

By: Representative Paden

To: Public Health and Human Services; Appropriations A

HOUSE BILL NO. 455

1 AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF
2 HEALTH FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FUNDS TO THE MAGNET COMMUNITY
3 HEALTH DISPARITY PROGRAM TO BE USED TO ADDRESS THE
4 DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT ON THE MINORITY AND DISADVANTAGED
5 COMMUNITIES OF CORONAVIRUS INFECTIONS AND DEATHS FROM COVID-19,
6 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2025.

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

8 **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much of it as may be
9 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the Coronavirus
10 State Fiscal Recovery Fund not otherwise appropriated, to the
11 State Department of Health for the purpose of providing funds to
12 the MAGnet Community Health Disparity Program, whose mission is to
13 strengthen collaboration and coordination for improved health
14 access, performance, outcomes and cost efficiencies and whose
15 vision is to improve the health status for all Mississippians
16 through integrated health, which shall be used for the purposes
17 described in Section 2 of this act, for the fiscal year beginning
18 July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.....\$ 11,000,000.00.

19 **SECTION 2.** (1) The money appropriated by Section 1 of this
20 act shall be used by the MAGnet Community Health Disparity Program



21 to address the disproportionate impact on the minority and
22 disadvantaged communities of coronavirus infections and deaths
23 from COVID-19 by (a) developing and implementing plans to reduce
24 and mitigate those occurrences and negative outcomes in the
25 minority and disadvantaged communities during the continuation of
26 the current COVID-19 public health emergency, and (b) taking
27 actions to reduce the racial disparities in the distribution and
28 availability of the COVID-19 vaccines and actions to reach out to
29 the minority and disadvantaged communities to effectuate the
30 delivery of the vaccines and continue remote patient monitoring to
31 high risk patients.

32 (2) Federally Qualified Health Centers in the state are
33 eligible to receive funding through the MAGnet Community Health
34 Disparity Program from the funds appropriated by this act upon
35 application submitted to the MAGnet Community Health Corporation
36 for approval.

37 **SECTION 3.** (1) As used in this section and Section 4 of
38 this act, the term "department" means the State Department of
39 Health.

40 (2) The department shall not disburse any funds appropriated
41 under this act to any recipient without first: (a) making an
42 individualized determination that the reimbursement sought is, in
43 the department's independent judgment, for necessary expenditures
44 eligible under Section 602 of the federal Social Security Act as
45 added by Section 9901 of the federal American Rescue Plan Act of



46 2021 (ARPA) and its implementing guidelines, guidance, rules,
47 regulations and/or other criteria, as may be amended or
48 supplemented from time to time, by the United States Department of
49 the Treasury; and (b) determining that the recipient has not
50 received and will not receive reimbursement for the expense in
51 question from any source of funds, including insurance proceeds,
52 other than those funds provided under Section 602 of the federal
53 Social Security Act as added by Section 9901 of ARPA. In
54 addition, the department shall ensure that all funds appropriated
55 under this act are disbursed in compliance with the Single Audit
56 Act (31 USC Sections 7501-7507) and the related provisions of the
57 Uniform Guidance, 2 CFR Section 200.303 regarding internal
58 controls, Sections 200.330 through 200.332 regarding sub-recipient
59 monitoring and management, and subpart F regarding audit
60 requirements.

61 **SECTION 4.** (1) As a condition of receiving and expending
62 the funds appropriated to the department under this act, the
63 department shall certify to the Department of Finance and
64 Administration that each expenditure of the funds appropriated to
65 the department under this act complies with the guidelines,
66 guidance, rules, regulations and/or other criteria, as may be
67 amended from time to time, of the United States Department of the
68 Treasury regarding the use of monies from the Coronavirus State
69 Fiscal Recovery Fund established by ARPA.



70 (2) If the Office of Inspector General of the United States
71 Department of the Treasury, or the Office of Inspector General of
72 any other federal agency having oversight over the use of monies
73 from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund established by
74 ARPA (a) determines that the department or recipient has expended
75 or otherwise used any of the funds appropriated to the department
76 under this act for any purpose that is not in compliance with the
77 guidelines, guidance, rules, regulations and/or other criteria, as
78 may be amended from time to time, of the United States Department
79 of the Treasury regarding the use of monies from the Coronavirus
80 State Fiscal Recovery Fund established by ARPA, and (b) the State
81 of Mississippi is required to repay the federal government for any
82 of those funds that the Office of the Inspector General determined
83 were expended or otherwise used improperly by the department or
84 recipient, then the department or recipient that expended or
85 otherwise used those funds improperly shall be required to pay the
86 amount of those funds to the State of Mississippi for repayment to
87 the federal government.

88 **SECTION 5.** The money appropriated by this act shall be paid
89 by the State Treasurer out of any money in the Coronavirus State
90 Fiscal Recovery Fund not otherwise appropriated, upon warrants
91 issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal Officer
92 shall issue his or her warrants upon requisitions signed by the
93 proper person, officer or officers in the manner provided by law.



94 **SECTION 6.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
95 and after July 1, 2024.

