

By: Senator(s) Williams

To: Technology

SENATE BILL NO. 2698

1 AN ACT TO CREATE THE CYBER SAFETY REVIEW BOARD; TO STIPULATE  
 2 THAT THE BOARD SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ENSURING A COLLABORATIVE  
 3 EFFORT TO ADDRESS CYBERSECURITY THREATS TO THE STATE OF  
 4 MISSISSIPPI; TO NAME THE VOTING MEMBERS OF THE BOARD; TO NAME THE  
 5 EX OFFICIO NONVOTING MEMBERS OF THE BOARD; TO ALLOW THE VOTING  
 6 MEMBERS OF THE BOARD TO ADD EX OFFICIO NONVOTING MEMBERS OF THE  
 7 BOARD AS NECESSARY; TO ALLOW THE BOARD TO ADOPT RULES WHICH GOVERN  
 8 THE TIME AND PLACE OF MEETINGS ACCORDING TO CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS;  
 9 TO REQUIRE THE BOARD TO PRODUCE A CYBERSECURITY REPORT AND PRESENT  
 10 IT TO THE GOVERNOR, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF  
 11 REPRESENTATIVES, AND CHAIRMEN OF TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEES OF THE  
 12 MISSISSIPPI SENATE AND THE MISSISSIPPI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES;  
 13 TO REQUIRE THE BOARD TO CREATE A LIST OF BEST CYBERSECURITY  
 14 PRACTICES FOR DISTRIBUTION; TO CREATE THE CYBER SAFETY REVIEW  
 15 BOARD FUND; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

17 **SECTION 1.** There is hereby created the "Cyber Safety Review  
 18 Board," which shall be responsible for ensuring a collaborative  
 19 effort is made to address the cybersecurity threat posed to the  
 20 State of Mississippi. Responsibilities of the board include  
 21 creating a system of reporting cybersecurity attacks within the  
 22 state, researching and implementing best practices to mitigate  
 23 cybersecurity risks, and connecting individuals and entities with  
 24 federal and industry partners.



25           **SECTION 2.** The Cyber Safety Review Board, hereafter referred  
26 to as the "board," shall consist of the following seven (7)  
27 members:

28                   (a) The Executive Director of the Mississippi Office of  
29 Homeland Security, or his or her designee, as chairman of the  
30 board;

31                   (b) The Executive Director of the Mississippi  
32 Department of Information Technology Services, or his or her  
33 designee, as vice chairman of the board;

34                   (c) The Commissioner of the Department of Public  
35 Safety, or his or her designee;

36                   (d) The Executive Director of the Mississippi Emergency  
37 Management Agency, or his or her designee;

38                   (e) The Adjutant General of the Mississippi National  
39 Guard, or his or her designee;

40                   (f) The State Superintendent of Education, as appointed  
41 by the Mississippi Board of Education, or his or her designee; and

42                   (g) The Attorney General of Mississippi, or his or her  
43 designee.

44           **SECTION 3.** (1) Ex officio nonvoting members of the board  
45 include:

46                   (a) The President of the Mississippi Municipal League,  
47 or his or her designee;

48                   (b) The Executive Director of the Mississippi  
49 Association of Supervisors staff, or his or her designee; and



50 (c) The Chairmen of the Technology Committees of the  
51 Mississippi Senate and the Mississippi House of Representatives,  
52 or their designees.

53 (2) The voting members of the Cyber Safety Review Board may  
54 vote to expand the board with additional ex officio nonvoting  
55 members deemed necessary to provide expertise or access to  
56 resources involving cybersecurity.

57 **SECTION 4.** Within forty-five (45) days of passage of this  
58 act, the Executive Director of the Mississippi Office of Homeland  
59 Security shall call a meeting of the board. The board shall adopt  
60 rules which govern the time of meetings, place of meetings, and  
61 the manner of conducting the business of the board. The board  
62 shall meet at least monthly and select one (1) of the ex officio  
63 nonvoting members of the board to serve as secretary, whose role  
64 it shall be to maintain minutes of each meeting of the board.  
65 After the conclusion of each meeting, the board shall send the  
66 minutes of the meeting to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and  
67 the Chairmen of the Technology Committees of the Mississippi  
68 Senate and the Mississippi House of Representatives.

69 A quorum shall be a majority of the voting members of the  
70 board.

71 After twelve (12) consecutive monthly meetings, the board may  
72 vote to meet less frequently; however, the board shall meet at  
73 least once quarterly.



74           **SECTION 5.** The board shall produce a statewide cybersecurity  
75 report, which shall be presented to the Governor, Lieutenant  
76 Governor, Speaker of the House, and the Chairmen of the Technology  
77 Committees of the Mississippi Senate and Mississippi House of  
78 Representatives by December 15 each year. The board shall also  
79 develop a list of best practices in cybersecurity to disburse to  
80 the boards of supervisors of each county throughout the state.

81           **SECTION 6.** (1) There is created in the State Treasury a  
82 special fund to be known as the "Cyber Safety Review Board Fund."  
83 Any funds which may be needed for administrative and travel  
84 expenses shall be deposited in this special fund by the Department  
85 of Public Safety from the department's regular support  
86 appropriation. The Cyber Safety Review Board Fund is a special  
87 trust fund and the interest earned thereon shall be credited to  
88 the fund.

89           (2) The Department of Public Safety shall adopt regulations  
90 for the administration of the fund. The commissioner shall  
91 administer the fund and expenditures may be made from the fund  
92 upon requisition by the commissioner. The department shall spend  
93 monies in the fund by an annual appropriation approved by the  
94 Legislature.

95           **SECTION 7.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
96 and after July 1, 2024.

