

By: Senator(s) Williams, Boyd, Branning

To: Judiciary, Division A

SENATE BILL NO. 2781  
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
2 SERVICES (ITS) TO DEVELOP, IMPLEMENT, AND MANAGE A WEBSITE AND A  
3 MOBILE APPLICATION TO COORDINATE AND PROMOTE INFORMATION AND  
4 SERVICES RELATED TO PREGNANCY, CHILDBIRTH AND CARE FOR DEPENDENT  
5 CHILDREN FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS AND NEW PARENTS; TO PROVIDE THAT  
6 THE WEBSITE AND MOBILE APPLICATION SHALL INCLUDE INFORMATION  
7 CONCERNING CERTAIN RESOURCES RELATED TO ADOPTION ASSISTANCE,  
8 CHILDCARE, DOMESTIC ABUSE PROTECTION, EARLY INTERVENTION, FOOD,  
9 CLOTHING AND SUPPLIES RELATED TO PREGNANCY AND NEWBORN CARE, JOB  
10 TRAINING AND PLACEMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS, PATERNITY,  
11 PARENTING SKILLS, MENTAL HEALTH AND PRENATAL AND POSTPARTUM CARE;  
12 TO PROVIDE THAT THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SHALL HAVE AUTHORITY FOR  
13 OVERSIGHT OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THIS ACT AND SHALL COORDINATE  
14 THE ACTIVITIES OF THE AGENCIES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION  
15 TECHNOLOGY SERVICES UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT IN ORDER TO  
16 BEST EFFECTUATE THE PURPOSE AND INTENT OF THIS ACT; TO REQUIRE THE  
17 MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF  
18 MENTAL HEALTH, THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, THE  
19 MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES, THE  
20 MISSISSIPPI OFFICE OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, THE MISSISSIPPI  
21 DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY AND THE MISSISSIPPI DIVISION OF  
22 MEDICAID TO SUBMIT INFORMATION ABOUT THE SERVICES AND RESOURCES  
23 THAT WILL BE INCLUDED ON THE WEBSITE AND MOBILE APPLICATION TO THE  
24 ATTORNEY GENERAL; TO REQUIRE THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE AGENCIES  
25 AND EACH COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO DISPLAY A PROMINENT LINK TO  
26 THE WEBSITE AND MOBILE APPLICATION ON THEIR OWN WEBSITES; TO  
27 REQUIRE THE AGENCIES TO COOPERATE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF  
28 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES IN THE CREATION OF THE WEBSITE AND  
29 MOBILE APPLICATION; TO PROVIDE THAT THE WEBSITE SHALL BE  
30 OPERATIONAL NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 1, 2023; TO PROVIDE THAT THE  
31 MOBILE APPLICATION SHALL BE OPERATIONAL NO LATER THAN JANUARY 1,  
32 2024; TO REQUIRE A REPORT TO BE FILED WITH THE LEGISLATURE NO  
33 LATER THAN OCTOBER 1, 2024, CONCERNING THE OPERATION AND STATUS OF  
34 THE WEBSITE AND MOBILE APPLICATION; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.



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

36 **SECTION 1.** (1) For the purpose of this section, the term  
37 "agencies" means the Mississippi State Department of Health, the  
38 Mississippi Department of Human Services, the Mississippi  
39 Department of Mental Health, the Mississippi Department of Child  
40 Protection Services, the Mississippi Office of Workforce  
41 Development, the Mississippi Department of Employment Security and  
42 the Mississippi Division of Medicaid, and the term "agency" means  
43 any one (1) of those entities.

44 (2) The Department of Information Technology Services (ITS)  
45 shall develop, implement and manage a separate website and a  
46 mobile application (app) that coordinate and promote information  
47 and services related to pregnancy, childbirth and care for  
48 dependent children for expectant mothers and new parents. The  
49 website and mobile app shall include, but shall not be limited to,  
50 comprehensive information and resources related to adoption  
51 assistance, child care, domestic abuse protection, early  
52 intervention, food, clothing and supplies related to pregnancy and  
53 newborn care, job training and placement, unemployment benefits,  
54 paternity, parenting skills, mental health, and prenatal and  
55 postpartum care provided by the State of Mississippi or any other  
56 governmental entity, or relevant nonprofit organizations,  
57 including religious institutions.

58 (3) The Attorney General shall have the ultimate authority  
59 for oversight of the administration of this act and shall



60 coordinate the activities of the agencies and the Department of  
61 Information Technology Services under the provisions of this act  
62 in order to best effectuate the purpose and intent of this act.

63 (4) (a) The information about the services and resources  
64 that will be included on the website and mobile app shall be  
65 provided to the Attorney General by the agencies about the  
66 particular programs and services of the agency that are related to  
67 the purpose of the website and mobile app.

68 (b) The Attorney General, the agencies and each county  
69 health department shall provide a prominent link on their own  
70 websites to the website and mobile app authorized by this act.

71 (5) The agencies shall cooperate with ITS, as overseen by  
72 the Attorney General, in developing, implementing and managing the  
73 website and mobile app. The website shall be operational not  
74 later than October 1, 2023, and the mobile app shall be  
75 operational not later than January 1, 2024.

76 (6) ITS and the agencies, in consultation with the Attorney  
77 General, shall apply for any federal grants that may be available  
78 to assist in paying the costs of developing, implementing and  
79 managing the website and mobile app.

80 (7) The Attorney General shall promulgate such rules as  
81 necessary to implement this act.

82 (8) Not later than October 1, 2024, the Attorney General  
83 shall report to the Chairs of the Senate Judiciary, Division A,  
84 and the House Judiciary A Committees, and the Senate Public Health



85 and Welfare Committee and the House Public Health and Human  
86 Services Committee on the operation and status of the website and  
87 mobile app.

88           **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
89 and after July 1, 2023.

