

By: Senator(s) Thames

To: Fees, Salaries and Administration

SENATE BILL NO. 2304

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 25-1-77, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 REVISE THE DEADLINE BY WHICH THE STATE AUDITOR MUST FILE ANNUALLY  
3 WITH THE LEGISLATURE A REPORT ON STATE-OWNED VEHICLES; AND FOR  
4 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 25-1-77, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
7 amended as follows:

8 25-1-77. (1) No state department, institution or agency  
9 shall purchase any motor vehicle, regardless of the source of  
10 funds from which the motor vehicle is to be purchased, except  
11 under authority granted by the Department of Finance and  
12 Administration. The Department of Finance and Administration  
13 shall promulgate rules and regulations governing the purchase of  
14 any motor vehicle by a state department, institution or agency  
15 with regard to the appropriateness of the vehicle to its intended  
16 use. The Department of Finance and Administration shall not grant  
17 authority to purchase a motor vehicle which is not the most  
18 appropriate vehicle type for its intended use unless specifically  
19 approved by the Legislature.

20 (2) It is not the intent of the Legislature for the  
21 Department of Finance and Administration to determine the  
22 sufficient number of motor vehicles needed by each state  
23 department, institution or agency, but to regulate the purchase so  
24 that the vehicle is the most appropriate type for its intended  
25 use. Further, it is the intent of the Legislature that any motor  
26 vehicle purchased shall be made with due concern for economical  
27 and efficient use, but shall also meet the needs of the  
28 department, institution or agency. The department, institution or



29 agency shall maintain proper documentation signed by the executive  
30 director which provides the intended use of the vehicle and the  
31 basis for choosing the vehicle. Such documentation shall show  
32 that the department, institution or agency made reasonable efforts  
33 to purchase a vehicle that is economical and appropriate for its  
34 intended use. All such documentation shall be maintained and made  
35 available for review by the State Auditor and any other reviewing  
36 agency.

37 (3) The State Auditor shall make on-site visits and conduct  
38 audits necessary to ensure the intent of this section. On or  
39 before September 1 of each year, the State Auditor shall prepare  
40 and deliver to the Senate and House Fees, Salaries and  
41 Administration Committees and the Joint Legislative Budget  
42 Committee a report containing any irregularities that he finds  
43 concerning purchases of state-owned vehicles.

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

