To: Agriculture

MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE                        REGULAR SESSION 2001
By: Senator(s) Stogner, Hyde-Smith

To: Agriculture

SENATE BILL NO. 2517

AN ACT TO PROVIDE A PREFERENCE FOR THE PROCUREMENT OR
PURCHASE OF MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS PRODUCED IN THE STATE OF
MISSISSIPPI; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

SECTION 1.  (1)  As used in this section, the following terms
shall have the following meanings ascribed to them:

(a) "Meat" and "meat product" means beef and products
made from those meats.

(b) "Other products" includes "other meat" and "other
meat products" and means products which are produced, processed
and harvested outside the state.

(2) Each purchasing agent shall procure or purchase
Mississippi products which are equal in quality to other products,
provided the cost of the Mississippi products does not exceed the
cost of other products by more than seven percent (7%).

(3) In order to qualify as Mississippi products for the
purpose of this section, meat and meat products shall be processed
in the State of Mississippi from animals which are alive at the
time they enter the processing plant.

(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section to
the contrary, each procurement officer, purchasing agent or
similar official who procures or purchases products under the
provisions of this section shall procure or purchase other meat
and meat products which are further processed in the State of
Mississippi under the grading and certification service of the
Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce and which are
equal in quality to other meat and meat products, provided the
cost of the further processed meat and meat products does not exceed the cost of other meat or meat products by more than four percent (4%).

SECTION 2. This act shall be codified as a separate section within Chapter 7 of Title 31, Mississippi Code of 1972.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2001.