

*****Pending*****

AMENDMENT No. 1 PROPOSED TO

Senate Bill NO. 2860

By Representative(s) Committee

**Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting
in lieu thereof the following:**

12 SECTION 1. This act shall be know and may be cited as the
13 "Statewide Scientific Information Management Act of 1999".

14 SECTION 2. (1) The Legislature finds that:

15 (a) Numerous federal and state agencies collect and
16 manage scientific information relating to the environment and
17 natural resources of the state;

18 (b) Scientific information is a strategic asset in the
19 management of our natural resources, exploration for oil and gas
20 and economic development activities; and

21 (c) Lack of coordination in the collection and
22 management of scientific information can lead to duplication of
23 efforts and inefficient information management thus leading to
24 increased and unnecessary costs.

25 (2) The purpose of this act is to establish a statewide
26 coordinated effort to provide for the management of scientific
27 information to ensure the effective and efficient collection,
28 management, dissemination, and analysis of scientific information
29 available to the state and to provide that information in a
30 user-friendly format to governmental agencies, academic
31 institutions, other public and private organizations and the
32 general public for economic development, natural resources and

33 environmental management and other purposes.

34 SECTION 3. For purposes of this act, the following terms
35 shall have the meaning ascribed herein unless the context clearly
36 indicates otherwise:

37 (a) "Scientific information" means information
38 associated with the monitoring and management of the environment
39 and natural resources of a specifically targeted geographic area
40 that is collected, analyzed, managed, updated by and used among
41 agencies, departments, associations and other organizations
42 concerned with or responsible for the geographic area.

43 (b) "Scientific information management system" means a
44 management system which would allow scientific information to be
45 collected, processed, analyzed, managed, updated and subsequently
46 accessed by users of that information.

47 SECTION 4. (1) There is created the Mississippi Statewide
48 Scientific Information Management System Coordinating Council,
49 hereinafter referred to as "coordinating council," for the purpose
50 of developing a strategic plan for a statewide scientific
51 information management system and serving as a coordinating entity
52 for all aspects of scientific information management.

53 (2) (a) The council shall consist of the following members:
54 the Executive Director of the Department of Environmental
55 Quality; the Executive Director of the Department of Economic and
56 Community Development; the Executive Director of the Department of
57 Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks; the Executive Director of the
58 Department of Marine Resources; the State Health Officer; the
59 Executive Director of the Department of Transportation; the
60 Chairman of the Mississippi Water Resources Advisory Council; the
61 Vice-President for Research and Sponsored Programs at each
62 university on the Mississippi Research Consortium; the Vice
63 President for Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Medicine at
64 Mississippi State University; the State Director of Technology

65 Transfer; the Center Director of the National Aeronautics and
66 Space Administration, Stennis Space Center; the Executive Director
67 of the Mississippi Automated Resource Information System; and two
68 (2) representatives of the private sector user community appointed
69 by the Governor.

70 Members of the coordinating council not appointed by the
71 Governor shall serve a term concurrent with their term of office
72 in their respective position. Nonappointed members may designate
73 an alternate to serve in their stead and the alternate shall have
74 the authority to act for the designating member.

75 Members of the council appointed by the Governor shall serve
76 four-year terms.

77 (b) In addition to the members of the coordinating
78 council specified in paragraph (a) of this subsection, the
79 coordinating council may invite, as participating members,
80 representatives of any other state and federal organizations, or
81 individuals possessing appropriate expertise or who have a viable
82 interest in the development and implementation of the statewide
83 scientific information management system.

84 (c) Original appointments to the coordinating council
85 shall be made no later than October 1, 1999. The Governor shall
86 require adequate disclosure of potential conflicts of interest by
87 appointed members of the coordinating council. Vacancies on the
88 coordinating council shall be filled by appointment in the same
89 manner as the original appointments.

90 (d) The coordinating council shall elect from its
91 membership a chairperson to preside over meetings and
92 vice-chairperson to preside in the absence of the chairperson or
93 when the chairperson shall be excused. The coordinating council
94 shall adopt procedures governing the manner of conducting its
95 business. A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum to
96 do business.

97 (e) Members of the coordinating council shall serve
98 without compensation. At the direction of the chairman of the
99 coordinating council and contingent upon the availability of
100 sufficient funds, each member may receive reimbursement for
101 reasonable expenses, including travel expenses in accordance with
102 rates established pursuant to Section 25-3-41, Mississippi Code of
103 1972, incurred in attending meetings of the coordinating council.

104 (3) The coordinating council shall convene before November
105 15, 1999.

106 (4) The coordinating council shall not employ any permanent
107 staff, rent or occupy independent office space or otherwise
108 establish a full-time office.

