

By: Senator(s) Gordon

To: Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2089

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 39-5-91, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 AUTHORIZE EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT AND MILEAGE FOR MEMBERS OF THE  
3 MISSISSIPPI CIVIL WAR BATTLEFIELD COMMISSION; AND FOR RELATED  
4 PURPOSES.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 39-5-91, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
7 amended as follows:

8 39-5-91. (1) There is hereby created a Mississippi Civil  
9 War Battlefield Commission consisting of the following fifteen  
10 (15) members:

11 (a) Nine (9) members appointed by the Governor with  
12 three (3) serving for an initial term concluding on March 1, 1998,  
13 three (3) serving for an initial term concluding on March 1, 2000,  
14 and three (3) serving for an initial term concluding on March 1,  
15 2002;

16 (b) One (1) member appointed by the Lieutenant Governor  
17 for an initial term concluding on March 1, 2002;

18 (c) One (1) member appointed by the Speaker of the  
19 Mississippi House of Representatives for an initial term  
20 concluding on March 1, 2002;

21 (d) One (1) member appointed by the Jackson Civil War  
22 Roundtable for an initial term concluding on March 1, 2002; and

23 (e) Three (3) members appointed by the Board of  
24 Trustees of the Department of Archives and History for an initial  
25 term concluding on March 1, 2002.

26 After the initial terms, all terms shall be for six (6)  
27 years. An appointment to fill a vacancy which arises for reasons



28 other than by expiration of a term of office shall be made by the  
29 respective appointing authority for the unexpired term only.

30 (2) The commission shall elect from its membership a  
31 chairman who shall preside over meetings and a vice chairman who  
32 shall preside in the absence of the chairman or when the chairman  
33 shall be excused.

34 (3) The commission shall adopt rules and regulations  
35 governing times and places for meetings. A majority of members of  
36 the commission shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of  
37 any business. The commission shall meet at least quarterly. The  
38 commission may form subcommittees to address specific issues  
39 concerning preservation and enhancement of Civil War sites and  
40 structures. The commission may adopt other procedures necessary  
41 to ensure the orderly transaction of business.

42 (4) The members of the commission shall receive no  
43 compensation for their services, but shall receive reimbursement  
44 for actual expenses and mileage incurred in attending necessary  
45 business of the commission, as authorized by law.

46 (5) Principal staff support for the commission shall be  
47 provided by the Department of Archives and History. Other  
48 agencies shall assist when requested by the commission.

49 (6) The commission shall have the following duties:

50 (a) Identify and prioritize for protecting  
51 Mississippi's Civil War sites and structures;

52 (b) Identify, analyze and enhance preservation  
53 opportunities for Mississippi's Civil War sites and structures;

54 (c) Review existing local, state and federal plans,  
55 programs and policies related to Mississippi's Civil War sites and  
56 structures;

57 (d) Develop relationships with federal and local  
58 officials and private conservation organizations which facilitate  
59 protection and enhancement of Civil War sites and structures;



60           (e) Coordinate Mississippi's participation with the  
61 federal government and private foundations to secure support and  
62 financial resources for the protection and enhancement of Civil  
63 War sites and structures;

64           (f) Advise state agencies on matters relating to Civil  
65 War sites and structures; and

66           (g) Perform any other such duties or actions in an  
67 effort to advance Civil War history in Mississippi.

68           (7) The commission shall submit to the Governor an annual  
69 report by December 1 of each year which shall include  
70 recommendations for any legislative, administrative or other  
71 changes the commission deems necessary to further Civil War  
72 history in Mississippi.

73           (8) State agencies shall consider the impact of their  
74 actions on Civil War sites and structures as identified by the  
75 commission whenever permitting, planning, funding or undertaking  
76 any construction projects.

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

