
 2 SUSTAINABILITY GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE PURPOSE OF STRENGTHENING,
 3 IMPROVING AND PRESERVING ACCESS TO HOSPITAL CARE SERVICES FOR ALL
 4 MISSISSIPPIANS AND IN RECOGNITION OF THE CHALLENGES INCURRED BY
 5 HOSPITALS AS A RESULT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC; TO PROVIDE THAT
 6 THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SHALL ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM; TO
 7 PROVIDE THAT THE FUNDS SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED TO EACH HOSPITAL
 8 LICENSED BY THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI EXCEPT FOR HOSPITALS OPERATED
 9 BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOSPITALS
 10 OPERATED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH; TO PROVIDE
 11 CERTAIN DISTRIBUTION FORMULAS FOR ALLOCATING THE FUNDS
 12 APPROPRIATED FOR THE GRANT PROGRAM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

14 **SECTION 1.** (1) There is established the Mississippi
 15 Enhanced Hospital Sustainability Grant Program which shall be
 16 administered by the State Department of Health.

17 (2) In order to strengthen, improve and preserve access to
 18 Mississippi hospital care services for all Mississippians and in
 19 recognition of the challenges incurred by Mississippi hospitals as
 20 a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, funds from the program shall be
 21 distributed, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to each
 22 hospital licensed by the State of Mississippi, except for
 23 hospitals operated by the United States Department of Veterans



24 Affairs and hospitals operated by the State Department of Mental
25 Health. Licensed specialty hospitals that are recognized as such
26 by the State Department of Health, except for those excluded under
27 this subsection, are eligible for grants under the program.
28 Hospitals participating in, and receiving funds through, the
29 Mississippi Hospital Sustainability Grant Program established in
30 Section 41-9-371 are not eligible to receive funds through
31 Mississippi Enhanced Hospital Sustainability Program.

32 (3) The department shall distribute grants to each eligible
33 hospital based upon the following formula:

34 (a) Each hospital that has fewer than one hundred (100)
35 licensed beds and that is not classified as a critical access
36 hospital that operates an emergency department shall be eligible
37 to receive Six Hundred Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$625,000.00)
38 to defray the costs of providing emergency department services.

39 (b) Each rural hospital that has fewer than one hundred
40 (100) licensed beds and that is classified as a critical access
41 hospital that operates an emergency department shall be eligible
42 to receive Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) to defray
43 the costs of providing emergency department services.

44 (c) Each hospital that operates an emergency department
45 and that has more than one hundred (100) licensed beds shall be
46 eligible to receive One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00).

47 (d) Each hospital with fewer than two hundred (200)
48 licensed beds with the majority of such beds being dedicated to



49 providing specialty services such as women's health services,
50 long-term acute care, rehabilitation or psychiatric services shall
51 be eligible to receive Five Hundred Thousand Dollars
52 (\$500,000.00).

53 (e) Each rural hospital with fewer than one hundred
54 (100) licensed beds with no emergency department shall be eligible
55 to receive Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00) to defray
56 the costs of providing access to hospital care in rural
57 communities.

58 (f) In addition to the funds provided in paragraphs (a)
59 through (e) of this subsection, each small rural hospital with
60 fifty (50) beds or less which operated an emergency department
61 shall be eligible to receive Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars
62 (\$250,000.00) to defray the costs of providing access to hospital
63 care in rural communities.

64 (4) The department shall adopt such reasonable rules as
65 necessary for the administration of the program, but shall not
66 place additional qualification requirements on hospitals other
67 than the minimum requirements in this section.

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

