

By: Senator(s) Horhn

To: Economic Dev, Tourism  
and Parks

SENATE BILL NO. 2856

1 AN ACT TO CREATE NEW CODE SECTIONS TO BE CODIFIED AS SECTIONS  
2 57-81-1 AND 57-81-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO CREATE AND  
3 EMPOWER THE MISSISSIPPI SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION TO  
4 STRENGTHEN STATE AWARENESS AND SUPPORT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
5 INNOVATIONS AND TO ADVISE THE GOVERNOR AND THE LEGISLATURE ON SUCH  
6 ISSUES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8 SECTION 1. The following provision shall be codified as

9 Section 57-81-1, Mississippi Code of 1972:

10 57-81-1. (1) There is hereby created the Mississippi  
11 Science and Technology Commission which shall be constituted as  
12 follows:

13 (a) Six (6) representatives of private business  
14 appointed by the Governor.

15 (b) A representative of state institutions of higher  
16 learning appointed by the Board of Trustees of State Institutions  
17 of Higher Learning.

18 (c) Two (2) representatives of the Mississippi  
19 Department of Economic and Community Development appointed by the  
20 Executive Director of the Department of Economic and Community  
21 Development.

22 (d) That person designated by the Governor as his  
23 advisor for economic development.

24 (e) A representative of community colleges appointed by  
25 the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges.

26 (f) Two (2) representatives of federal laboratories  
27 located in this state appointed by the Governor pursuant to  
28 recommendations made by Mississippi members of the Federal

29 Laboratory Consortium.

30 (g) A member of the Mississippi Senate appointed by the  
31 President of the Senate, to be a non-voting member.

32 (h) A member of the Mississippi House of  
33 Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House, to be a  
34 non-voting member.

35 (i) Two (2) representatives of the Mississippi Research  
36 Consortium appointed by the Chairman of the Mississippi Research  
37 Consortium.

38 (j) Two (2) representatives of the University Research  
39 Authority appointed by the President of the University Research  
40 Authority.

41 (k) The President of the Institute for Technology  
42 Development, or his designee.

43 (l) The Executive Director of the Mississippi  
44 Enterprise for Technology, or his designee.

45 (m) Two (2) persons actively involved in educating  
46 Grades K through 12 children, who shall be appointed by the State  
47 Board of Education.

48 (2) Appointed members shall serve for a two-year term,  
49 subject to the will and pleasure of the appointing authority, and  
50 may be reappointed to consecutive terms.

51 (3) The commission shall elect one (1) member to serve as  
52 chairman. The commission shall meet upon the call of the chairman  
53 in Jackson, Mississippi, or at such other places in the state  
54 designated by the commission. Members of the commission shall  
55 receive no compensation for their services but may be reimbursed  
56 for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the  
57 performance of their duties as provided in Section 25-3-41,  
58 Mississippi Code of 1972, for state officers and employees.

59 (4) The commission is established for the following  
60 purposes:

61 (a) To facilitate the development, coordination and  
62 promotion of state science and technology programs related to  
63 business and economic development.

64 (b) To advise the Governor and Legislature on specific  
65 science and technology issues.

66           (c) To develop long-term plans to enhance all phases of  
67 science and technology appropriate to the needs of industry and  
68 the Mississippi economy.

69           (5) The Department of Economic and Community Development may  
70 provide financial and staff support as needed by the commission.

71           (6) The provisions of this chapter supersede Executive Order  
72 726 signed by the Governor on January 21, 1993.

73           SECTION 2. The following provision shall be codified as  
74 Section 57-81-3, Mississippi Code of 1972:

75           57-81-3. All new programs authorized in this chapter are  
76 subject to the availability of funds specifically appropriated  
77 therefor by the Legislature.

78           SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
79 and after its passage.