

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor



EXECUTIVE ORDER 1388

WHEREAS, opioids are a class of drugs that includes prescription pain relievers such as oxycodone, hydrocodone, codeine, morphine, and fentanyl, as well as the illegal drug heroin; and

WHEREAS, continued use of opioids can lead to physical dependence, abuse, and even death; and

WHEREAS, the amount of opioids prescribed in our country and state is at an all-time high and has led to a nationwide epidemic of opioid abuse and opioid-related deaths; and

WHEREAS, Mississippi is one of the leading prescribers of opioids, and therefore, Mississippians are at a greater risk for substance abuse; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to better understand opioid use and addiction in Mississippi in order to properly address the issue plaguing our state and country.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Phil Bryant, Governor of the State of Mississippi, pursuant to the authority vested in me under the Constitution and laws of the State of Mississippi, do hereby create an Opioid and Heroin Study Task Force.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED the Governor shall appoint such number of members and a Chair as he deems necessary. Members of the Opioid and Heroin Study Task Force shall serve voluntarily.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED the Opioid and Heroin Study Task Force shall meet as often as necessary and from time to time make recommendations to the Governor of how to best fight opioid and heroin abuse and how to prevent it in the future.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, on the 6th day of December in the year of our Lord, two thousand and sixteen, and of the independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-first.

Handwritten signature of Phil Bryant in black ink.

**PHIL BRYANT
GOVERNOR**

BY THE GOVERNOR

Handwritten signature of C. Delbert Hosemann, Jr. in blue ink.

**C. DELBERT HOSEMANN, JR.
SECRETARY OF STATE**