

By: Dedeaux, Compretta

To: Local and Private
Legislation

HOUSE BILL NO. 1399
(As Passed the House)

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE HANCOCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
2 TO APPOINT A SEVEN-MEMBER COMMISSION TO SUPERVISE THE
3 ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE HANCOCK COUNTY MULTIPURPOSE
4 EQUINE AND LIVESTOCK FACILITY; TO PROVIDE FOR THE MEMBERSHIP OF
5 THE COMMISSION; TO TRANSFER ALL POWERS AND DUTIES, FUNDS AND
6 FACILITIES OF THE HANCOCK COUNTY EQUINE AND LIVESTOCK FACILITY
7 BOARD TO HANCOCK COUNTY; TO ABOLISH THE HANCOCK COUNTY EQUINE AND
8 LIVESTOCK FACILITY BOARD; TO AMEND SECTION 2 OF CHAPTER 525, LAWS
9 OF 1995, IN CONFORMITY THERETO; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

11 SECTION 1. (1) The Board of Supervisors of Hancock County
12 shall appoint a seven-member commission to supervise the
13 administration and management of the Hancock County multipurpose
14 equine and livestock facility that was constructed with funds
15 provided for in Chapter 525, Laws of 1995. The appointments shall
16 be made as follows: One (1) appointment shall be made by each
17 board member and two (2) members shall be appointed at large by a
18 majority vote of the board.

19 (2) The interest in and title to any equipment, supplies,
20 records, arenas, barns, training tracks, and related facilities,
21 and any funds of the Hancock County multipurpose equine and
22 livestock facility shall be transferred to Hancock County, acting
23 through its board of supervisors, on the effective date of this
24 act.

25 (3) On the effective date of this act, the terms of the
26 members of the Hancock County Equine and Livestock Facility Board
27 shall expire and the Hancock County Equine and Livestock Facility
28 Board shall be abolished.

29 SECTION 2. Section 2 of Chapter 525, Laws of 1995, is

30 amended as follows:

31 Section 2. (1) The Department of Finance and
32 Administration, at one time or from time to time, may declare by
33 resolution the necessity for issuance of general obligation bonds
34 of the State of Mississippi to provide funds:

35 (a) For construction and equipping of an equine
36 training facility which will include a five-eighths (5/8) mile
37 track, three hundred (300) animal stalls and a support facility at
38 Mississippi State University; and

39 (b) To assist in the construction of a multipurpose
40 equine and livestock facility, including a training track, animal
41 stalls and supporting and related appurtenances, on land in
42 Hancock County, Mississippi.

43 (2) The amount of bonds issued under this act shall not
44 exceed the following:

45 (a) Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars
46 (\$2,500,000.00) for construction and equipping of an equine
47 training facility which will include a five-eighths (5/8) mile
48 track, three hundred (300) animal stalls and a support facility at
49 Mississippi State University; and

50 (b) Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) to
51 assist in the construction of a multipurpose equine and livestock
52 facility, including a training track, animal stalls and supporting
53 and related appurtenances, on land in Hancock County, Mississippi.

54 (3) (a) The Hancock County Equine and Livestock Facility
55 Board is created for the purpose of administering and managing the
56 Hancock County facility described in subsection (1)(b) of this
57 section, and it shall consist of the following members: (i) Three
58 (3) members appointed by the North Hancock Business and
59 Professional Organization; (ii) One (1) member appointed by the
60 Hancock County Board of Supervisors; (iii) One (1) member
61 appointed by the Hancock County Riding Club; (iv) One (1) member
62 appointed by the Hancock County 4-H Clubs; and (v) One (1) member

63 appointed by the South Mississippi Thoroughbred Association. On
64 the effective date of House Bill No. 1399, 2000 Regular Session,
65 the terms of the members of the board created in this subsection
66 shall expire and the board shall be abolished.

67 (b) No funds derived from the issuance of the general
68 obligation bonds under subsection (1)(b) of this section may be
69 used to purchase land on which to construct the Hancock County
70 equine and livestock facility.

71 (c) Until the effective date of House Bill No. 1399,
72 2000 Regular Session, the Hancock County Equine and Livestock
73 Facility Board is authorized to accept, and any county or
74 municipality or governmental subdivision thereof, is authorized to
75 contribute, funds or property to defray any expenses of the
76 project described in subsection (1)(b) of this section, the
77 furnishing or pledging of public resources to such project,
78 including buildings, facilities, equipment, land and employees.
79 Further, the board is authorized to accept grants and
80 contributions from the United States government and any private
81 entity.

82 (4) (a) Upon the adoption of a resolution by the Department
83 of Finance and Administration, declaring the necessity for the
84 issuance of the general obligation bonds authorized by subsection
85 (1)(a) of this section, the department shall deliver
86 a certified copy of its resolution or resolutions to the State
87 Bond Commission. Upon receipt of such resolution, the State Bond
88 Commission, in its discretion, may act as the issuing agent,
89 prescribe the form of the bonds, advertise for and accept bids,
90 issue and sell the bonds so authorized to be sold, and do any and
91 all other things necessary and advisable in connection with the
92 issuance and sale of such bonds.

93 (b) Upon the submission to the Department of Finance
94 and Administration of (i) plans outlining the construction of the
95 Hancock County facility referred to in subsection (1)(b) of this

96 section and the manner in which the bonds to be issued under this
97 act will assist in such construction; and (ii) a business plan
98 describing the manner in which the operation and maintenance of
99 the Hancock County facility will be conducted, the department may
100 approve such plans and adopt a resolution declaring the necessity
101 for the issuance of the general obligation bonds authorized by
102 subsection (1)(a) of this section. Upon the adoption of such a
103 resolution by the department, the department shall deliver a
104 certified copy of its resolution or resolutions to the State Bond
105 Commission. Upon receipt of such resolution, the commission, in
106 its discretion, may act as the issuing agent, prescribe the form
107 of the bonds, advertise for and accept bids, issue and sell the
108 bonds so authorized to be sold, and do any and all other things
109 necessary and advisable in connection with the issuance and sale
110 of such bonds.

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