

## House Amendments to Senate Bill No. 3024

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE:

THIS IS TO INFORM YOU THAT THE HOUSE HAS ADOPTED THE AMENDMENTS SET OUT BELOW:

### AMENDMENT NO. 1

Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

16        SECTION 1. (1) The University of Mississippi Medical  
17 Center, in collaboration with the Office of the Attorney General,  
18 is authorized and empowered to establish a Center of Excellence  
19 (center), which shall incorporate the Mississippi Children's  
20 Justice Center. The center shall provide services for abused and  
21 neglected children through the Blair E. Batson Hospital for  
22 Children located in Jackson, Mississippi, where suspected victims  
23 of child maltreatment will receive comprehensive physical  
24 examinations conducted by medical professionals who specialize in  
25 child maltreatment, as well as house the Mississippi Children's  
26 Advocacy Center, which will be responsible for the forensic  
27 interviews of the suspected victims of child maltreatment. The  
28 center also shall accommodate the members of the Hinds County  
29 Multidisciplinary Team to provide a centralized service delivery  
30 location for abused and neglected children and serve as a model  
31 for the state. The University of Mississippi Medical Center and  
32 the Office of the Attorney General shall promulgate such rules,  
33 regulations and policies as may be necessary and desirable to  
34 carry out the programs of the center, to ensure that abused and  
35 neglected children are provided not only with the medical, mental  
36 health and child welfare services needed, but also to help ensure  
37 the successful prosecution of the child maltreatment case both in  
38 youth court and criminal court. An advisory council shall be  
39 established, which shall include the heads of the agencies and  
40 organizations that form the multidisciplinary team. The advisory  
41 council, under the guidance of center personnel, shall coordinate

42 the functioning of the team and formulate practice guidelines for  
43 all multidisciplinary teams to model state specific, best practice  
44 standards. The center multidisciplinary team shall serve as a  
45 resource for all teams across the state. The center, in  
46 collaboration with the Office of the Attorney General, shall serve  
47 as a central advocacy program for child protection, and shall  
48 facilitate statewide services for the assessment, investigation  
49 and prosecution of child abuse and neglect, in conjunction with  
50 the Department of Human Services, the court system, child advocacy  
51 centers, law enforcement, prosecutors, medical and mental health  
52 providers, domestic violence and child abuse prevention and  
53 intervention programs and other community and advocacy programs.  
54 The center may partner with academic institutions including, but  
55 not limited to, schools of social work, psychology, nursing,  
56 medicine, dentistry and law to provide graduate internships.

57 (2) The Department of Pediatrics may use the center for  
58 educational and outreach programs, tele-medicine consultations, to  
59 develop satellite clinics in other locations in the state in  
60 cooperation with the local community or private hospital when  
61 applicable, and to conduct major research initiatives in child  
62 maltreatment.

63 (3) The Center of Excellence shall provide services to  
64 maltreated children and comply with national certification  
65 standards as necessary to provide services to the Department of  
66 Human Services, the courts, the advocacy centers, prosecutors and  
67 law enforcement officers.

68 (4) There is created in the State Treasury a special fund to  
69 be known as the Mississippi Children's Justice Center Fund. The  
70 State Treasurer shall transfer into the special fund all funds  
71 returned to the State Treasury by the MCI WorldCom Settlement  
72 specifically donated for the establishment of the Mississippi  
73 Children's Justice Center, an academically based, co-located,  
74 multidisciplinary facility that will serve as a model for the  
75 state for a coordinated response to child abuse and neglect. The  
76 University of Mississippi Medical Center shall expend funds

77 pursuant to appropriation therefor by the Legislature for the  
78 support and maintenance of the center. The University of  
79 Mississippi Medical Center is authorized to accept any and all  
80 grants, donations or matching funds from private public or federal  
81 sources in order to add to, improve and enlarge the physical  
82 facilities of the center and to expend any such funds for the  
83 support and maintenance of the center.

84 (5) The youth court may refer the child to the Center of  
85 Excellence at the Batson Children's Hospital Child Abuse Referral  
86 and Examination (CARE) Clinic for examination and treatment and in  
87 order to receive specialized services.

88 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
89 and after its passage.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and  
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL  
2 CENTER, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL,  
3 TO CREATE A CENTER OF EXCELLENCE TO PROVIDE SERVICES FOR ABUSED  
4 AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN THROUGH THE BLAIR E. BATSON HOSPITAL FOR  
5 CHILDREN IN JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI; TO PROVIDE THAT THE CENTER SHALL  
6 INCORPORATE AND HOUSE THE MISSISSIPPI CHILDREN'S JUSTICE CENTER;  
7 TO AUTHORIZE THE CENTER TO CONDUCT MAJOR RESEARCH INITIATIVES IN  
8 CHILD MALTREATMENT AND CONDUCT EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND  
9 TELE-MEDICINE CONSULTATIONS; TO CREATE A MISSISSIPPI CHILDREN'S  
10 JUSTICE CENTER FUND FOR THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS RETURNED TO THE  
11 STATE SPECIFICALLY DONATED FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE  
12 MISSISSIPPI CHILDREN'S JUSTICE CENTER, TO BE EXPENDED UPON  
13 APPROPRIATION BY THE LEGISLATURE FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE CENTER;  
14 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

HR03\SB3024A.J

Don Richardson  
Clerk of the House of Representatives