

By: Representative Mims

To: Public Health and Human Services

HOUSE BILL NO. 933

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 41-123-1, 41-123-3, 41-123-5 AND
2 41-123-7 AND 41-123-9, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO TRANSFER THE
3 OFFICE OF MISSISSIPPI PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF
4 MISSISSIPPI TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH; TO BRING FORWARD
5 SECTIONS 41-123-11 AND 41-123-13, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, FOR
6 THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8 **SECTION 1.** Section 41-123-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
9 amended as follows:

10 41-123-1. There is established the Office of Mississippi
11 Physician Workforce within the * * * State Department of Health
12 for the purpose of overseeing the physician workforce development
13 and needs, both in numbers and distribution, of the State of
14 Mississippi. The office shall have a director, who must be a
15 physician licensed in the State of Mississippi and who shall be
16 appointed by the State Health Officer. In addition, the office
17 shall have a researcher to assist the director in collecting and
18 analyzing data concerning the physician workforce needs of
19 Mississippi and other necessary staff to assist in its work. The
20 office shall have the following duties, at a minimum:



21 (a) Assessing the current numbers, ages, types of
22 practice, hospital affiliations, and geographic distribution of
23 physicians in each medical specialty in Mississippi;

24 (b) Assessing the current and future physician
25 workforce needs of the State of Mississippi;

26 (c) Assisting in the creation and/or support of
27 Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)
28 accredited GME training programs in the State of Mississippi based
29 on needs analysis and criteria established by the office and the
30 advisory board while maintaining a strong and continued priority
31 focus on family medicine. This support may include the awarding
32 of state financial assistance as available, for the creation or
33 support of family medicine residencies and other GME programs
34 approved by the advisory board;

35 (d) Encouraging the development of an adequate and
36 geographically distributed physician workforce in all specialties
37 for the State of Mississippi with an evolving strategic plan; and

38 (e) Providing an annual report to the Governor, the
39 Legislature, * * * and the Board of Trustees of State Institutions
40 of Higher Learning on the current status of the physician
41 workforce and training programs in Mississippi.

42 **SECTION 2.** Section 41-123-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
43 amended as follows:

44 41-123-3. (1) The Office of Mississippi Physician Workforce
45 shall be administered by * * * the State Department of Health. An



46 advisory board shall be created to assist * * * the department in
47 achieving the purpose of this chapter to be known as the
48 "Mississippi Physician Workforce Advisory Board." The advisory
49 board shall be composed of the following members:

50 (a) * * * Two (2) physicians appointed by and from the
51 membership of the Mississippi State Medical Association for a term
52 of three (3) years. Any member appointed under this paragraph may
53 be reappointed for two (2) additional terms.

54 (* * * b) Two (2) physicians appointed by and from the
55 membership of the Mississippi Academy of Family Physicians for a
56 term of three (3) years. Any member appointed under this
57 paragraph may be reappointed for two (2) additional terms.

58 (* * * c) One (1) physician appointed by and from the
59 membership of each of the following organizations, whose terms
60 shall be for three (3) years and who may be reappointed for two
61 (2) additional terms:

62 (i) Mississippi Osteopathic Medical Association;

63 (ii) Mississippi Chapter, American College of
64 Physicians;

65 (iii) Mississippi Chapter, American Academy of
66 Pediatrics;

67 (iv) Mississippi Chapter, American College of
68 OB-GYN; and

69 (v) Mississippi Medical and Surgical Association.



70 (* * *d) Two (2) physician designees of the Dean of
71 the University of Mississippi School of Medicine, who will serve
72 at the will and pleasure of the dean. One (1) of the members
73 appointed under this paragraph must be responsible for Graduate
74 Medical Education at the University of Mississippi School of
75 Medicine.

76 (* * *e) The Chair of the Department of Family
77 Medicine at the University of Mississippi School of Medicine.

78 (* * *f) A member of the State Board of Medical
79 Licensure, who will serve at the will and pleasure of that board.

80 (* * *g) One (1) physician designee of the Dean of the
81 William Carey School of Medicine, who will serve at the will and
82 pleasure of the dean.

83 (* * *h) One (1) representative of the Mississippi
84 Economic Council appointed by the president of the council, and
85 who will serve at the will and pleasure of the president.

86 (* * *i) One (1) representative of the Mississippi
87 Development Authority appointed by the executive director of the
88 authority, who will serve at the will and pleasure of the
89 executive director.

90 (* * *j) One (1) representative of the Mississippi
91 Hospital Association, who will serve at the will and pleasure of
92 the association.



93 (* * *k) Two (2) representatives of the Mississippi
94 Primary Health Care Association, who will serve at the will and
95 pleasure of the association.

96 (2) Vacancies on the advisory board must be filled in a
97 manner consistent with the original appointments.

98 (3) * * * The advisory board * * * shall establish rules for
99 transacting its business. A majority of the members of the
100 advisory board shall constitute a quorum at all advisory board
101 meetings. An affirmative vote of a majority of the members
102 present and voting shall be required in the making of
103 recommendations by the advisory board. * * * The advisory board
104 shall elect a chair and vice chair from * * * among its
105 members * * *. The chair shall serve for a term of two (2) years,
106 upon the expiration of which the vice chair shall assume the
107 office of chair.

