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AMENDMENT No. 1 PROPOSED TO

House Bill NO. 335

By Senator(s) Committee

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

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17 SECTION 1. Section 55-15-51, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
18 reenacted as follows:

19 55-15-51. It is hereby found and determined by the
20 Legislature that many thousands of Mississippians have served in
21 the Armed Forces of the United States; that the Mississippi
22 veterans have not received the recognition and honor they deserve
23 for service to their country; and that an appropriate monument
24 should be established and maintained as a symbol of the
25 recognition and appreciation of the State of Mississippi to
26 Mississippi veterans.

27 SECTION 2. Section 55-15-53, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
28 reenacted as follows:

29 55-15-53. (1) From and after the effective date of Laws,
30 1977, Chapter 466 [approved March 26, 1997] the present membership
31 of the Mississippi Veterans Monument Commission shall cease
32 serving on the commission. From and after the effective date of
33 Laws, 1997, Chapter 466 [approved March 26, 1997] the Mississippi
34 Veterans Monument Commission shall consist of the following seven
35 (7) members:

36 (a) The Chairman of the Mississippi War Veterans

37 Memorial Commission, who shall serve as Secretary of the
38 Mississippi Veterans Monument Commission;

39 (b) The Executive Secretary of the State Veterans
40 Affairs Board;

41 (c) The Director of the Division of General Services in
42 the Department of Finance and Administration;

43 (d) Three (3) members appointed by the Governor, one
44 (1) from each of the three (3) state Supreme Court districts as
45 follows:

46 (i) One (1) veteran of World War II;

47 (ii) One (1) veteran of the Korean Conflict; and

48 (iii) One (1) veteran of the Vietnam Conflict;

49 (e) One (1) veteran of the Persian Gulf Conflict,
50 appointed from the state-at-large by the Lieutenant Governor.

51 (2) The initial meeting of the commission shall be called
52 and chaired by the Chairman of the Mississippi War Veterans
53 Memorial Commission, until the monument commission shall choose a
54 chairman from among its members. Thereafter, the commission
55 shall elect a chairman each year, and the commission may meet at
56 the call of the chairman once each month. Minutes of the meetings
57 of the commission shall be kept in a well-bound book and, along
58 with all other records and papers, shall remain in the custody of
59 the secretary of the commission. A majority of the commission
60 shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. All
61 actions taken or rules and regulations adopted by the commission
62 shall be by resolution duly spread upon its minutes, showing yea
63 and nay votes of each member present. The signature of the
64 chairman and secretary, pursuant to a duly adopted resolution,
65 shall be binding upon the commission.

66 (3) The appointed members of the Mississippi Veterans
67 Monument Commission shall receive per diem compensation in the
68 amount authorized under Section 25-3-69 for each day or portion
69 thereof spent in the performance of the duties of the commission
70 and shall be entitled to reimbursement for travel expenses while
71 on commission business as authorized under Section 25-3-41. Other

72 members of the commission shall not be entitled to compensation
73 but shall be entitled to reimbursement for travel expenses as
74 authorized under Section 25-3-41 while on commission business.
75 Commission members shall be limited to reimbursement of travel
76 expenses and per diem compensation authorized herein for no more
77 than twelve (12) meetings per year.

78 (4) When the Mississippi Veterans Monument Commission ceases
79 to exist, all records of the Mississippi Veterans Monument
80 Commission shall become the property of the Mississippi War
81 Veterans Memorial Commission.

82 (5) The Mississippi War Veterans Memorial Commission shall
83 have continuing oversight responsibility over all activities
84 pertaining to all Mississippi veterans monuments.

85 (6) The Mississippi Veterans Monument Commission shall
86 continue in existence under the provisions of this chapter after
87 the design, construction and dedication of the Mississippi
88 veterans monument for a period of one (1) year after the date on
89 which the Mississippi veterans monument is officially dedicated so
90 that such commission can provide for the design, construction and
91 dedication of future monuments to be located at sites designated
92 by the Mississippi Veterans Monument Commission.

93 SECTION 3. Section 55-15-55, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
94 reenacted as follows:

95 55-15-55. The Mississippi Veterans Monument Commission is
96 hereby authorized and directed to cause to be constructed and
97 maintained an appropriate monument to honor Mississippi veterans
98 when adequate funds for the construction thereof are deposited in
99 the Veterans Monument Trust Fund herein created.

100 SECTION 4. Section 55-15-57, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
101 reenacted as follows:

102 55-15-57. The Mississippi Veterans Monument Commission
103 shall:

104 (a) Plan and provide for the design, construction and
105 dedication of the Mississippi veterans monument. The actual
106 design and site of the monument shall be selected with the

107 approval of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

108 (b) Solicit private monetary donations for deposit into
109 the Veterans Monument Trust Fund.

110 (c) Report to the Legislature by November 15 of each
111 year on the progress of such monument. In addition to the report
112 required in the preceding sentence, the commission shall submit an
113 annual report on its activities no later than November of each
114 year to the Military Affairs Committees of both the Mississippi
115 House of Representatives and the Mississippi Senate.

