

By: Representative Blackmon

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 969
(As Sent to Governor)

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 14 MEMBERS; TO INCREASE FROM ONE TO THREE THE NUMBER OF
4 SENATORS NOT OTHERWISE DESIGNATED THAT THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR MAY
5 APPOINT; TO INCREASE FROM TWO TO FOUR THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE
6 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES NOT OTHERWISE DESIGNATED THAT THE SPEAKER
7 MAY APPOINT; TO INCREASE THE QUORUM REQUIREMENT FROM SIX TO EIGHT
8 MEMBERS; TO PROVIDE THAT THE COMMITTEE IS NOT REQUIRED TO MEET AT
9 LEAST ONCE EACH MONTH; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

13 27-103-101. (1) There is * * * created the Joint
14 Legislative Budget Committee and the Legislative Budget Office
15 which shall be governed by such committee. The joint committee
16 shall be composed of the following members: The Chairman of the
17 Senate Finance Committee, the President Pro Tempore of the
18 Mississippi State Senate, the Lieutenant Governor of the State of
19 Mississippi, the Chairman of the Senate Appropriations
20 Committee * * * and three (3) members of the Senate to be named by
21 the Lieutenant Governor; the Chairman of the Ways and Means
22 Committee of the House of Representatives, the Chairman of the
23 Appropriations Committee of the House of Representatives, the
24 Speaker of the House of Representatives and four (4) members of
25 the House of Representatives to be named by the Speaker of the
26 House. In the event any ex officio member of the joint committee
27 holds two (2) positions entitling him to membership on the
28 committee, the Lieutenant Governor or the Speaker of the House, as
29 the case may be, shall appoint another member of the respective

30 house to membership on the committee. The chairmanship shall
31 alternate for twelve-month periods between the Speaker of the
32 House of Representatives and the Lieutenant Governor, with the
33 Speaker of the House of Representatives serving as the first
34 chairman. In the absence of the Chairman of the Senate Finance
35 Committee, Senate Appropriations Committee, House Appropriations
36 Committee and Ways and Means Committee, the vice chairman of any
37 such committee shall be entitled to attend; if the vice chairman
38 is unable to attend or if an appointed member is unable to attend,
39 another legislator may be designated to attend by the Lieutenant
40 Governor or the Speaker of the House, as the case may be. If the
41 Lieutenant Governor or Speaker of the House is unable to attend a
42 meeting, he may designate a legislator to substitute for him at
43 that meeting. If the President Pro Tempore of the State Senate is
44 unable to attend a meeting, the Lieutenant Governor shall
45 designate a member of the Senate to substitute for him at that
46 meeting. Any proxy shall have a vote at the meeting he was
47 selected to attend and also shall, when attending, receive
48 compensation and expenses in the same manner and amount as regular
49 members of the joint committee.

50 There shall be no business transacted, including adoption of
51 rules of procedure, without the presence of a quorum of the joint
52 committee. A quorum shall be eight (8) members, to consist of
53 four (4) members from the Senate and four (4) members from the
54 House of Representatives. No action shall be valid unless
55 approved by the majority of those members present and voting,
56 entered upon the minutes of the joint committee and signed by the
57 chairman and vice chairman. All actions of the joint committee
58 shall be approved by at least four (4) Senate members and four (4)
59 House members.

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

62 (2) The members of the committee shall receive, in addition
63 to other compensation due them, per diem as is authorized by law
64 for their services in carrying out the duties of the committee
65 and, in addition thereto, shall receive a daily expense allowance
66 equal to the maximum daily expense rate allowable to employees of

67 the federal government for travel in the high rate geographical
68 area of Jackson, Mississippi, as may be established by federal
69 regulations, including mileage as authorized by Section 25-3-41,
70 the same to be paid from the operating budget of the Legislative
71 Budget Office. * * * However, in no case shall the members of the
72 committee draw per diem while the Legislature is in regular or
73 special session.

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

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

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

89 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
90 and after January 1, 2000.