

By: Representative Franks

To: Public Health and Human Services

HOUSE BILL NO. 1004

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-33-155, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO REVISE THE COMPOSITION OF THE STATE BOARD OF REHABILITATION  
3 SERVICES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-33-155, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
6 amended as follows:

7 37-33-155. (1) There is created the State Board of  
8 Rehabilitation Services, which shall be reconstituted as follows  
9 on July 1, 2007: The board shall consist of seven (7) members,  
10 five (5) members to be appointed by the Governor and two (2)  
11 members to be appointed by the Lieutenant Governor \* \* \*.

12 Of the \* \* \* members appointed by the Governor, one (1) shall  
13 be a person who is visually impaired, one (1) shall be a person  
14 who is hearing impaired or hard of hearing, one (1) shall be a  
15 person who is physically impaired, one (1) shall be a person who  
16 is mentally impaired or the parent of a person who is mentally  
17 impaired, and one (1) shall be a person who uses assistive  
18 technology. Of the members appointed by the Governor, four (4)  
19 shall be from separate congressional districts and one (1) shall  
20 be from the state at large, with one (1) appointed for a term to  
21 expire on July 1, 2008, one (1) appointed for a term to expire on  
22 July 1, 2009, one (1) appointed for a term to expire on July 1,  
23 2010, one (1) appointed for a term to expire on July 1, 2011, and  
24 one (1) appointed for a term to expire on July 1, 2012. The  
25 members appointed by the Lieutenant Governor shall be from the  
26 state at large, with one (1) appointed for a term to expire on  
27 July 1, 2008, and one (1) appointed for a term to expire on July

28 1, 2009. Upon the expiration of the initial terms, the members  
29 shall be appointed for terms of five (5) years from the expiration  
30 date of the previous term. All original and later appointments  
31 shall be with the advice and consent of the Senate. An  
32 appointment to fill a vacancy, other than by expiration of a term  
33 of office, shall be made for the balance of the unexpired term.  
34 No board appointee shall be an employee or elected official of the  
35 State of Mississippi or a political subdivision thereof, \* \* \* or  
36 an employee of the Division of Rehabilitation Services of the  
37 Department of Human Services or any subordinate administrative  
38 unit of the division before July 1, 1991, or an employee of the  
39 State Department of Rehabilitation Services after June 30, 1991.

40 (2) The board shall elect a chairperson from its membership  
41 at the first meeting of the original board members and every two  
42 (2) years thereafter on July 15 of the year. A majority of the  
43 membership of the board shall constitute a quorum for the  
44 transaction of any business, and the board shall meet at least  
45 quarterly and hold other meetings as are necessary for the purpose  
46 of conducting required business. All meetings of the board shall  
47 be called by the chairperson, except the first meeting of the  
48 original board members, which shall be called by the Governor  
49 within sixty (60) days after the effective date of this act.

50 (3) The \* \* \* members of the board shall be compensated at a  
51 per diem rate as authorized by Section 25-3-69, plus actual and  
52 necessary expenses as authorized by Section 25-3-41. \* \* \*

53 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
54 and after July 1, 2007.