116 SECTION 5. Section 55-15-59, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
117 reenacted as follows:

118 55-15-59. The Mississippi Veterans Monument Commission is
119 hereby authorized to accept gifts, grants and donations from
120 individuals and organizations, to be deposited in the Veterans
121 Monument Trust Fund which is hereby created in the State Treasury.
122 The State Treasurer shall invest all monies in the Veterans
123 Monument Trust Fund and any interest earned shall be deposited
124 into the fund. All funds deposited in the Veterans Monument Trust
125 Fund shall be used exclusively for the purpose of designing,
126 erecting and maintaining the veterans monument, except that not
127 more than Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$7,500.00) may be
128 expended annually to pay the administrative costs of the
129 commission. Any monies remaining unexpended or unencumbered in
130 the fund upon completion of the monument shall revert to the
131 Mississippi War Veterans Memorial Commission for maintenance of
132 the Veterans monument and memorials.

133 SECTION 6. Section 55-15-61, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
134 reenacted as follows:

135 55-15-61. (1) In addition to the duties assigned to the
136 Mississippi Veterans Monument Commission in Sections 55-15-55,
137 55-15-57 and 55-15-59, Mississippi Code of 1972, the commission
138 shall plan and provide for the design, construction and dedication
139 of a Mississippi Confederate memorial at the Shiloh National
140 Military Park. In planning the design, construction and
141 dedication of the memorial, the commission shall consult with and

142 be advised by an advisory committee composed of three (3)
143 representatives from the Mississippi Department of the Sons of
144 Confederate Veterans. The Mississippi Department of the Sons of
145 Confederate Veterans shall designate such representatives and
146 certify them to the commission. The commission shall solicit
147 private monetary donations for deposit into a Shiloh Confederate
148 Memorial Trust Fund which is hereby created in the State Treasury.
149 Private donations to the trust fund may be matched by the state
150 using any appropriations made for that purpose by the Legislature;
151 however, any state match shall not exceed One Hundred Fifty
152 Thousand Dollars (\$150,000.00) in the aggregate. The commission
153 is also authorized to accept for deposit into the trust fund
154 grants or donations made to it from any other source. All funds
155 deposited in the trust fund shall be used exclusively for the
156 purpose of designing, constructing and maintaining the monument.

157 (2) The board of supervisors of any county and the governing
158 authorities of any municipality are hereby authorized and
159 empowered, in their discretion, to make contributions out of any
160 available county or municipal funds, as appropriate, to the Shiloh
161 Confederate Memorial Trust Fund.

162 SECTION 7. Section 55-15-63, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
163 amended as follows:

164 55-15-63. Sections 55-15-51 through 55-15-61, Mississippi
165 Code of 1972, which create and empower the Mississippi Veterans
166 Monument Commission, are repealed from and after July 1, 2001.

167 SECTION 8. (1) In addition to the duties assigned to the
168 Mississippi Veterans Monument Commission in Sections 55-15-55,
169 55-15-57 and 55-15-59, Mississippi Code of 1972, the commission is
170 hereby authorized, subject to any available funds, to plan and
171 provide for the design, construction and dedication of a monument
172 recognizing Mississippi recipients of the Congressional Medal of
173 Honor. In planning the design, construction and dedication of the
174 monument, the commission shall consult with and be advised by the
175 State Veterans Affairs Board. The commission may solicit private
176 monetary donations for deposit into a Congressional Medal of Honor

177 Monument Trust Fund which is hereby created in the State Treasury.
178 Private donations to the trust fund may be accepted. The
179 commission is also authorized to accept for deposit into the trust
180 fund grants or donations made to it from any other source. All
181 funds deposited in the trust fund shall be used exclusively for
182 the purpose of designing, constructing and maintaining the
183 monument.

184 (2) The board of supervisors of any county and the governing
185 authorities of any municipality are hereby authorized and
186 empowered, in their discretion, to make contributions out of any
187 available county or municipal funds, as appropriate, to the
188 Congressional Medal of Honor Monument Trust Fund.

189 SECTION 9. This act shall take effect and be in force from
190 and after July 1, 2000.

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

1 AN ACT TO REENACT SECTIONS 55-15-51 THROUGH 55-15-61,
2MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH CREATE THE MISSISSIPPI VETERANS
3MONUMENT COMMISSION AND PRESCRIBE ITS POWERS AND DUTIES; TO AMEND
4SECTION 55-15-63, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO EXTEND THE DATE OF
5REPEAL ON THE MISSISSIPPI VETERANS MONUMENT COMMISSION; TO
6AUTHORIZE THE MISSISSIPPI VETERANS MONUMENT COMMISSION TO PLAN THE
7DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND DEDICATION OF A MONUMENT RECOGNIZING
8MISSISSIPPI RECIPIENTS OF THE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR; TO
9AUTHORIZE THE COMMISSION TO SOLICIT PRIVATE MONETARY DONATIONS FOR
10DEPOSIT INTO A CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR MONUMENT TRUST FUND
11WHICH IS HEREBY CREATED IN THE STATE TREASURY; AND FOR RELATED
12PURPOSES.