

By: Representatives Creel, Dedeaux

To: Public Utilities

HOUSE BILL NO. 1320

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 21-27-5, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 CLARIFY THAT MUNICIPALITIES MAY GRANT MORE THAN ONE FRANCHISE FOR
3 CABLE TELEVISION SERVICES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 21-27-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 21-27-5. The governing authorities of municipalities shall
8 have the power to grant to any person, corporation, or
9 association, on such terms and conditions as the governing
10 authorities may prescribe, the use of the streets, alleys and
11 other public grounds for the purpose of laying, constructing,
12 repairing and maintaining gas, water, sewer, or steam pipes, * * *
13 conduits for electric light, telegraph and telephone lines, cable
14 television lines and pipe lines for the purpose of transporting
15 crude oil, crude petroleum, kerosene, gasoline, and other
16 commodities transportable by pipe line. However, such franchise,
17 right-of-way or privilege of any character whatsoever shall not be
18 granted for a longer period than twenty-five (25) years, and such
19 privilege shall not be exclusive. Nothing in the laws of this
20 state or in any municipal order, resolution or ordinance may be
21 construed to prohibit a municipality from granting more than one
22 (1) franchise, right-of-way or privilege for the operation of a
23 cable television system.

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