

By: Senator(s) Smith (By Request)

To: Corrections;
Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2881

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 47-5-943, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS THAT MAY BE HOUSED BY
3 THE WALNUT GROVE CORRECTIONAL AUTHORITY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 47-5-943, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 47-5-943. The Mississippi Department of Corrections shall
8 contract with the Walnut Grove Correctional Authority or the
9 governing authorities of the Municipality of Walnut Grove, Leake
10 County, Mississippi, to provide for the private housing, care and
11 control up to one thousand (1,000) juvenile offenders who are in
12 the custody of the Department of Corrections at a maximum security
13 facility in Walnut Grove. The maximum age of any offender housed
14 in this facility shall be nineteen (19) years. A county or
15 circuit judge shall not order any juvenile to be housed in the
16 correctional facility authorized in this act. Commitment of
17 juvenile offenders shall not be to this facility, but shall be to
18 the jurisdiction of the department. The commissioner shall assign
19 newly sentenced offenders to an appropriate facility consistent
20 with public safety. Any facility owned or leased by the Walnut
21 Grove Correctional Authority or the Municipality of Walnut Grove
22 for this purpose shall be designed, constructed, operated and
23 maintained in accordance with American Correctional Association
24 standards, and shall comply with all constitutional standards of
25 the United States and the State of Mississippi and with all court
26 orders that may now or hereinafter be applicable to the facility.

27 The contract must comply with Sections 47-5-1211 through
28 47-5-1227.

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