

By: Senator(s) Hopson

To: Public Health and
Welfare

SENATE BILL NO. 2703

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 41-19-35, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO AUTHORIZE MENTAL HEALTH REGIONAL COMMISSIONS TO BE ESTABLISHED
3 WITH A SET COMPOSITION OF MEMBERS IF EACH BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF
4 THE COUNTIES PARTICIPATING IN A PARTICULAR REGIONAL COMMISSION
5 AGREE TO SUCH COMPOSITION AS EVIDENCED BY RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY
6 EACH BOARD; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8 **SECTION 1.** Section 41-19-35, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
9 amended as follows:

10 41-19-35. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection
11 (2) of this section, the board of supervisors of each
12 participating county in the program shall appoint one (1) member
13 to represent its county on the regional commission in its
14 respective region for a term of four (4) years who shall serve at
15 the will and pleasure of the appointing board of supervisors, who
16 may be a clerk, sheriff or deputy.

17 (2) A regional commission may have a different composition
18 than provided in subsection (1) of this section if each board of
19 supervisors of the counties participating in such regional



20 commission agree to such composition as evidenced by resolutions
21 adopted by each board of supervisors.

22 Each member shall represent his or her county on the regional
23 commission in its respective region for a term of four (4) years
24 and shall serve at the will and pleasure of their appointing board
25 of supervisors.

26 (3) In addition, the chancery clerks of the counties in each
27 region shall select a chancery clerk or a deputy clerk to serve as
28 a nonvoting liaison to the commission, and the sheriffs of the
29 counties in each region shall select a sheriff or a deputy sheriff
30 to serve as a nonvoting liaison to the commission. Any
31 compensation of such members shall be paid by the regional
32 commission, in its discretion, from any funds available. Each
33 member of the commission shall attend the orientation training for
34 new commissioners and the annual training for all commissioners
35 held by the Department of Mental Health. The Department of Mental
36 Health shall notify the board of supervisors when a commissioner
37 does not attend either the orientation training or annual
38 training. Upon notice from the Department of Mental Health that a
39 commissioner has failed to attend the required meetings, the
40 appointing board of supervisors shall remove the commissioner,
41 unless the department and the commission agree to an alternate
42 arrangement to allow the commissioner to continue to serve until
43 the next opportunity to attend the orientation meeting and/or the
44 annual training.



45 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
46 and after July 1, 2025.

