

By: Senator(s) Huggins

To: Fees, Salaries and Administration

SENATE BILL NO. 2681

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 45-1-2, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 AUTHORIZE THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO ESTABLISH AN  
3 ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO  
4 IMPLEMENT THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT; AND FOR RELATED  
5 PURPOSES.

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

7 SECTION 1. Section 45-1-2, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
8 amended as follows:

9 45-1-2. (1) The Executive Director of the Department of  
10 Public Safety shall be the Commissioner of Public Safety.

11 (2) The Commissioner of Public Safety shall establish the  
12 organizational structure of the Department of Public Safety which  
13 shall include the creation of any units necessary to implement the  
14 duties assigned to the department and consistent with specific  
15 requirements of law, including but not limited to:

- 16 (a) Office of Public Safety Planning;
- 17 (b) Office of Medical Examiner;
- 18 (c) Office of Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol;
- 19 (d) Office of Crime Laboratories;
- 20 (e) Office of Law Enforcement Officers' Training  
21 Academy;
- 22 (f) Office of Support Services.

23 (3) The department shall be headed by a commissioner who  
24 shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor.  
25 The appointment of the commissioner shall be made with the advice  
26 and consent of the Senate. The commissioner may assign to the  
27 appropriate offices such powers and duties as deemed appropriate  
28 to carry out the department's lawful functions.

29           (4) The commissioner of the department shall appoint heads  
30 of offices, who shall serve at the pleasure of the commissioner.  
31 The commissioner shall have the authority to organize the offices  
32 established by subsection (2) of this section as deemed  
33 appropriate to carry out the responsibilities of the department.  
34 The organization charts of the department shall be presented  
35 annually with the budget request of the Governor for review by the  
36 Legislature.

37           (5) The commissioner of the department shall appoint, from  
38 within the Department of Public Safety, a statewide safety  
39 training officer who shall serve at the pleasure of the  
40 commissioner and whose duty it shall be to perform public training  
41 for both law enforcement and private persons throughout the state  
42 concerning proper emergency response to the mentally ill,  
43 terroristic threats or acts, domestic conflict, other conflict  
44 resolution, and such other matters as the commissioner may direct.

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