

By: Senator(s) Dearing, Hawks, Carlton, Harvey, Kirby, Gollott, Hamilton, Woodfield, Scoper, Little, Thames, Moffatt, Smith, Canon, Johnson (19th), Posey, Minor, Browning, White (29th), Hall, Stogner, Tollison, White (5th), Rayborn, Walls, Simmons, Dickerson, Robertson, Mettetal, Carter

To: Environment Prot, Cons and Water Res

SENATE BILL NO. 2685

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-2-4, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 PROVIDE THAT BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2000, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF  
3 THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY SHALL BE HIRED BY AND  
4 SERVE AT THE PLEASURE OF THE COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY;  
5 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF  
6 THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

7  
8 SECTION 1. Section 49-2-4, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
9 amended as follows:

10 49-2-4. (1) There is \* \* \* created the Mississippi  
11 Department of Environmental Quality whose offices shall be located  
12 in Jackson, Mississippi.

13 (2) Until December 31, 1999, the department shall be headed  
14 by an executive director who shall be appointed by and serve at  
15 the pleasure of the Governor. Beginning January 1, 2000, the  
16 department shall be headed by an executive director who shall be  
17 appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the commission. The  
18 appointment of the executive director shall be made with the  
19 advice and consent of the Senate. \* \* \* The executive director  
20 shall have the following minimum qualifications:

21 (a) A master's degree in a field related to natural  
22 resources, and at least six (6) years' full-time experience in  
23 natural resources, including at least three (3) years of  
24 management experience; or

25 (b) A bachelor's degree in a field related to natural  
26 resources or administration and at least eight (8) years of  
27 full-time work in the field of natural resources, including four  
28 (4) years of management experience.

29           The executive director is the chief administrative officer of  
30 the department.

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