

Here is a summary of the information provided by Governor's Select Task Force on Domestic Preparedness (HB 1348, SB 2737):

SECTION 1, Line 213: Provides the Governor with the authority to declare a "State of Alert".

SECTION 2, Line 256: Defines terroristic threat and penalties.

SECTION 3: Defines various harmful substances.

SECTION 4: Makes the importation of contagious or infectious diseases changed to a felony charge with up to 20 years and fined up to \$100,000.

SECTION 5: Modify the terrorism hoax penalty with financial retribution penalties with and option for felony status.

SECTION 6:

- Establish a capital offense for all terrorist activities that result in a loss of life.

SECTION 7-16

- State Health Department included changes in Mississippi's public health statutes to better conform with the Model State Emergency Health Powers Act.
  1. Amending 41-1-23(1) to permit the Board of Health to adopt rules and regulations regarding the "conditions or threats" of contagious and infectious diseases and other reportable conditions.
  2. Require pharmacists to report unusual prescriptions or prescription rates, including antibiotics.
  3. Permit disclosure of medical or other information to third parties in the event of an emergency declaration by the Governor of determination of a public health emergency by the Board of Health.
  4. Amend 41-3-15(4)(k) to permit the Department of Health to inspect any place rather than "public place."
  5. Changes 41-23-2 to include that any person who violates a lawful order of the county, district, or state health officer where such is intended to prevent the spread of a disease shall be guilty of a felony.
  6. Health Department is also seeking the expansion of authority to decontaminate buildings in 41-23-5.

7. Expand authority for mandatory medical examinations to “diseases and other conditions.”
  8. Amend 41-23-5 to add subsection (b) providing the State Health Officer power and authority to protect the public health.
  9. Provide for the authority of the safe disposal of corpses.
  10. Authority for State Registrar to obtain presumptive death order from Hinds Chancery Court, and authority to issue such certificate.
- The Department of Public Safety is seeking the following changes:
    1. Establish a 1-year driver’s license for non-U.S. residents;
    2. Require all counties to collect a \$10 assessment on all MHP citations—provides funding for communications and personnel within MHP and DPS. (\$3 million)
  - The Department of Transportation seeks:
    1. Clearer authority over closing roadways, especially to potential targets.
    2. Criminal penalties for the possession or transportation of devices that would interrupt or destroy transportation structures.
    3. Immunity for actions taken as a result of terrorist act or threat.
    4. Emergency power to enter into contracts for the repair of terrorist-damaged infrastructure above budget authority.
    5. Permit Weight Division to be temporarily assigned to Highway Patrol when needed.
    6. Additional funding for law enforcement training (\$50,000).
  - The Mississippi Emergency Management Agency seeks:
    1. Support for 34 full-time county EMA managers.
    2. Modification of 33-15-15 and 33-15-307 to develop and allocate for 5 regional hazardous material and weapons of mass destruction teams.
    3. Lump sum appropriation authority.

**SUMMARY OF AGENCY FINANCIAL NEEDS**

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Needs</u>	<u>Total</u>
MEMA	Salaries and new positions	1,431,801 (GF)
	Disaster Trust Fund	3,000,000 (GF)
Health Dept.	Lab expansion	7,530,000 (Bonds)
	Additional Security and Police	6,857,320 (GF)
Military	Facility and system improvements	8,300,000 (Bonds)
	Salaries and new positions	2,000,000 (GF)
DEQ	Salaries, equipment, and contractors	1,068,000 (GF)
<b>TOTALS:</b>		
	Total Bonding Requested	15,830,000
	Total General Funds Requested	14,357,121
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>\$30,187,121</b>