



# The Empowerment Project

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNN FITCH

March 19, 2026

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## A Note from AG Lynn Fitch

Last week, I was proud to join President Trump's A Home for Every Child campaign, launched by the U.S Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families, by signing the first Attorney General proclamation supporting the initiative. The pathway to a stable, loving, forever home is a legal process, and as Attorney General, I am proud of the part our team of dedicated attorneys and paralegals plays in achieving the goals of A Home for Every Child. There are nearly 4,000 children in the foster care system in Mississippi, and in 2025, our office legally cleared 647 foster children for adoption.

Streamlining and improving foster care and adoption systems is a key pillar of our The Empowerment Project agenda to empower women and promote strong Mississippi families. I am grateful for President Trump's leadership to ensure that children in foster care and the foster families who care for them are supported. With stronger coordination and a focus on outcomes for children, we can make real, lasting improvements to Mississippi's foster care system and give every child the stability and support they deserve.

May God Bless You,

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## SHARE ON SOCIAL



Mississippi is leading in the fight to end human trafficking, thanks to our incredible partners in the legislature and across the State who are committed to disrupting the industry. This week, a bill to increase penalties for buyers was signed into law. Without demand, there is no trafficking. My office remains committed to preventing human trafficking, helping victims recover without shame or blame, and prosecuting criminals who seek to exploit others.

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## WHAT WE'RE READING

### **WLBT - Mississippi legislature passes casino child support intercept bill, sends it to the governor**

Hitting a big jackpot at a Mississippi casino could soon come with a catch, if you owe back child support.

The Mississippi House voted 92-22 to pass Senate Bill 2369, sending the legislation to Gov. Tate Reeves' desk. The bill requires casinos to intercept gambling winnings from non-custodial parents who are behind on child support payments.

### **Supertalk - State partners with Hinds CC to train students for high-demand healthcare jobs**

A partnership between Mississippi's workforce development arm and Hinds Community College will serve to educate and train more students for occupations in high-demand healthcare fields.

AccelerateMS announced Thursday that it is supporting an expansion of health sciences training capacity at Hinds that will allow the school to welcome an additional 480 students over the next three years, including 232 seats in traditional degree programs and 248 in short-term workforce training programs. The goal of the expansion is to create additional pathways for Mississippians to enter critical healthcare careers.

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## ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNN FITCH IN THE NEWS

### WXXV - State fentanyl strike force makes major bust

**Attorney General Lynn Fitch** says a statewide law enforcement operation targeting drugs and illegal activity has led to dozens of arrests.

‘Operation Check Mate’ was led by the state’s fentanyl strike force. It resulted in 20 felony arrests, ten misdemeanor arrests, and one DUI, mainly centered around the Meridian area.

### Darkhorse Press - Biloxi man sentenced to 10 years in federal prison for child sexual abuse material charge

**Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch** announced the sentencing of a Biloxi man on a child sexual abuse material charge following a joint investigation by state and federal authorities.

“Predators who seek to exploit children in Mississippi will not go unpunished, and my office is committed to holding these individuals accountable,” **Fitch said** in a statement. “I am grateful to our partners at the FBI and the U.S. Attorney’s Office for their work to secure this sentence. Together, we are making Mississippi a safer place for everyone.”

### WLBT - Canton High School reality fair highlights push for financial literacy requirement in Mississippi

Students at Canton High School are navigating a simulation that asks them to pay rent, buy groceries, and keep the lights on — all on a mock salary tied to their grades. The exercise is part of a reality fair, an event designed to expose students to personal finance before they enter the workforce.

Senate Bill 24-83 has passed the Senate and is currently being considered in the House. The bill would require financial literacy instruction beginning in the sixth grade and make a stand-alone personal finance course a graduation requirement.

The bill was authored by Sen. Daniel Sparks and is backed by **Attorney General Lynn Fitch**. In a statement, **Fitch** said in part: “It makes them smarter consumers, homebuyers, business owners, and employers, and, in turn, creates a stronger, more resilient future for our State.”

### WJTV - Two sentenced for stealing nearly \$20K from elderly victim in Mississippi

A man and a woman were sentenced for stealing nearly \$20,000 in funds from an elderly victim in Mississippi.

**Attorney General Lynn Fitch** announced Byron Gage Tatum, 26, and Chesney Lynn Stanley, 23, were both sentenced for one count of grand larceny.

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