

By: Senator(s) Hall

To: Highways and  
TransportationSENATE BILL NO. 2973  
(As Passed the Senate)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 65-1-165, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO AUTHORIZE KEEP MISSISSIPPI BEAUTIFUL, INC., TO IMPLEMENT AN  
3 ANNUAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' AWARDS PROGRAM FOR DISTINGUISHED  
4 SERVICE IN IMPLEMENTING THE LITTER LAWS; TO AUTHORIZE A  
5 NON-MONETARY AWARD AND TO PROHIBIT THE PURCHASE OF THAT AWARD FROM  
6 PUBLIC FUNDS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. BE IT ENACTED BY THE  
7 LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

8  
9 SECTION 1. Section 65-1-165, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
10 amended as follows:

11 65-1-165. (1) The State Department of Transportation may  
12 execute a contract with Keep Mississippi Beautiful, Inc., to  
13 develop and implement a comprehensive statewide program of litter  
14 prevention. The contract shall contain provisions to require that  
15 Keep Mississippi Beautiful, Inc., will:

16 (a) Encourage and assist local communities to become  
17 certified Keep America Beautiful systems;

18 (b) Serve as a state clearinghouse of information on  
19 ideas and projects to make local litter prevention programs more  
20 effective;

21 (c) Implement statewide communication programs to alert  
22 people to the problem of littering and how it can be corrected;

23 (d) Coordinate an annual statewide project which will  
24 heighten public awareness of the problem of littering;

25 (e) Establish an annual awards program to recognize  
26 individual and community achievement in litter prevention,  
27 including law enforcement officers as provided in subsection (2)  
28 of this section;

29 (f) Serve as the authority which approves and disburses

30 financial assistance to any nonprofit corporation, county or  
31 municipality which, in a written application, seeks \* \* \*  
32 assistance to implement a local litter prevention project. The  
33 financial assistance authorized herein shall not exceed forty  
34 percent (40%) of the cost of the local litter prevention project  
35 for which \* \* \* assistance is sought.

36 (g) Encourage donation of funds from the private sector  
37 to assist in defraying the operation of the litter prevention  
38 program implemented under this section.

39 The contract may include any additional provisions which the  
40 State Department of Transportation deems necessary to effectuate  
41 the litter prevention program contemplated by this section.

42 Keep Mississippi Beautiful, Inc., shall submit to the State  
43 Department of Transportation on or before August 1 of each year a  
44 written report detailing the operation of the litter prevention  
45 program statewide and its expenditure of monies for such program  
46 during the preceding state fiscal year.

47 (2) Keep Mississippi Beautiful, Inc., may implement an  
48 annual awards program to recognize law enforcement officers who  
49 have distinguished themselves in the enforcement of litter laws.  
50 Keep Mississippi Beautiful, Inc., may provide a non-monetary award  
51 to each recognized law enforcement officer. The non-monetary  
52 award shall not be paid for from public funds.

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