

By: Senator(s) Moffatt, Hewes, Robertson

To: Local and Private

SENATE BILL NO. 2477
(As Passed the Senate)

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE GOVERNING AUTHORITIES OF THE CITY OF
2 PASCAGOULA, MISSISSIPPI, TO CLEAN UP PROPERTY AND ASSESS THE COSTS
3 THEREFOR TO THE PROPERTY OWNER; TO PROVIDE FOR NOTICE AND A
4 HEARING BEFORE THE CITY MAY TAKE SUCH ACTION; TO CREATE A LIEN
5 UPON PROPERTY SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT; TO AUTHORIZE
6 THE SALE OF SUCH PROPERTY TO SATISFY A LIEN; AND FOR RELATED
7 PURPOSES.

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

9 SECTION 1. (1) The governing authorities of the City of
10 Pascagoula, Mississippi, are authorized to notify the record owner
11 of any property within the corporate limits of the City of
12 Pascagoula, which such governing authorities have reasonable
13 grounds to believe is dilapidated, unclean or unkempt and must be
14 returned to a clean, safe, decent or sanitary condition within
15 fifteen (15) days of the date of mailing notice to the property
16 owner. Notice shall be sent by certified United States mail,
17 return receipt requested to the same address to which ad valorem
18 tax statements are sent. A notice returned which is marked
19 "Refused" or "Undeliverable as Addressed" shall be deemed
20 sufficient notice.

21 (2) If the property owner fails to remedy the condition of
22 the property within the time specified, the governing authorities
23 shall give notice to the property owner by certified United States
24 mail, return receipt requested, two (2) weeks before the date of a
25 hearing, or if the property owner is unknown or his address
26 unknown or if the notice provided in subsection (1) of this
27 section was returned and marked "Refused" or "Undeliverable as
28 Addressed," then by two (2) weeks' notice in a newspaper having a

29 general circulation in the City of Pascagoula, of a hearing to
30 determine whether or not such property is in such a state of
31 uncleanliness as to be a menace to the public health and safety of
32 the community. If, at such hearing, the governing authorities, in
33 their resolution, determine such property in its then condition to
34 be a menace to the public health and safety of the community, the
35 governing authorities may, if the owner does not do so himself
36 within fifteen (15) days after such hearing, remedy the condition
37 and assess the fair and reasonable charges therefor to the
38 property owner. The charges shall be a lien upon the property and
39 may be enrolled as other judgments. The tax collector of the City
40 of Pascagoula is authorized to sell the property to satisfy the
41 lien as now provided by law for the sale of lands for delinquent
42 municipal taxes, provided, that all the provisions of this act
43 have been followed.

44 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
45 and after its passage.