

*****Adopted*****

AMENDMENT No. 1 PROPOSED TO

Senate Bill NO. 2238

By Representative(s) Committee

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

9

10 SECTION 1. Section 49-19-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
11 amended as follows:

12 49-19-3. The duties and powers of the commission shall be:

13 (1) To appoint a state forester, who shall serve at the will
14 and pleasure of the commission and who is qualified to perform the
15 duties as set forth herein; and to pay him such salary as is
16 provided by the Legislature, and allow him such office expenses
17 incidental to the performance of his official duties as the
18 commission, in its discretion, may deem necessary; and to charge
19 him with the immediate direction and control, subject to the
20 supervision and approval of the commission, of all matters
21 relating to forestry as authorized herein. Any person appointed
22 by the commission as state forester shall have received a
23 bachelor's degree in forestry from an accredited school or college
24 of forestry and shall be licensed and registered under the
25 provisions of the Mississippi Foresters Registration Law (Section
26 73-36-1 et seq.) and in addition shall have had at least five (5)
27 years' administrative experience in a forestry-related field.

28 (2) To take such action and provide and maintain such
29 organized means as may seem necessary and expedient to prevent,

30control and extinguish forest fires, including the enforcement of
31any and all laws pertaining to the protection of forests and
32woodland.

33 (3) To encourage forest and tree planting for the production
34of a wood crop, for the protection of water supply, for windbreak
35and shade, or for any other beneficial purposes contributing to
36the general welfare, public hygiene and comfort of the people.

37 (4) To cause to be made such technical investigations and
38studies concerning forest conditions, the propagation, care and
39protection of forest and shade trees, the care and management of
40forests, their growth, yield and the products and by-products
41thereof, and any other competent subject, including forest
42taxation, bearing on the timber supply and needs of the state,
43which the commission, in its discretion, may deem proper.

44 (5) To assist and cooperate with any federal or state
45department or institution, county, town, corporation or
46individual, under such terms as in the judgment of the commission
47will best serve the public interest, in the preparation and
48execution of plans for the protection, management, replacement, or
49extension of the forest, woodland and roadside or other ornamental
50tree growth in the state.

51 (6) To encourage public interest in forestry by means of
52correspondence, the public press, periodicals, the publication of
53bulletins and leaflets for general distribution, the delivery of
54lectures in the schools and other suitable means, and to cooperate
55to the fullest extent with the extension department services of
56the state colleges in promoting reforestation. It shall be the
57duty of the state forester to cooperate with private timber owners
58in laying plans for the protection, management and replacement of
59forests and in aiding them to form protection associations. It
60shall be his duty to examine all timbered lands belonging to the
61state and its institutions and report to the commission upon their
62timber conditions and actual value, and also whether some of these
63lands may not be held as state forests. He shall be responsible
64for the protection and management of lands donated, purchased or

65belonging to the state or state institutions, and all other lands
66reserved by the state as state forests.

67 (7) To control the expenditure of any and all funds
68appropriated or otherwise made available for the several purposes
69set forth herein under suitable regulations and restrictions by
70the commission and to specifically authorize any officer or
71employee of the commission to incur necessary and stipulated
72expenses in connection with the work in which such person may be
73engaged.

74 (8) To submit annually to the Legislature a report of the
75expenditures, proceedings and results achieved, together with such
76other matters including recommendations concerning legislation as
77are germane to the aims and purposes of this chapter.

78 (9) To create, establish and organize the State of
79Mississippi into forestry districts for the most effective and
80efficient administration of the commission.

81 (10) To appoint, upon the state forester's recommendation,
82two (2) individuals who shall be designated Mississippi Forestry
83Commission Law Enforcement Officers with authority to bear arms,
84investigate and make arrests; however, the law enforcement duties
85and authority of such officers shall be limited to woods arson.
86Such officers shall comply with applicable minimum educational and
87training standards for law enforcement officers. This subsection
88(10) shall stand repealed on June 30, 2003.

89 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
90and after July 1, 2000.

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

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-19-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2EXTEND THE REPEALER FROM JUNE 30, 2000, TO JUNE 30, 2003, ON THE
3PROVISION OF LAW PROVIDING THAT THE MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY
4COMMISSION SHALL APPOINT TWO INDIVIDUALS AS MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY
5COMMISSION LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.