

REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

MR. SPEAKER AND MADAM PRESIDENT:

We, the undersigned conferees, have had under consideration the amendments to the following entitled BILL:

H. B. No. 1555: Walnut Grove Correctional Facility; increase maximum age of offenders.

We, therefore, respectfully submit the following report and recommendation:

1. That the Senate recede from its Amendment No. 1.
2. That the House and Senate adopt the following amendment:

Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 47-5-943, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:
8 47-5-943. The Mississippi Department of Corrections shall
9 contract with the Walnut Grove Correctional Authority or the
10 governing authorities of the Municipality of Walnut Grove, Leake
11 County, Mississippi, to provide for the private housing, care and
12 control of five hundred (500) juvenile offenders who are in the
13 custody of the Department of Corrections at a maximum security
14 facility in Walnut Grove; the department also may contract with
15 such authority or governing authorities for the housing at the
16 Walnut Grove facility of an additional two hundred fifty (250)
17 juvenile offenders in the department's custody. The maximum age
18 of any offender housed in this facility shall be twenty (20)
19 years. A county or circuit judge shall not order any juvenile to
20 be housed in the correctional facility authorized in Sections
21 47-5-943 through 47-5-953. Commitment of juvenile offenders shall
22 not be to this facility, but shall be to the jurisdiction of the
23 department. The commissioner shall assign newly sentenced
24 offenders to an appropriate facility consistent with public
25 safety. Any facility owned or leased by the Walnut Grove
26 Correctional Authority or the Municipality of Walnut Grove for
27 this purpose shall be designed, constructed, operated and

28 maintained in accordance with American Correctional Association
29 standards, and shall comply with all constitutional standards of
30 the United States and the State of Mississippi and with all court
31 orders that may now or hereinafter be applicable to the facility.

32 The contract must comply with Sections 47-5-1211 through
33 47-5-1227.

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

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

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

CONFEREES FOR THE HOUSE

X _____
Bennett Malone

X _____
Greg Ward

Linda Coleman

CONFEREES FOR THE SENATE

X _____
Rob H. Smith

X _____
Jack Gordon

X _____
Tommy Dickerson