

By: Senator(s) Dawkins

To: Public Health and Welfare

SENATE BILL NO. 2759

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 41-28-1, 41-28-3 AND 41-28-5,  
2 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PRESCRIBE THE POWERS AND  
3 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH RELATING TO THE  
4 SCREENING OF SCHOOL CHILDREN FOR DIABETES RISK AND THE MANAGEMENT  
5 AND CARE OF STUDENTS WITH DIABETES; TO PROVIDE THAT SUCH  
6 REGULATIONS SHALL BE ADOPTED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE STATE BOARD  
7 OF EDUCATION; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

9 SECTION 1. Section 41-28-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
10 amended as follows:

11 41-28-1. The words and terms as used in this chapter shall  
12 have the following meanings:

13 (a) "State Health Officer" shall mean the State Health  
14 Officer of the State Board of Health, or his designated  
15 representative.

16 (b) "Board" shall mean the State Board of Health.

17 (c) "Department" shall mean the Mississippi State  
18 Department of Health.

19 (d) "Diabetes" shall include, but not be limited to,  
20 Type I, Type II, Gestational and all secondary forms of diabetes  
21 regardless of mode of treatment if such treatment is prescribed by  
22 a health care professional legally authorized to prescribe such  
23 treatment and regardless of the age of onset or duration of the  
24 disease.

25 SECTION 2. Section 41-28-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
26 amended as follows:

27 41-28-3. (1) The State Board of Health is authorized to  
28 establish a program of public education and awareness of the  
29 symptoms and care and treatment of persons suffering from diabetes

30 to be implemented by the State Department of Health. The program  
31 shall be designed to disseminate information to the public, to the  
32 medical and paramedical communities, and others, relating to the  
33 symptoms, care and treatment of diabetes. The program shall  
34 include information regarding the mandatory coverage of diabetes  
35 treatment in all individual and group health insurance policies or  
36 plans, as required under Section 83-9-46, Mississippi Code of  
37 1972.

38 (2) The State Board of Health and the State Board of  
39 Education shall jointly establish and issue regulations which  
40 establish a program of noninvasive screening of  
41 compulsory-school-age children for diabetes risk. Said  
42 regulations shall include guidelines to be adopted by local school  
43 districts for the care or self-care and medical management of  
44 students with diabetes and for the training of appropriate school  
45 personnel for this purpose.

46 **SECTION 3.** Section 41-28-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
47 amended as follows:

48 41-28-5. The board, acting through the State Department of  
49 Health, is authorized to:

50 (a) Assist in the development and expansion of  
51 educational programs for persons suffering from diabetes,  
52 including self-administration, prevention and home care and other  
53 medical and dental procedures and techniques designed to provide  
54 maximum control over any episodes typical of this condition;

55 (b) Enter into agreements with nonprofit organizations  
56 for the dissemination of such public information, through all  
57 forms of news media, local chapters or organizations, and other  
58 persons qualified to perform such functions;

59 (c) Employ all necessary administrative personnel as  
60 may be provided in its budget to carry out the provisions of this  
61 chapter;

62           (d) Develop regulations in conjunction with the State  
63 Board of Health providing for the noninvasive screening of  
64 compulsory-school-age children for diabetes risk, and adopting  
65 guidelines to be adopted by local school districts for the care or  
66 self-care and medical management of students with diabetes and  
67 providing for the training of appropriate school district  
68 personnel for this purpose; and

69           (e) Promulgate all rules and regulations necessary to  
70 effectuate the purposes of this chapter.

71           **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
72 and after July 1, 2007.