

By: Representatives Maples, Hamilton, Pierce To: Agriculture

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR  
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 AND RABBIT PROCESSING PLANTS; AND FOR RELATED  
4 PURPOSES.

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

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

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

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

28 assistance therefrom in helping carry out the purpose of this  
29 article, and to pay a reasonable state-matching contribution as  
30 may be required.

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

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