By: Representative Holland

To: Agriculture

HOUSE BILL NO. 724

- AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 75-35-29, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO INCREASE THE CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR BRIBING A STATE MEAT INSPECTOR; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.
- BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:
- 5 **SECTION 1.** Section 75-35-29, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 6 amended as follows:
- 7 75-35-29. Any person, firm, or corporation, or any agent or
- 8 employee of any person, firm, or corporation, who shall give, pay,
- 9 or offer, directly or indirectly, to any inspector, deputy
- 10 inspector, chief inspector, or any other officer or employee of
- 11 this state authorized to perform any of the duties prescribed by
- 12 this chapter or by the rules and regulations of the commissioner,
- 13 any money or other thing of value, with intent to influence said
- 14 inspector, deputy inspector, chief inspector, or other officer or
- 15 employee of this state in the discharge of any duty herein
- 16 provided for, shall be deemed guilty of a felony and, upon
- 17 conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine not less than Five
- 18 Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), nor more than Ten Thousand Dollars
- 19 (\$10,000.00) and by imprisonment not less than one (1) year nor
- 20 more than three (3) years. Any inspector, deputy inspector, chief
- 21 inspector, or other officer or employee of this state authorized
- 22 to perform any of the duties prescribed by this chapter who shall
- 23 accept any money, gift, or other thing of value from any person,
- 24 firm, or corporation, or officers, agents, or employees thereof,
- 25 given with intent to influence his official action, or who shall
- 26 receive or accept from any person, firm, or corporation engaged in
- 27 intrastate commerce any gift, money, or other thing of value given

- 28 with any purpose or intent whatsoever, shall be deemed guilty of a
- 29 felony and shall, upon conviction thereof, be summarily discharged
- 30 from office and shall be punished by a fine not less than One
- 31 <u>Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00)</u> nor more than Ten Thousand Dollars
- 32 (\$10,000.00) and by imprisonment not less than one (1) year nor
- 33 more than three (3) years.
- 34 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
- 35 and after July 1, 2002.