

By: Representatives Stevens, Bowles, Clarke, Frierson, Horne To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 992  
(As Passed the House)

1 AN ACT TO CREATE A TASK FORCE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT INFORMATION  
2 SYSTEMS; TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
3 SERVICES TO REVIEW ALL RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TASK FORCE AND TO  
4 PROPOSE LEGISLATION TO IMPLEMENT THESE RECOMMENDATIONS; TO PROVIDE  
5 FOR THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE TASK FORCE AND TO PRESCRIBE ITS DUTIES;  
6 TO REQUIRE THAT CERTAIN STATE AGENCIES PROVIDE STAFF SUPPORT TO  
7 THE TASK FORCE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

9 **SECTION 1.** (1) There is created a Task Force on Local  
10 Government Information Systems, hereinafter referred to as "task  
11 force." The task force shall develop a report to the Department  
12 of Information Technology Services to be delivered no later than  
13 October 1, 2003. This report shall address at a minimum:

14 (a) A description of the current condition of  
15 information technology services available to the public in the  
16 offices of the chancery clerks, circuit clerks, tax assessors and  
17 tax collectors of the State of Mississippi;

18 (b) Recommendations on the hardware and software needs  
19 to create user-friendly, uniform systems for public access to  
20 court records, land records, tax records and all other public  
21 documents maintained by chancery clerks, circuit clerks, tax  
22 assessors and tax collectors in all counties of the state;

23 (c) Recommendations or comments regarding system  
24 compatibility and economy of those systems being developed under  
25 the Secretary of State's authority to develop and implement a  
26 statewide voter registration system, as required by Congress in  
27 Public Law 107-252;



28 (d) Recommendations or comments on any initiative to  
29 establish and implement a uniform Geographic Information System  
30 (GIS) in each county of the state;

31 (e) Recommendations on methods of funding software,  
32 hardware and telecommunications acquisitions necessary for each  
33 county to comply with the task force recommendations; and

34 (f) Recommendations for the use of world wide web-based  
35 systems for accessing the public information systems recommended  
36 in paragraph (b) of this section.

37 Upon receiving the report of the task force, the Department  
38 of Information Technology Services shall review the report and  
39 make recommendations to the Legislature no later than December 15,  
40 2003, regarding legislation that would be necessary to implement  
41 the recommendations of the task force.

42 (2) The membership of the task force includes the following  
43 members:

44 (a) The Executive Director of the Mississippi  
45 Department of Information Technology Services;

46 (b) The Executive Director of the Administrative Office  
47 of Courts;

48 (c) The Executive Director of the Mississippi  
49 Department of Environmental Quality;

50 (d) The Secretary of State or his designee;

51 (e) The Chairman of the State Tax Commission or his  
52 designee;

53 (f) The Executive Director of the Mississippi Automated  
54 Resource Information System;

55 (g) The State Auditor or his designee;

56 (h) The Commissioner of Public Safety;

57 (i) The Executive Director of the Mississippi Emergency  
58 Management Agency;

59 (j) The Executive Director of the Department of  
60 Archives and History or his designee;



61           (k) One (1) member of the Mississippi Chancery Clerks'  
62 Association, appointed by the president of that association;

63           (l) One (1) member of the Mississippi Circuit Clerks'  
64 Association, appointed by the president of that association;

65           (m) One (1) member of the Mississippi Association of  
66 Supervisors, appointed by the president of that association;

67           (n) One (1) member of the Tax Assessors' and  
68 Collectors' Association, appointed by the president of that  
69 association;

70           (o) One (1) member of the Mississippi Sheriffs'  
71 Association, appointed by the president of that association;

72           (p) Two (2) citizen members, appointed by the Governor;

73           (q) One (1) member of the Mississippi House of  
74 Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

75           (r) One (1) member of the Mississippi State Senate,  
76 appointed by the Lieutenant Governor; and

77           (s) One (1) member appointed by the Mississippi  
78 Association of Planning and Development Districts.

79           No appointed member of the board shall have a material  
80 financial interest in any business that sells, distributes or  
81 manufactures computer software, hardware or any telecommunication  
82 services.

83           (3) The Executive Director of the Administrative Office of  
84 Courts shall serve as the chairman of the task force. A majority  
85 of the members constitutes a quorum. All members must be notified  
86 of all meetings, and such notices must be mailed at least five (5)  
87 days before the date on which a meeting is to be held.

88           (4) Any member of the task force who is also a state  
89 employee may not receive per diem compensation for attending  
90 meetings of the task force, but may be reimbursed in accordance  
91 with Section 25-3-41 for mileage and actual expenses incurred in  
92 the performance of the duties. Legislative members of the task  
93 force will be paid from the contingent expense funds of their



94 respective houses in the same amounts as provided for committee  
95 meetings when the Legislature is not in session.

96 (5) To carry out the responsibilities provided for in this  
97 act, the task force may establish a liaison with the advisory  
98 committee created to assist the Secretary of State in developing  
99 statewide voter registration systems. The task force may  
100 establish a liaison with any statewide task force that may be  
101 established to devise or recommend standards for the  
102 implementation of statewide geographic information systems.

103 (6) The task force may utilize staff employed by the  
104 agencies affected by this act and any other assistance made  
105 available to it.

106 (7) This section shall stand repealed on June 30, 2004.

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

