

By: Horne

To: Apportionment and
Elections

HOUSE BILL NO. 661

1 AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE MAKING AND ACCEPTING OF CAMPAIGN
2 CONTRIBUTIONS BETWEEN HIGHWAY CONTRACTORS AND TRANSPORTATION
3 COMMISSIONERS; TO PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF; AND
4 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 SECTION 1. The following shall be codified in Chapter 15,
7 Title 23, Mississippi Code of 1972:

8 (1) It shall be unlawful for any Transportation Commissioner
9 or any candidate for Transportation Commissioner to accept any
10 campaign contribution from any person who is interested as owner,
11 agent or representative in a contract with or on behalf of the
12 Mississippi Transportation Commission for the construction,
13 reconstruction or other public work authorized to be done under
14 the provisions of Chapter 1, Title 65, Mississippi Code of 1972.

15 (2) It shall be unlawful for any person, who is interested
16 as owner, agent or representative in a contract with or on behalf
17 of the Mississippi Transportation Commission for the construction,
18 reconstruction or other public work authorized to be done under
19 the provisions of Chapter 1, Title 65, Mississippi Code of 1972,
20 to make a campaign contribution to any Transportation Commissioner
21 or any candidate for Transportation Commissioner.

22 (3) For purposes of this section, a contract as described in

23 this section shall include a contract for the purchase of
24 materials, equipment and supplies associated with any construction
25 contract.

26 (4) Any person convicted of violating the provisions of this
27 section shall be fined not less than Five Thousand Dollars
28 (\$5,000.00), or imprisoned in the State Penitentiary for not less
29 than one (1) year, or both.

30 SECTION 2. The Attorney General of the State of Mississippi
31 shall submit this act, immediately upon approval by the Governor,
32 or upon approval by the Legislature subsequent to a veto, to the
33 Attorney General of the United States or to the United States
34 District Court for the District of Columbia in accordance with the
35 provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and
36 extended.

37 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from
38 and after the date it is effectuated under Section 5 of the Voting
39 Rights Act of 1965, as amended and extended.