

By: Representative Paden

To: Appropriations C;  
Appropriations A

HOUSE BILL NO. 335

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF  
2 HEALTH FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FUNDS TO THE MAGNET COMMUNITY  
3 HEALTH DISPARITY PROGRAM TO BE USED TO ADDRESS THE  
4 DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT ON THE MINORITY AND DISADVANTAGED  
5 COMMUNITIES OF CORONAVIRUS INFECTIONS AND DEATHS FROM COVID-19,  
6 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2026.

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

8 **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much of it as may be  
9 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the Coronavirus  
10 State Fiscal Recovery Fund not otherwise appropriated, to the  
11 State Department of Health for the purpose of providing funds to  
12 the MAGnet Community Health Disparity Program, whose mission is to  
13 strengthen collaboration and coordination for improved health  
14 access, performance, outcomes and cost efficiencies and whose  
15 vision is to improve the health status for all Mississippians  
16 through integrated health, which shall be used for the purposes  
17 described in Section 2 of this act, for the fiscal year beginning  
18 July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.....\$ 11,000,000.00.

19 **SECTION 2.** (1) The money appropriated by Section 1 of this  
20 act shall be used by the MAGnet Community Health Disparity Program



21 to address the disproportionate impact on the minority and  
22 disadvantaged communities of coronavirus infections and deaths  
23 from COVID-19 by (a) developing and implementing plans to reduce  
24 and mitigate those occurrences and negative outcomes in the  
25 minority and disadvantaged communities during the continuation of  
26 the current COVID-19 public health emergency, and (b) taking  
27 actions to reduce the racial disparities in the distribution and  
28 availability of the COVID-19 vaccines and actions to reach out to  
29 the minority and disadvantaged communities to effectuate the  
30 delivery of the vaccines and continue remote patient monitoring to  
31 high risk patients.

32 (2) Federally Qualified Health Centers in the state are  
33 eligible to receive funding through the MAGnet Community Health  
34 Disparity Program from the funds appropriated by this act upon  
35 application submitted to the MAGnet Community Health Corporation  
36 for approval.

37 **SECTION 3.** (1) As used in this section and Section 4 of  
38 this act, the term "department" means the State Department of  
39 Health.

40 (2) The department shall not disburse any funds appropriated  
41 under this act to any recipient without first: (a) making an  
42 individualized determination that the reimbursement sought is, in  
43 the department's independent judgment, for necessary expenditures  
44 eligible under Section 602 of the federal Social Security Act as  
45 added by Section 9901 of the federal American Rescue Plan Act of



2021 (ARPA) and its implementing guidelines, guidance, rules, regulations and/or other criteria, as may be amended or supplemented from time to time, by the United States Department of the Treasury; and (b) determining that the recipient has not received and will not receive reimbursement for the expense in question from any source of funds, including insurance proceeds, other than those funds provided under Section 602 of the federal Social Security Act as added by Section 9901 of ARPA. In addition, the department shall ensure that all funds appropriated under this act are disbursed in compliance with the Single Audit Act (31 USC Sections 7501-7507) and the related provisions of the Uniform Guidance, 2 CFR Section 200.303 regarding internal controls, Sections 200.330 through 200.332 regarding sub-recipient monitoring and management, and subpart F regarding audit requirements.

**SECTION 4.** (1) As a condition of receiving and expending the funds appropriated to the department under this act, the department shall certify to the Department of Finance and Administration that each expenditure of the funds appropriated to the department under this act complies with the guidelines, guidance, rules, regulations and/or other criteria, as may be amended from time to time, of the United States Department of the Treasury regarding the use of monies from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund established by ARPA.



(2) If the Office of Inspector General of the United States Department of the Treasury, or the Office of Inspector General of any other federal agency having oversight over the use of monies from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund established by ARPA (a) determines that the department or recipient has expended or otherwise used any of the funds appropriated to the department under this act for any purpose that is not in compliance with the guidelines, guidance, rules, regulations and/or other criteria, as may be amended from time to time, of the United States Department of the Treasury regarding the use of monies from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund established by ARPA, and (b) the State of Mississippi is required to repay the federal government for any of those funds that the Office of the Inspector General determined were expended or otherwise used improperly by the department or recipient, then the department or recipient that expended or otherwise used those funds improperly shall be required to pay the amount of those funds to the State of Mississippi for repayment to the federal government.

**SECTION 5.** The money appropriated by this act shall be paid by the State Treasurer out of any money in the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund not otherwise appropriated, upon warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal Officer shall issue his or her warrants upon requisitions signed by the proper person, officer or officers in the manner provided by law.



94           **SECTION 6.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
95 and after July 1, 2025.

