

By: Representative Holland

To: Agriculture

HOUSE BILL NO. 1457

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 69-1-13, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 AUTHORIZE THE COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE TO INSPECT DISEASED OR
3 DEAD POULTRY BEING RAISED UNDER CONTRACT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION TO
4 DETERMINE THE CAUSE OF ILLNESS AND TO ANALYZE CHICKEN FEED FOR
5 NUTRITIONAL CONTENT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 SECTION 1. Section 69-1-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 69-1-13. The following are the duties of the Commissioner of
10 Agriculture and Commerce:

11 (a) He shall encourage the proper development of
12 agriculture, horticulture and kindred industries.

13 (b) He shall encourage the organization of neighborhood
14 and county agricultural clubs and associations, and out of these
15 the organization of the state agricultural association.

16 (c) He shall collect and publish statistics and such
17 other information regarding such industries of this state and of
18 other states as may be of benefit in developing the agricultural
19 resources of the state. To this end he shall put himself in
20 connection and shall cooperate with the agricultural department of
21 other states and with the Commissioner of Agriculture of the
22 United States, and shall provide for the proper and careful
23 distribution of all documents and information coming into his
24 possession on account of the department that may be of interest
25 and benefit to the people of the state.

26 (d) He shall cause to be investigated the diseases of
27 grain, cotton, fruit and other crops grown in this state and also
28 remedies for such diseases, and also the habits and propagation of

29 the various insects that are injurious to the crops of the state
30 and the proper mode of their destruction.

31 (e) He shall investigate the subject of grasses and
32 report upon their value and the cultivation of the varieties best
33 adapted to the different sections of the state.

34 (f) He shall inquire into the subjects connected with
35 dairying that he may deem of interest to the people of the state,
36 and in this connection the raising of stock and poultry, the
37 obtaining of such as are of most value, and the breeding and
38 propagation of the same; and shall encourage raising of fish and
39 the culture of bees.

40 (g) He shall investigate the subjects of subsoiling,
41 drainage, etc., and the best modes of effecting each, and of
42 irrigation and what portions of the state can be best benefited
43 thereby.

44 (h) He shall investigate and report upon the culture of
45 wool and the utility and profit of sheep-raising, also the culture
46 of silk and its manufacture and preparation for market.

47 (i) He shall investigate and report on the question of
48 broadening the market for cotton and cotton goods in the United
49 States and foreign countries.

50 (j) He shall cause a proper collection of agricultural
51 statistics to be made annually, and to this end shall furnish
52 blank forms to the tax assessors of each county, and it is made
53 the special duty of the tax assessor to whom said blanks are
54 furnished to report to the bureau a list of all public or private
55 ginners in his county, with their post offices, upon the demand of
56 the commissioner. It shall be the duty of the commissioner to
57 furnish to such ginner a form or forms of report to be made to the
58 bureau at such time as the commissioner may direct. A failure to
59 make such reports on the part of the ginner or assessor as
60 required by said commissioner shall be deemed a misdemeanor, and,
61 upon conviction, punished as provided by law. It shall be the

62 duty of the members of the boards of supervisors and the county
63 tax assessor of each county in this state to make such reports as
64 may be required by this bureau touching the matter within the
65 scope of this chapter; and failure of any supervisor or tax
66 assessor to make such report when required shall be deemed a
67 misdemeanor and shall be punished as provided by law.

68 (k) He shall appoint county correspondents who shall
69 report to him from time to time, as may be desired.

70 (l) He shall collect specimens of wood suitable for
71 manufacture and other purposes, and specimens of agricultural,
72 mineral, phosphate and marl deposits of the state; cause correct
73 analysis of such as may be deemed expedient to be made and
74 recorded in a substantial book to be kept for this purpose.

75 (m) He shall also, as soon as practicable, prepare a
76 convenient handbook with necessary illustrated maps, which shall
77 contain all necessary information as to the mines, mineral,
78 forest, soil, and other products, climate, water, waterpower for
79 the establishing of factories, land, flowers, fisheries,
80 mountains, streams, and all other statistics as are best adapted
81 to the giving of proper information and the attraction of
82 advantages which the state affords to immigrants, and shall make
83 illustrated expositions thereof whenever practicable at
84 international and state expositions.

85 (n) He shall have the primary responsibility for
86 developing programs that will enhance the marketing of the state's
87 agricultural products to both national and international markets.

88 (o) He may cause to be inspected or autopsied, or both,
89 any diseased or dead poultry that is being grown under contract
90 for eventual human consumption; and he may cause to be analyzed
91 the nutritional and other content of poultry food being fed to any
92 poultry raised under contract for eventual human consumption. He
93 has the authority to perform the duties under this paragraph (o)
94 without having to obtain the authorization of either the owner of

95 such poultry or poultry food or the contract grower responsible
96 for growing the poultry regardless of any terms of the contract
97 between the owner and contract grower that are written to prevent
98 such examination and analysis.

99 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
100 and after its passage.