

By: Representative Moody

To: Public Health and  
Welfare; Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 971

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE JUVENILE  
2 REHABILITATION CENTER IN BROOKHAVEN, MISSISSIPPI; TO PROVIDE FOR  
3 THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE CENTER BY THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF  
4 MENTAL HEALTH; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** (1) The Juvenile Rehabilitation Center located  
7 in Brookhaven, Mississippi, is recognized as now existing and  
8 shall be for the care and treatment of persons with mental  
9 retardation. The facility shall have the power to receive and  
10 hold property, real, personal and mixed, as a body corporate. The  
11 facility shall be under the direction and control of the State  
12 Board of Mental Health.

13 (2) Admissions shall be according to Sections 41-21-61  
14 through 41-21-107 and regulations promulgated by the Board of  
15 Mental Health. The director may transfer any patient from one (1)  
16 facility operated directly by the Department of Mental Health to  
17 another as necessary for the welfare of that or any other patient.

18 (3) The Juvenile Rehabilitation Center is authorized to  
19 establish and operate a school to meet the educational needs of  
20 its clients.

21 (4) With funds provided by the Legislature, by direct  
22 appropriation or authorized bond issue, with federal matching  
23 funds, or with any other available funds, the Bureau of Building,  
24 Grounds and Real Property Management may construct and equip the  
25 necessary residential and service buildings and other facilities  
26 to care for the residents of the Juvenile Rehabilitation Center.  
27 The general design of the facility and all construction plans



28 shall be approved and recommended by the State Department of  
29 Mental Health.

30 (5) The Juvenile Rehabilitation Center shall be administered  
31 by the State Board of Mental Health. Provisions relating to the  
32 admission and care of residents at the facility shall be  
33 promulgated by the Board.

34 (6) Persons admitted to the Juvenile Rehabilitation Center  
35 shall be assessed support and maintenance costs in accordance with  
36 the provisions of the state reimbursement laws as they apply to  
37 other state institutions.

38 (7) Any person who (a) knowingly and unlawfully or  
39 improperly causes a person to be adjudged mentally retarded, (b)  
40 procures the escape of a legally committed resident or knowingly  
41 conceals an escaped legally committed resident of the facility, or  
42 (c) unlawfully brings any firearm, deadly weapon or explosive into  
43 the facility or its grounds, or passes any thereof to a resident,  
44 employee or officer of the school, is guilty of a misdemeanor and,  
45 upon conviction, shall be punished by a fine of not less than  
46 Fifty Dollars (\$50.00), or more than Two Hundred Dollars  
47 (\$200.00), imprisonment for not less than six (6) months, or both.

48 (8) The Juvenile Rehabilitation Center is designated as a  
49 state agency for carrying out the purposes of any act of the  
50 Congress of the United States, now existing or at any time  
51 hereafter enacted, pertaining to mental retardation.

52 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
53 and after July 1, 2002.