109 (5) In conducting its activities under this act, the
110 coordinating council may elicit the support of and participation
111 by any state or local governmental agency as may be necessary or
112 appropriate. All state and local governmental agencies shall
113 provide support or participation as requested.

114 (6) The coordinating council may exercise those duties and
115 powers necessary to carry out the purposes of this act, including,
116 but not limited to, the following functions:

117 (a) Conduct, or cause to be conducted any studies,
118 analyses or evaluations related to the development and
119 implementation of a scientific information management system;

120 (b) Apply and contract for and accept any grants,
121 public or private funds, gifts or proceeds in furtherance of the
122 activities of the coordinating council;

123 (c) Authorize the Executive Director of the Department
124 of Information Technology Services to enter into all contracts or
125 execute all instruments, on behalf of the coordinating council,
126 and do all acts necessary, desirable or convenient to carry out
127 any power expressly granted to the council in this chapter.

128 (d) Expend or distribute any funds or assets in its

129 custody or under its control appropriate in carrying out the
130 purposes of this act.

131 SECTION 5. (1) Before November 15, 2000, the Mississippi
132 Scientific Information Management System Coordinating Council
133 shall develop and prepare a strategic plan for the development and
134 implementation of a statewide scientific information management
135 system.

136 (2) The strategic plan shall include, but not be limited to,
137 the following:

138 (a) A detailed analysis of the sources, types, amounts
139 and methods by which scientific information is currently collected
140 in the state and of methods or systems currently used to manage
141 that scientific information;

142 (b) An identification of the current costs of
143 collection, management, analysis, updating, use and dissemination
144 of scientific information in the state with particular emphasis on
145 costs to state agencies;

146 (c) A description of current efforts by agencies and
147 organizations collecting scientific information to provide broad
148 access to that information;

149 (d) An identification of planned scientific information
150 management programs and needs and an evaluation of how those
151 planned programs or needs may be met or integrated into the
152 statewide scientific information management system;

153 (e) A clearly-defined, comprehensive statement of the
154 mission, goals and objectives of the statewide scientific
155 information management system;

156 (f) A detailed analysis of the benefits and
157 capabilities of a statewide scientific information management
158 system;

159 (g) A plan for the development and implementation of a
160 statewide scientific information management system in a phased

161 manner;

162 (h) A timeline for the development and implementation
163 of a statewide scientific information management system;

164 (i) A detailed analysis and estimate of the costs for
165 development and implementation of the statewide scientific
166 information management system and a recommended method for funding
167 the development and implementation of the system; and

168 (j) Any other information the coordinating council
169 deems appropriate.

170 (3) In addition, the strategic plan shall recommend
171 appropriate policies and standards for use in management of
172 scientific information and for providing access to that
173 information. The strategic plan shall also address information
174 accuracy and quality issues, ease of access issues, training and
175 technical support issues and interagency coordination issues.

176 (4) Upon completion of the strategic plan, the coordinating
177 council shall provide copies to the Governor, the Lieutenant
178 Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the
179 Chairmen of the Senate Environmental Protection, Conservation and
180 Water Resources Committee and the Senate Appropriations Committee,
181 the Chairmen of the House Conservation and Water Resources
182 Committee and the House Appropriations Committee, the Legislative
183 Budget Office, the Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review
184 Committee, the Executive Director of the Department of Information
185 Technology Services and the Legislative Reference Bureau.

186 SECTION 6. The Department of Information Technology Services
187 shall serve as the coordinator for implementation of this act.
188 The Department of Information Technology Services shall provide
189 any technical and other support services and personnel as the
190 Mississippi Scientific Information Management System Coordinating
191 Council may require in the performance of its functions. The
192 Department of Information Technology Services shall administer any

193 funds made available to the coordinating council for its use and
194 shall at the request and on behalf of the coordinating council,
195 contract for services using any funds available to the
196 coordinating council.

197 SECTION 7. Sections 1 through 6 of this act shall be
198 codified as a new chapter in Title 49.

199 SECTION 8. This act shall take effect and be in force from
200 and after July 1, 1999.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1 AN ACT TO CREATE THE STATEWIDE SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION
2 MANAGEMENT SYSTEM COORDINATING COUNCIL; TO SPECIFY THE MEMBERSHIP
3 OF THE COUNCIL AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE
4 COUNCIL; TO REQUIRE THE COORDINATING COUNCIL TO DEVELOP AND
5 PREPARE A STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF
6 A STATEWIDE SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND TO
7 PROVIDE FOR THE MINIMUM CONTENTS OF THAT PLAN; TO REQUIRE THE
8 DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES TO SERVE AS
9 COORDINATOR FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT; AND FOR RELATED
10 PURPOSES.