

By: Representative Blackmon

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 969

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 27-103-101, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO EXPAND THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE BUDGET COMMITTEE
3 FROM 10 TO 22 MEMBERS; TO SPECIFY THAT CERTAIN OF THOSE MEMBERS
4 SHALL BE THE VICE CHAIRMEN OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE APPROPRIATIONS
5 COMMITTEES, THE VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS
6 COMMITTEE, THE VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE; TO
7 INCREASE FROM ONE TO FIVE THE NUMBER OF SENATORS NOT OTHERWISE
8 DESIGNATED THAT THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR MAY APPOINT; TO INCREASE
9 FROM TWO TO SIX THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF
10 REPRESENTATIVES NOT OTHERWISE DESIGNATED THAT THE SPEAKER MAY
11 APPOINT; TO INCREASE THE QUORUM REQUIREMENT FROM SIX TO TWELVE
12 MEMBERS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

14 SECTION 1. Section 27-103-101, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
15 amended as follows:

16 27-103-101. (1) There is hereby created the Joint
17 Legislative Budget Committee and the Legislative Budget Office
18 which shall be governed by such committee. The joint committee
19 shall be composed of the following members: Chairman and Vice
20 Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, the President Pro
21 Tempore of the Mississippi State Senate, the Lieutenant Governor
22 of the State of Mississippi, the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the
23 Senate Appropriations Committee * * * and five (5) members of the
24 Senate to be named by the Lieutenant Governor; and the Chairman
25 and Vice Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the House of
26 Representatives, the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the
27 Appropriations Committee of the House of Representatives, the
28 Speaker of the House of Representatives and six (6) members of the
29 House of Representatives to be named by the Speaker of the House.

30 In the event any ex officio member of the joint committee holds
31 two (2) positions entitling him to membership on said committee,

32 the Lieutenant Governor or the Speaker of the House, as the case
33 may be, shall appoint another member of the respective house to
34 membership on the committee. The chairmanship shall alternate for
35 twelve-month periods between the Speaker of the House of
36 Representatives and the Lieutenant Governor, with the Speaker of
37 the House of Representatives serving as the first chairman. * * *

38 If a committee member is unable to attend, another legislator may
39 be designated to attend by the Lieutenant Governor or the Speaker
40 of the House, as the case may be. If the Lieutenant Governor or
41 Speaker of the House is unable to attend a meeting, he may
42 designate a legislator to substitute for him at that meeting. If
43 the President Pro Tempore of the State Senate is unable to attend
44 a meeting, the Lieutenant Governor shall designate a member of the
45 Senate to substitute for him at that meeting. Any proxy shall
46 have a vote at the meeting he was selected to attend and also
47 shall, when attending, receive compensation and expenses in the
48 same manner and amount as regular members of the joint committee.

49 There shall be no business transacted, including adoption of
50 rules of procedure, without the presence of a quorum of the joint
51 committee. A quorum shall be twelve (12) members, to consist of
52 six (6) members from the Senate and six (6) members from the House
53 of Representatives. No action shall be valid unless approved by
54 the majority of those members present and voting, entered upon the
55 minutes of the joint committee and signed by the chairman and vice
56 chairman. All actions of the joint committee shall be approved by
57 at least six (6) Senate members and six (6) House members.

58 As used in Sections 27-103-101 through 27-103-139, the term
59 "committee" shall mean the Joint Legislative Budget Committee.

60 (2) The members of the committee shall receive, in addition
61 to other compensation due them, per diem as is authorized by law
62 for their services in carrying out the duties of the committee
63 and, in addition thereto, shall receive a daily expense allowance
64 equal to the maximum daily expense rate allowable to employees of
65 the federal government for travel in the high rate geographical
66 area of Jackson, Mississippi, as may be established by federal
67 regulations, including mileage as authorized by Section 25-3-41,
68 the same to be paid from the operating budget of the Legislative

69 Budget Office. Provided, however, in no case shall the members of
70 the committee draw per diem while the Legislature is in regular or
71 special session.

72 (3) The committee shall meet at least once each month; and
73 the chairman or director may call additional meetings at such
74 times as they deem necessary or advisable.

75 (4) The Legislative Budget Office shall, upon the request of
76 a member or member-elect of the Senate or House of
77 Representatives, make available one (1) copy of data, reports,
78 fiscal information or related information submitted to the budget
79 office by any general or special fund agency, whether submitted in
80 support of its budget request or pursuant to any requirement of
81 law or rule of the budget committee or office.

82 (5) All expenses incurred by and on behalf of the committee
83 shall be paid from funds appropriated therefor, or from a sum to
84 be provided in equal portion from the contingency funds of the
85 Senate and House of Representatives or from transfers of funds as
86 provided in Section 7-13-7.

87 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
88 and after July 1, 1999.