

By: Representative Moody

To: Public Health and
Welfare; Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1362

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SPECIALIZED
2 TREATMENT FACILITY FOR THE EMOTIONALLY DISTURBED IN HARRISON
3 COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI; TO PROVIDE FOR ITS ADMINISTRATION BY THE
4 MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** (1) The Specialized Treatment Facility for the
7 Emotionally Disturbed, located in Harrison County, Mississippi, is
8 recognized as now existing and shall be for the care and treatment
9 of persons with mental illness. The facility shall have the power
10 to receive and hold property, real, personal, and mixed, as a body
11 corporate. The facility shall be under the direction and control
12 of the State 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) With funds provided by the Legislature, by direct
19 appropriation or authorized bond issue, with federal matching
20 funds, or with any other available funds, the Bureau of Building,
21 Grounds and Real Property Management may construct and equip the
22 necessary residential and service buildings and other facilities
23 to care for the residents of the Specialized Treatment Facility
24 for the Emotionally Disturbed. The general design of the facility
25 and all construction plans shall be approved and recommended by
26 the State Department of Mental Health.

27 (4) The Specialized Treatment Facility for the Emotionally
28 Disturbed shall be administered by the State Board of Mental



29 Health. Provisions relating to the admission and care of
30 residents at the facility shall be promulgated by the Board.

31 (5) The Specialized Treatment Facility for the Emotionally
32 Disturbed is authorized to establish and operate a school to meet
33 the educational needs of its patients.

34 (6) Persons admitted to the Specialized Treatment Facility
35 for the Emotionally Disturbed shall be assessed support and
36 maintenance costs in accordance with the provisions of the state
37 reimbursement laws as they apply to other state institutions.

38 (7) Any person who (a) knowingly and unlawfully or
39 improperly causes a person to be adjudged mentally ill, (b)
40 procures the escape of a legally committed patient or knowingly
41 conceals an escaped legally committed patient 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 Specialized Treatment Facility for the Emotionally
49 Disturbed is designated as a state agency for carrying out the
50 purposes of any act of the Congress of the United States, now
51 existing or at any time hereafter enacted, pertaining to mental
52 illness.

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

