

By: Representative McCoy

To: Agriculture; Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 1341

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 69-46-5, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 PROVIDE THAT THE MISSISSIPPI LAND, WATER AND TIMBER RESOURCES  
3 BOARD MAY PROVIDE FUNDS TO PUBLIC ENTITIES AND PRIVATE ENTITIES  
4 THROUGH LOANS, GRANTS, CONTRACTS AND ANY OTHER MANNER THE BOARD  
5 DETERMINES APPROPRIATE FOR THE PURPOSES OF CARRYING OUT THE  
6 PROVISIONS OF THE MISSISSIPPI LAND, WATER AND TIMBER RESOURCES  
7 ACT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

9 **SECTION 1.** Section 69-46-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
10 amended as follows:

11 69-46-5. The board shall have the following powers and  
12 duties:

13 (a) To develop marketing plans and opportunities for  
14 independent farmers in Mississippi;

15 (b) To encourage the commercialization of new  
16 agricultural technology businesses;

17 (c) To initiate the development of processing  
18 facilities for Mississippi agricultural commodities;

19 (d) To initiate the development of Mississippi  
20 wholesale distribution businesses for agricultural inputs and  
21 products;

22 (e) To promote the development of institutional and  
23 specialty markets for Mississippi agriculture products;

24 (f) To encourage additional research for new  
25 agricultural product development;

26 (g) To develop a working relationship with the state  
27 offices of the United States Department of Agriculture as may be  
28 appropriate for the promotion and development of agriculture in  
29 Mississippi;



30           (h) To promote the rural quality of life in Mississippi  
31 through such programs as 4-H, Future Farmers of America and  
32 agricultural education;

33           (i) To file an annual report with the Governor,  
34 Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of  
35 Representatives not later than December 1 of each year, with  
36 recommendations for any legislation necessary to accomplish the  
37 purposes of the Mississippi Land, Water and Timber Resources Act;

38           (j) The board may promulgate and enforce rules and  
39 regulations, in accordance with the Mississippi Administrative  
40 Procedures Law, as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of  
41 the Mississippi Land, Water and Timber Resources Act;

42           (k) To expend funds out of the Mississippi Land, Water  
43 and Timber Resources Fund to carry out its powers and duties under  
44 the Mississippi Land, Water and Timber Resources Act;

45           (l) The board may provide funds to public entities and  
46 private entities through loans, grants, contracts and any other  
47 manner the board determines appropriate for the purposes of  
48 carrying out the provisions of the Mississippi Land, Water and  
49 Timber Resources Act.

50           **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
51 and after its passage.

