

By: Senator(s) Stogner

To: Agriculture

SENATE BILL NO. 2730

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 69-37-21, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO EXTEND THE REFERENDUM ON THE BOLL WEEVIL ERADICATION PROGRAM TO
3 TEN YEARS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 69-37-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 69-37-21. (1) In the event any referendum conducted under
8 this chapter fails to receive the required number of affirmative
9 votes, the bureau, with the consent of the Certified Cotton
10 Growers Organization, may be authorized to call other referenda.

11 (2) After the passage of any referendum, the eligible voters
12 shall be allowed, by subsequent referenda to be held at least
13 every ten (10) years or upon recommendation of the certified
14 growers committee, to vote on whether to continue with the program
15 and/or to modify the assessment fee. Upon petition by twenty
16 percent (20%) of the voting cotton growers within a designated
17 region, the Certified Cotton Growers Organization shall be
18 required to conduct a subsequent referendum on the question called
19 in the petition, provided that the Certified Cotton Growers
20 Organization is required to hold no more than one (1) petitioned
21 referendum for each designated management region during any given
22 calendar year. All the requirements for an initial referendum
23 must be met in any subsequent referenda.

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