



Academy in Action: MAKE CALLS TODAY

Call 601-359-3770

Encourage Senate to increase funding for the DOH

STAND UP FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY OF MISSISSIPPPIANS

The Mississippi Department of Health plays a vital role in the public health and safety of all Mississippians. HB 1511 is the appropriations bill for the Department of Health and currently awaits Senate action. The House's position on the bill was to **cut the department's budget by approximately 50%** after an \$8.17 million reduction in general funds and mandating \$9.6 million in payments to the trauma care system, emergency medical services, and domestic violence programs.

What does a cut like this mean for Mississippians?

- Vital services will be significantly delayed, like regulatory checks of: day cares, wastewater, drinking water, restaurants and nursing homes. This means Mississippians will be put at risk.
- Additionally, the Department of Health manages the spread of disease and other epidemics, and provides preventative health for Mississippians which, when treated, costs the state less.
- The Department of Health has already made cuts, closed county offices, and reduced employees to compensate for budget reductions; however, this 50% budget cut would be detrimental to the function of the Department of Health and the safety of Mississippians.

Please assist us in advocating for additional funding by contacting Senator Buck Clarke, Appropriations Chairman, Lieutenant Governor Tate Reeves, and your Senator and ask each of them to provide the funding needed for the Department of Health to function properly and keep Mississippians safe. Tell them the House did not provide any additional funding to pay the required services for the trauma care system, emergency medical services, and domestic violence programs. The Department of Health simply cannot function efficiently and safely without the Senate's help.

Call 601-359-3770 today to stand up for the public health and safety of Mississippians. Encourage the Senate to increase funding for the Department of Health. We have a waiting room flyer you can use to get your patients to call about this important issue. Check our website on the front page for download message.



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