

By: Representatives Hobgood-Wilkes, Currie

To: Public Health and Human
Services

HOUSE BILL NO. 1051

1 AN ACT TO CREATE NEW SECTION 73-15-71, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF
2 1972, TO TRANSFER THE ADMINISTRATION OF CERTIFICATION OF CERTIFIED
3 NURSE AIDES (CNAS) FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO THE
4 MISSISSIPPI BOARD OF NURSING; TO PRESCRIBE THE MINIMUM DUTIES OF
5 THE BOARD FOR THE CERTIFICATION PROCESS; TO DIRECT THE STATE
6 TREASURER TO TRANSFER TO THE BOARD THE BALANCE OF ANY FUNDS OF THE
7 DEPARTMENT THAT WERE USED FOR ADMINISTERING THE CERTIFICATION OF
8 CNAS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

10 **SECTION 1.** The following shall be codified as Section
11 73-15-71, Mississippi Code of 1972:

12 73-15-71. (1) From and after July 1, 2026, the
13 certification of certified nurse aides (CNAs) shall be
14 administered by the Mississippi Board of Nursing instead of the
15 State Department of Health. The duties of the board for the
16 certification process shall include, but not be limited to, the
17 following:

18 (a) Prescribe the requirements for certification and
19 recertification of nurse aides;

20 (b) Approve training courses for persons to be eligible
21 to take the certification examination;



(c) Administer the certification examination or contract with an administrator to develop, schedule, administer, score and report the results of the certification examination;

(d) Issue certifications and renewals of certifications for nurse aides; and

(e) Maintaining the Mississippi certified nurse aide registry.

(2) The Mississippi Board of Nursing is authorized to promulgate and enforce such rules, regulations and standards as needed to carry out the provisions of this section.

SECTION 2. Any position or positions at the State Department of Health whose duties are substantially involved with the administration of certification of CNAs shall be transferred to the Mississippi Board of Nursing.

SECTION 3. On July 1, 2026, the State Treasurer, in conjunction with the State Fiscal Officer, shall transfer the balance of any funds in the State Treasury to the credit of the State Department of Health on June 30, 2026, that were used by the department for administering of the certification of certified nurse aides, into a special fund to the credit of the Mississippi Board of Nursing, which shall be used by the board, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for administering of the certification of certified nurse aides.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2026.

