
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR
FROM: RILEY
SUBJECT: FY 2001 STATE HEALTH PLAN
DATE 11/7/00
CC: BOYD
FILE

Per your request, I obtained additional information regarding the process used to develop the State Health Plan each year. The Mississippi State Department of Health develops a State Health Plan each year under the authority of Section 41-7-173(s) and Section 41-7-185(g), Mississippi Code 1972 Annotated, as amended. The Plan is revised each year, although the statute only requires revision every three years. The State Health Plan has three purposes: 1) to identify priority health needs in Mississippi; 2) to recommend ways in which those needs can be met; and 3) to establish criteria and standards for health related activities which require Certificate of Need review.

The Department solicits public comments via public forums and written comments. Staff obtains up-to-date statistical and general information regarding each topic covered in the Plan. Following the Board of Health's approval of the proposed Plan, the staff files the proposed Plan with the Secretary of State, which initiates a 30-day public comment period in accordance with Mississippi's Administrative Procedures Act. The Department publishes proposed changes in the Clarion-Ledger, mails a copy of all proposed changes to an established list of interested parties, and publishes the proposed changes in a monthly Department of Health newsletter that is sent to more than 1,000 health care facilities, individuals, and organizations. Staff analyzes any comments received and incorporates them into proposed changes wherever possible. Staff then presents final recommendations to the Board of Health. The Board approves or disapproves each proposed change and issues a "final adoption" of the revised Plan. The Plan becomes effective following approval by the Governor.

The Plan has been approved by the Board of Health and has been filed with the Secretary of State, but it requires your approval before it becomes effective. I have attached my prior memo to you for your reference regarding changes in the FY 2001 Plan. **Your signature is requested on the attached letter.**