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Chapter No. 472
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HOUSE BILL NO. 317

Originated in House _____ Clerk

HOUSE BILL NO. 317

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE OFFICE OF MISSISSIPPI PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE WITHIN THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER (UMMC) FOR THE PURPOSE OF OVERSEEING THE PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF STATE FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO HOSPITALS OR OTHER ENTITIES FOR THE CREATION OF FAMILY MEDICINE RESIDENCIES IN MISSISSIPPI; TO CREATE THE MISSISSIPPI PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE ADVISORY BOARD TO ADMINISTER THE OFFICE AND ITS ACTIVITIES; TO PROVIDE FOR THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE ADVISORY BOARD AND PRESCRIBE THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE ADVISORY BOARD; TO PRESCRIBE THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR RECEIVING STATE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE CREATION OF ACCREDITED FAMILY MEDICINE RESIDENCY PROGRAMS IN THE STATE TO PROVIDE FAMILY PHYSICIANS THROUGHOUT THE STATE; TO AUTHORIZE THE ADVISORY BOARD TO PROVIDE STATE FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO HOSPITALS OR OTHER ENTITIES IN THE CREATION OF ACCREDITED FAMILY MEDICINE RESIDENCY PROGRAMS; TO PROVIDE THAT THE OFFICE OF PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE SHALL ASSESS AND MONITOR THE PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE NEEDS OF THE STATE IN ALL MEDICAL SPECIALTIES AND SEEK WAYS FOR THE STATE TO ADDRESS BOTH CURRENT AND FUTURE WORKFORCE NEEDS; TO PROVIDE THAT THE OFFICE OF PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE SHALL PROVIDE AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATURE ON THE CURRENT STATUS OF PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE AND TRAINING PROGRAMS IN MISSISSIPPI; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

SECTION 1. There is established the Office of Mississippi Physician Workforce within the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) for the purpose of overseeing the physician workforce development and needs, both in numbers and distribution, of the State of Mississippi. The office shall have a director who must be a physician licensed in the State of Mississippi. In addition, the office shall have a researcher to assist the director in collecting and analyzing data concerning the physician workforce needs of Mississippi and other necessary staff to assist in its work. The office shall have the following duties, at a minimum:

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

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

(c) Supporting the creation of Family Medicine residency programs in the State of Mississippi, including the awarding of state financial support for the creation of those programs;

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

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

SECTION 2. (1) The Office of Mississippi Physician Workforce shall be administered by UMMC. An advisory board shall be created to assist UMMC in achieving the purpose of this act to be known as the "Mississippi Physician Workforce Advisory Board." The advisory board shall be composed of the following members:

(a) The Chairman of the State Board of Health.

(b) The State Health Officer.

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

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

(e) One (1) physician appointed by and from the membership of each of the following organizations, whose terms

shall be for three (3) years and who may be reappointed for two (2) additional terms:

(i) Mississippi Osteopathic Medical Association;

(ii) Mississippi Chapter, American College of Physicians;

(iii) Mississippi Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics;

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

(v) Mississippi Medical and Surgical Association.

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

(g) The Chair of the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Mississippi School of Medicine.

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

(i) One (1) physician designee of the Dean of the William Carey School of Medicine, who will serve at the will and pleasure of the dean.

(j) One (1) representative of the Mississippi Economic Council appointed by the president of the council, and who will serve at the will and pleasure of the president.

(k) One (1) representative of the Mississippi Development Authority appointed by the executive director of the authority, who will serve at the will and pleasure of the executive director.

(l) One (1) representative of the Mississippi Hospital Association, who will serve at the will and pleasure of the association.

(m) Two (2) representatives of the Mississippi Primary Health Care Association, who will serve at the will and pleasure of the association.

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

(3) All appointments to the advisory board must be made no later than July 10, 2012. After a majority of the members are appointed, the advisory board shall meet on a date mutually agreed upon by a majority of the members for the purposes of organizing the advisory board and establishing rules for transacting its business. A majority of the members of the advisory board shall constitute a quorum at all advisory board meetings. An affirmative vote of a majority of the members present and voting shall be required in the making recommendations by the advisory board. At the organizational meeting, the advisory board shall elect a chair and vice chair from the members appointed according to paragraphs (a) through (l) of subsection (1). The chair shall serve for a term of two (2) years, upon the expiration of which the vice chair shall assume the office of chair.

(4) After the organizational meeting, the advisory board shall hold no less than two (2) meetings annually.

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

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

(7) The advisory board shall be housed at the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

SECTION 3. The Office of Mississippi Physician Workforce shall have the following powers and duties, at a minimum:

(a) Developing the administrative policy for the advisory board and the Office of Mississippi Physician Workforce;

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

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

(d) Selecting, hiring and supervising the Director of the Office of Mississippi Physician Workforce;

(e) Reviewing the activities of the office and guiding the office in accomplishing the strategic goal of providing Mississippi's physician workforce needs.

SECTION 4. (1) The advisory board shall recommend policies and procedures for the awarding of state funding that creates the desired number of accredited Family Medicine residency programs that will accept both M.D. and D.O. students needed in the State of Mississippi.

(2) The UMMC with the input of the advisory board shall have the authority to award financial support, from funds specifically appropriated for that purpose by the Legislature, of up to Three Million Dollars ($3,000,000.00) distributed over three (3) years to any hospital or entity with demonstrated commitment and

resources, as determined by UMMC with input from the advisory board, to establish and operate an accredited Family Medicine residency program qualifying under subsection (1) of this section. The funds will be dispersed at the determination of the UMMC, with input from the advisory board, and may include start-up funding for residency programs.

(3) Each applicant for state financial support for creation of a Family Medicine residency program as authorized under this section must submit an application to the UMMC that conforms to requirements established by this act, and UMMC with input from the advisory board.

(4) In selecting recipients for state financial support authorized under this section, the UMMC may use its discretion to award funding based on geographic needs and the future success of a Family Medicine residency program.

(5) An applicant for state financial support for creation of a Family Medicine residency program may receive funding only upon approval of UMMC with input from the advisory board.

SECTION 5. (1) Hospitals, other entities and/or residency programs must adhere to the policies and practices as stipulated by the Office of Mississippi Physician Workforce to continue receiving state financial support under this act.

(2) Hospitals, other entities and/or residency programs may receive state financial support that may be provided by the Office of Mississippi Physician Workforce pursuant to this act. Any financial support awarded by the Office of Mississippi Physician Workforce must be used for only the creation of a residency or for residency operational expenses, or the recipient will be liable for repayment of any financial support received under this act.

SECTION 6. Any Family Medicine residency program established with state financial support must be capable of accepting students from both medical and osteopathic schools that are accredited by

the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) or the American Osteopathic Association (AOA).

SECTION 7. Funding for the operation of the Office of Mississippi Physician Workforce and the Mississippi Physician Workforce Advisory Board, including the salary of the director of the office and all necessary staff, shall be paid from funds specifically appropriated for that purpose by the Legislature.

SECTION 8. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
March 13, 2012

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PASSED BY THE SENATE
April 9, 2012

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR

3:25 pm