

By: Representative Grist

To: Labor

HOUSE BILL NO. 1356

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 71-5-509, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROVIDE THAT SWEET POTATO FARMING SHALL BE CLASSIFIED AS A
3 SEASONAL INDUSTRY FOR PURPOSES OF UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION; AND
4 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 71-5-509, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 71-5-509. (1) For the purposes of this section, cotton
9 ginning, sweet potato farming and professional baseball only are
10 classified as seasonal industries.

11 (2) The term "seasonal worker" means an individual who is
12 employed in a seasonal industry, and who has base period wages
13 paid on and after July 1, 1983, in such seasonal industry, except
14 that the term shall not include workers in such industry where
15 employment continues substantially throughout the year. Any
16 individual who has earnings in a seasonal industry having a
17 seasonal operating period within the limits shown in the first
18 column at the end of this subsection, and who has base period
19 wages earned in such seasonal industry in the nonoperating season
20 of such seasonal industry in an amount equal to the amount
21 specified on the corresponding line of the second column at the
22 end of this subsection, shall be considered as having employment
23 which continues substantially throughout the year and shall not be
24 considered a seasonal worker.

25	Operating Period of	Wages Earned in Seasonal Industry
26	Seasonal Industry	During Nonoperating Period
27	27-36 Weeks	24 Times Weekly Benefit Amount
28	6-26 Weeks	30 Times Weekly Benefit Amount



29 (3) The commission shall prescribe fair and reasonable
30 general rules consistent with this chapter which are applicable to
31 seasonal workers for determining the period or periods during
32 which benefits shall be payable to them. The commission may
33 prescribe fair and reasonable general rules with respect to such
34 other matters relating to benefits for seasonal workers as the
35 commission finds necessary and consistent with the policy and
36 purposes of this chapter.

37 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
38 and after July 1, 2003.