108 (4) * * * The advisory board shall hold no less than two (2)
109 meetings annually.

110 (5) The advisory board may form an executive committee for
111 the purpose of transacting business that must be conducted before
112 the next regularly scheduled meeting of the advisory board. All
113 actions taken by the executive committee must be ratified by the
114 advisory board at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

115 (6) Members of the advisory board shall serve without
116 compensation, but may be reimbursed, subject to the availability
117 of funding, for mileage and actual and necessary expenses incurred



118 in attending meetings of the advisory board, as provided in
119 Section 25-3-41.

120 (7) The advisory board shall be housed at the * * * State
121 Department of Health.

122 **SECTION 3.** Section 41-123-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
123 amended as follows:

124 41-123-5. The Office of Mississippi Physician Workforce
125 shall have the following powers and duties, at a minimum:

126 (a) Developing the administrative policy for the
127 advisory board and the office * * *;

128 (b) Developing and implementing strategies and
129 activities for the office and for the implementation of an
130 evolving strategic plan to provide for the physician workforce
131 needs of Mississippi. In developing these strategies, the Office
132 of Mississippi Physician Workforce and the advisory board shall
133 seek the input of various organizations and entities including the
134 Mississippi State Medical Association, the Mississippi Academy of
135 Family Physicians, the Mississippi Chapters of the American
136 College of Physicians, American Academy of Pediatrics, and
137 American College of OB-GYN, the Mississippi Medical and Surgical
138 Association, and the Mississippi Osteopathic Medicine Association;

139 (c) Establishing a budget to support the activities of
140 the office and periodically reviewing and if appropriate,
141 revising, that budget to meet its mission; and



142 (d) * * * Reviewing the activities of the office and
143 guiding the office in accomplishing the strategic goal of
144 providing Mississippi's physician workforce needs.

145 **SECTION 4.** Section 41-123-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
146 amended as follows:

147 41-123-7. (1) The advisory board shall recommend policies
148 and procedures for the awarding of state funding that creates
149 and/or provides sustaining support for the desired number of ACGME
150 accredited Family Medicine residency programs and other valued and
151 needed ACGME residencies approved by the advisory board that will
152 accept both M.D. and D.O. students.

153 (2) * * * Office of Mississippi Physician Workforce, with
154 the input of the advisory board, shall have the authority to award
155 financial support, from funds specifically appropriated for that
156 purpose by the Legislature, of up to Three Million Dollars
157 (\$3,000,000.00) to any hospital or entity with demonstrated
158 commitment and resources, as determined by * * * office, with
159 input from the advisory board, to establish and operate an ACGME
160 accredited Family Medicine residency program or other GME program
161 qualifying under subsection (1) of this section. The funds will
162 be dispersed at the determination of * * * office, with input from
163 the advisory board, and may include start-up funding and/or
164 provide sustaining support for residency programs.

165 (3) Each applicant for state financial support for creation
166 of an ACGME residency program as authorized under this section



167 must submit an application to * * * the office * * * that conforms
168 to requirements established by this chapter and by * * * the
169 office, with input from the advisory board.

170 (4) In selecting recipients for state financial support
171 authorized under this section, following criteria and
172 recommendations from the advisory board, * * * the office may use
173 its discretion to award funding based on demographic needs and the
174 future success of the residency program.

175 (5) An applicant for state financial support for creation of
176 an ACGME accredited residency program may receive funding only
177 upon approval of * * * office, with input from the advisory board.

178 **SECTION 5.** Section 41-123-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
179 amended as follows:

180 41-123-9. (1) Hospitals, other entities and/or residency
181 programs must adhere to the policies and practices as stipulated
182 by the Office of Mississippi Physician Workforce to continue
183 receiving state financial support under this chapter.

184 (2) Hospitals, other entities and/or residency programs may
185 receive state financial support that may be provided by the
186 office * * * pursuant to this chapter. Any financial support
187 awarded by the office * * * must be used for only the creation of
188 a residency or for residency operational expenses, or the
189 recipient will be liable for repayment of any financial support
190 received under this chapter.



191 **SECTION 6.** Section 41-123-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
192 brought forward as follows:

193 41-123-11. Any residency program established with state
194 financial support must at a minimum be capable of accepting
195 students from both allopathic and osteopathic medical schools that
196 are accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education
197 (LCME) or the Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation
198 (COCA) of the American Osteopathic Association (AOA).

199 **SECTION 7.** Section 41-123-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
200 brought forward as follows:

201 41-123-13. Funding for the operation of the Office of
202 Mississippi Physician Workforce and the Mississippi Physician
203 Workforce Advisory Board, including the salary of the director of
204 the office and all necessary staff, shall be paid from funds
205 specifically appropriated for that purpose by the Legislature.

206 **SECTION 8.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
207 and after July 1, 2024.

