

By: Moore (60th)

To: Agriculture

HOUSE BILL NO. 1414

1 AN ACT TO CREATE THE MISSISSIPPI POULTRY INDUSTRY ADVISORY
2 BOARD; TO PROVIDE FOR THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD; TO PROVIDE THE
3 POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD; TO REQUIRE THAT THE
4 COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE SHALL MAKE CERTAIN ANNUAL REPORTS TO
5 THE LEGISLATURE; TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND
6 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND OTHER STATE AGENCIES SHALL NOT
7 ADMINISTER LOANS OR GRANTS OF FEDERAL OR STATE FUNDS BASED ON
8 COMMITMENT LETTERS WITHOUT CERTAIN DOCUMENTS ATTACHED; AND FOR
9 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

11 SECTION 1. (1) There is created the Mississippi Poultry
12 Industry Advisory Board. This board shall be composed of: one
13 (1) representative from each company producing poultry in
14 Mississippi; one (1) grower from each company doing business in
15 Mississippi chosen by the Commissioner of Agriculture; the
16 Commissioner of Agriculture or his appointee; one (1)
17 representative of the Mississippi State University Poultry Science
18 Department; two (2) representatives of the banking community; one
19 (1) representative of the Department of Economic and Community
20 Development; two (2) appointees by the Chairman of the House of
21 Representatives Agriculture Committee and two (2) appointees by
22 the Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee. Each member
23 shall serve a period of two (2) years and the Commissioner of
24 Agriculture shall serve as the ex officio chairman.

25 (2) The board shall meet no less than four (4) times per
26 year to discuss industry problems, environmental problems,
27 health/health department problems, marketing problems or
28 grower/company relations problems.

29 (3) The board may hold hearings and has subpoena power to

30 obtain necessary information from state agencies or individuals
31 regarding regulations, statistics and facts which could affect
32 positively or negatively the performance of the poultry industry.

33 The board is responsible for hearing and investigating
34 grower/company relations issues and for reporting the results of
35 its findings to the affected parties. The board is responsible
36 for hearing production agreement conflicts, for investigating the
37 conflicts and for advising the interested parties of its findings.

38 The board shall review existing production agreements and shall
39 advise the interested parties of potential problems.

40 (4) The board shall make recommendations to the Legislature
41 as needed, and the Commissioner of Agriculture shall make an
42 annual report to the Legislature of the results of the findings of
43 the board.

44 (5) The Commissioner of Agriculture shall compile a record
45 of all telephone calls he and his staff receive regarding
46 industry-related problems and shall publicize an available
47 telephone number for the reporting of such problems by companies,
48 grower, lenders or others affected by the industry. The
49 commissioner shall supply an agenda and listing of items to be
50 discussed at each meeting. The commissioner shall report all
51 calls received to the Legislature in the annual report required
52 herein.

53 SECTION 2. The Department of Economic and Community
54 Development and other state agencies shall not administer loans or
55 grants of federal or state funds or guarantee any loans based on a
56 commitment letter between the company producing poultry and the
57 grower unless there is attached to the commitment contract a
58 producer agreement and building specifications and such agreement
59 and specifications are signed and notarized by the parties
60 affected.

61 SECTION 3. (1) Sections 1 and 2 of House Bill No._____, 2000
62 Regular Session, shall be repealed on June 30, 2001.

63 (2) Subsection (1) of this section shall be codified as a
64 separate code section.

65 SECTION 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from
66 and after July 1, 2000.