

By: Senator(s) Huggins, Gollott, Hewes,
Dawkins

To: Public Health and
Welfare; Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2664

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 pursuant 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
16 facility operated directly by the Department of Mental Health to
17 another as necessary for the welfare of that or 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



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

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

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

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

(8) The Specialized Treatment Facility for the Emotionally Disturbed is designated as a state agency for carrying out the purposes of any act of the Congress of the United States, now existing or at any time hereafter enacted, pertaining to mental illness.

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

