

By: Representative Cockerham

To: Appropriations C;
Appropriations A

HOUSE BILL NO. 1870

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE UNIVERSITY OF
2 MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER TO CONDUCT A REVIEW AND PREPARE A
3 REPORT ABOUT MEDICATIONS, TREATMENTS, AND HEALTH CARE SERVICES
4 AVAILABLE TO MEDICAID RECIPIENTS WITH A DIAGNOSIS OF A RARE
5 DISEASE, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2025.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much of it as may be
8 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State General
9 Fund not otherwise appropriated, to the University of Mississippi
10 Medical Center to conduct a review and prepare a report about
11 medications, treatments, and health care services available to
12 Medicaid recipients with a diagnosis of a rare disease, as
13 provided in Section 2 of this act, for the fiscal year beginning
14 July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.....
15\$ 250,000.00.

16 **SECTION 2.** (1) The money appropriated by Section 1 of this
17 act shall be used by the University of Mississippi Medical Center
18 to complete and publish a report that details the findings from a
19 review conducted by the medical center as provided under



20 subsection (2) of this section. The purpose of the review is to
21 determine:

22 (a) If the covered medications, treatments, and health
23 care services available to Medicaid recipients with a diagnosis of
24 a rare disease are adequate to meet the needs of such recipients;

25 (b) Whether the Division of Medicaid should seek to add
26 or facilitate access to additional medications, treatments, or
27 services for such recipients; and

28 (c) Whether access impediments to such medications,
29 treatments and services exist or are projected to exist based on
30 the inadequacy of existing reimbursement methodologies or other
31 reasons.

32 (2) The review conducted by the medical center shall
33 include, without limitation, the following:

34 (a) An assessment of the extent to which the health
35 care transitional programs or services offered or covered by the
36 Division of Medicaid prepare, transfer, and integrate emerging
37 adults with rare diseases into the adult care setting;

38 (b) An assessment of the extent to which providers of
39 emergency medical services to Medicaid recipients are adequately
40 trained and otherwise prepared to treat and manage patients with
41 rare diseases presenting with vaso-occlusive crises, including,
42 without limitation, the extent to which such providers have
43 followed clinically validated algorithms and protocols regarding
44 such treatment and management;



45 (c) The number of people with a rare disease who
46 experienced a hospitalization or an emergency department visit
47 with a vaso-occlusive episode or pain crisis more than twice a
48 year, including the average length of stay for each such visit;

49 (d) An assessment of existing reimbursement frameworks
50 and methodologies employed or expected to be employed by Division
51 of Medicaid for drug products approved, or projected to be
52 approved during the next five (5) years, for the treatment of rare
53 diseases in the inpatient hospital setting, and whether such
54 frameworks and methodologies may result in barriers to access to
55 the products because of inadequate hospital reimbursement levels
56 or other reasons; and

57 (e) If any access barriers identified in paragraph (d)
58 result from or otherwise relate to the state's reimbursement
59 methodologies, an assessment of whether such methodologies may
60 feasibly be modified and improved to the extent authorized under
61 federal law, including, without limitation, through the adoption
62 of policies authorizing reimbursement to hospitals for the cost of
63 rare disease therapies administered in the inpatient setting at
64 actual acquisition cost less all discounts, rebates or incentives,
65 and voluntary outcomes-based payment arrangements with
66 manufacturers that rely on Medicaid supplemental rebate mechanisms
67 in connection with the utilization of such therapies.

68 (3) The report shall detail the results of the review and
69 shall include any recommendations for improvements in the delivery



70 of and access to health care services to the state's Medicaid
71 recipients with a diagnosis of a rare disease.

72 **SECTION 3.** The money appropriated by this act shall be paid
73 by the State Treasurer out of any money in the State General Fund
74 not otherwise appropriated, upon warrants issued by the State
75 Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal Officer shall issue his or
76 her warrants upon requisitions signed by the proper person,
77 officer or officers in the manner provided by law.

78 **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
79 and after July 1, 2024.

