

By: Representatives Maples, Hamilton, Pierce To: Agriculture

HOUSE BILL NO. 964

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 75-33-33, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROVIDE THAT THE STATE SHALL PAY THE FULL COSTS FOR INSPECTION
3 SERVICES OF QUAIL PROCESSING PLANTS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 75-33-33, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 75-33-33. Any person desiring inspection service over and
8 above the inspection service normally provided by the commissioner
9 for sanitary purposes, and any person desiring a grading service
10 as authorized by this article, shall pay the commissioner for such
11 services. The person requesting such services shall pay the
12 commissioner a sum sufficient to cover the salary or wages of the
13 inspector, or the grader, plus necessary travel and other
14 authorized expenses, and a reasonable sum for administration
15 expenses. All expenses to be paid hereunder shall be that sum
16 agreed upon with the commissioner.

17 The commissioner is hereby authorized and empowered to
18 recognize and accept any bona fide agreements and arrangements now
19 in existence, or that may hereafter be made, between any person
20 carrying on any business covered by this article and the proper
21 officials of any county and/or municipality wherein local
22 inspection service is to be provided by the county or the
23 municipality as a condition or covenant to the establishing or
24 operating of such business. The commissioner may, in his
25 discretion, enter into an agreement with the appropriate agency of
26 the United States Department of Agriculture to receive financial
27 assistance therefrom in helping carry out the purpose of this

28 article, and to pay a reasonable state-matching contribution as
29 may be required.

30 The commissioner shall inspect for wholesomeness all plants
31 in operation which are not under federal inspection. Except as
32 otherwise provided herein, the state shall pay the full costs for
33 such inspection after September 1, 1968. After July 1, 2001, the
34 state shall pay the full costs for such inspection services of
35 quail processing plants. Provided that so long as funds are
36 available which have been appropriated by the Legislature for
37 product inspection, the commissioner may employ and train
38 inspection personnel and assign such personnel to plants for
39 inspection for wholesomeness. No state funds shall be used for
40 payment of overtime or for grading. Except as otherwise provided
41 herein for inspection services of quail, plant management shall
42 reimburse the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce
43 for inspection services of * * * rabbits, ratites and other exotic
44 animals that are not regulated by mandate under the Federal Meat
45 Inspection Act or the Federal Poultry Products Inspection Act.
46 Plants requesting such services must make application for
47 voluntary inspection services and obtain an establishment "V"
48 number.

49 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
50 and after July 1, 2001.