

By: Senator(s) Burton

To: Public Health and  
Welfare

SENATE BILL NO. 2883  
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 41-75-1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 PROVIDE THAT ABORTION FACILITIES MAY APPLY FOR LICENSURE BY THE  
3 STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AS A LEVEL I OR LEVEL II FACILITY; AND  
4 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 41-75-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
7 amended as follows:

8 41-75-1. For the purpose of this chapter:

9 (a) "Ambulatory surgical facility" means a publicly or  
10 privately owned institution that is primarily organized,  
11 constructed, renovated or otherwise established for the purpose of  
12 providing elective surgical treatment of "outpatients" whose  
13 recovery, under normal and routine circumstances, will not require  
14 "inpatient" care. The facility defined in this paragraph does not  
15 include the offices of private physicians or dentists, whether  
16 practicing individually or in groups, but does include  
17 organizations or facilities primarily engaged in that outpatient  
18 surgery, whether using the name "ambulatory surgical facility" or  
19 a similar or different name. That organization or facility, if in  
20 any manner considered to be operated or owned by a hospital or a  
21 hospital holding, leasing or management company, either for profit  
22 or not for profit, is required to comply with all licensing agency  
23 ambulatory surgical licensure standards governing a "hospital  
24 affiliated" facility as adopted under Section 41-9-1 et seq.,  
25 provided that the organization or facility does not intend to seek  
26 federal certification as an ambulatory surgical facility as  
27 provided for at 42 CFR, Parts 405 and 416. If the organization or  
28 facility is to be operated or owned by a hospital or a hospital

29 holding, leasing or management company and intends to seek federal  
30 certification as an ambulatory facility, then the facility is  
31 considered to be "freestanding" and must comply with all licensing  
32 agency ambulatory surgical licensure standards governing a  
33 "freestanding" facility.

34 If the organization or facility is to be owned or operated by  
35 an entity or person other than a hospital or hospital holding,  
36 leasing or management company, then the organization or facility  
37 must comply with all licensing agency ambulatory surgical facility  
38 standards governing a "freestanding" facility.

39 (b) "Hospital affiliated" ambulatory surgical facility  
40 means a separate and distinct organized unit of a hospital or a  
41 building owned, leased, rented or utilized by a hospital and  
42 located in the same county in which the hospital is located, for  
43 the primary purpose of performing ambulatory surgery procedures.  
44 The facility is not required to be separately licensed under this  
45 chapter and may operate under the hospital's license in compliance  
46 with all applicable requirements of Section 41-9-1 et seq.

47 (c) "Freestanding" ambulatory surgical facility means a  
48 separate and distinct facility or a separate and distinct  
49 organized unit of a hospital owned, leased, rented or utilized by  
50 a hospital or other persons for the primary purpose of performing  
51 ambulatory surgery procedures. The facility must be separately  
52 licensed as defined in this section and must comply with all  
53 licensing standards promulgated by the licensing agency under this  
54 chapter regarding a "freestanding" ambulatory surgical facility.  
55 Further, the facility must be a separate, identifiable entity and  
56 must be physically, administratively and financially independent  
57 and distinct from other operations of any other health facility,  
58 and shall maintain a separate organized medical and administrative  
59 staff. Furthermore, once licensed as a "freestanding" ambulatory  
60 surgical facility, the facility shall not become a component of

61 any other health facility without securing a certificate of need  
62 to do that.

63 (d) "Ambulatory surgery" means surgical procedures that  
64 are more complex than office procedures performed under local  
65 anesthesia, but less complex than major procedures requiring  
66 prolonged postoperative monitoring and hospital care to ensure  
67 safe recovery and desirable results. General anesthesia is used  
68 in most cases. The patient must arrive at the facility and expect  
69 to be discharged on the same day. Ambulatory surgery shall only  
70 be performed by physicians or dentists licensed to practice in the  
71 State of Mississippi.

72 (e) "Abortion" means the use or prescription of any  
73 instrument, medicine, drug or any other substances or device to  
74 terminate the pregnancy of a woman known to be pregnant with an  
75 intention other than to increase the probability of a live birth,  
76 to preserve the life or health of the child after live birth or to  
77 remove a dead fetus. Abortion procedures after the first  
78 trimester shall only be performed at a Level I abortion facility  
79 or an ambulatory surgical facility or hospital licensed to perform  
80 that service.

81 (f) "Abortion facility" means a facility operating  
82 substantially for the purpose of performing abortions and is a  
83 separate identifiable legal entity from any other health care  
84 facility. Abortions shall only be performed by physicians  
85 licensed to practice in the State of Mississippi. The term  
86 "abortion facility" includes physicians' offices that are used  
87 substantially for the purpose of performing abortions. An  
88 abortion facility operates substantially for the purpose of  
89 performing abortions if any of the following conditions are met:

90 (i) The abortion facility is a provider for  
91 performing ten (10) or more abortion procedures per calendar month  
92 during any month of a calendar year, or one hundred (100) or more  
93 in a calendar year.

94                   (ii) The abortion facility, if operating less than  
95 twenty (20) days per calendar month, is a provider for performing  
96 ten (10) or more abortion procedures, or performing a number of  
97 abortion procedures that would be equivalent to ten (10)  
98 procedures per month, if the facility were operating twenty (20)  
99 or more days per calendar month, in any month of a calendar year.

100                   (iii) The abortion facility holds itself out to  
101 the public as an abortion provider by advertising by any public  
102 means, such as newspaper, telephone directory, magazine or  
103 electronic media, that it performs abortions.

104                   (iv) The facility applies to the licensing agency  
105 for licensure as an abortion facility.

106                   (g) "Licensing agency" means the State Department of  
107 Health.

108                   (h) "Operating" an abortion facility means that the  
109 facility is open for any period of time during a day and has on  
110 site at the facility or on call a physician licensed to practice  
111 in the State of Mississippi available to provide abortions.

112                   An abortion facility may apply to be licensed as a Level I  
113 facility or a Level II facility by the licensing agency. Level II  
114 abortion facilities shall be required to meet minimum standards  
115 for abortion facilities as established by the licensing agency.  
116 Level I abortion facilities shall be required to meet minimum  
117 standards for abortion facilities and minimum standards for  
118 ambulatory surgical facilities as established by the licensing  
119 agency.

120                   Any abortion facility that begins operation after June 30,  
121 1996, shall not be located within fifteen hundred (1500) feet from  
122 the property on which any church, school or kindergarten is  
123 located. An abortion facility shall not be in violation of this  
124 paragraph if it is in compliance with this paragraph on the date  
125 it begins operation and the property on which a church, school or

126 kindergarten is located is later within fifteen hundred (1500)  
127 feet from the facility.

128 This section shall stand repealed on June 30, 2006.

129 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
130 and after July 1, 2005.