

By: Representatives Holland, Fleming

To: Public Health and Human Services

HOUSE BILL NO. 1523
(As Passed the House)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 41-61-75, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROVIDE THAT IN DEATH CASES WHERE THE CAUSE OF DEATH WAS SUDDEN
3 INFANT DEATH SYNDROME (SIDS) AND THE MEDICAL EXAMINER PROVIDES A
4 SIDS DEATH SCENE INVESTIGATION REPORT, THE COUNTY MEDICAL
5 EXAMINERS SHALL RECEIVE AN ADDITIONAL FEE OF \$50.00, OR AN
6 ADDITIONAL FEE OF \$100.00 IF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER HAS RECEIVED
7 ADVANCED TRAINING IN CHILD DEATH INVESTIGATIONS; TO REQUIRE THE
8 STATE MEDICAL EXAMINER TO DEVELOP A UNIFORM FORMAT FOR SIDS/CHILD
9 DEATH SCENE INVESTIGATION REPORTS TO BE USED BY THE COUNTY MEDICAL
10 EXAMINERS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

12 **SECTION 1.** Section 41-61-75, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
13 amended as follows:

14 41-61-75. (1) For each investigation with the preparation
15 and submission of the required reports, the following fees shall
16 be billed to and paid by the county for which the service is
17 provided:

18 (a) A medical examiner or his deputy shall receive
19 Eighty-five Dollars (\$85.00) for each completed report of
20 investigation of death, plus the examiner's actual expenses. In
21 addition to that fee, in cases where the cause of death was sudden
22 infant death syndrome (SIDS) and the medical examiner provides a
23 SIDS Death Scene Investigation report, the medical examiner shall
24 receive for completing that report an additional Fifty Dollars
25 (\$50.00), or an additional One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) if the
26 medical examiner has received advanced training in child death
27 investigations and presents to the county a certificate of
28 completion of that advanced training. The State Medical Examiner
29 shall develop and prescribe a uniform format and list of matters
30 to be contained in SIDS/Child Death Scene Investigation reports,

31 which shall be used by all county medical examiners and county
32 medical examiner investigators in the state.

33 (b) The pathologist performing autopsies as provided in
34 Section 41-61-65 shall receive Five Hundred Fifty Dollars
35 (\$550.00) per completed autopsy, plus mileage expenses to and from
36 the site of the autopsy.

37 (2) Any medical examiner, physician or pathologist who is
38 subpoenaed for appearance and testimony before a grand jury,
39 courtroom trial or deposition shall be entitled to an expert
40 witness hourly fee to be set by the court and mileage expenses to
41 and from the site of the testimony, and such amount shall be paid
42 by the jurisdiction or party issuing the subpoena.

43 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
44 and after October 1, 2007, and this act shall stand repealed on
45 June 30, 2011.