

By: Senator(s) Dickerson

To: County Affairs

SENATE BILL NO. 2328

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 19-3-81, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 AUTHORIZE SHERIFFS TO EXPEND MONIES IN THE INMATE CANTEEN FUND FOR
3 ANY EDUCATIONAL RELATED EXPENSES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 19-3-81, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 19-3-81. (1) (a) The board of supervisors of any county is
8 hereby authorized and empowered, in its discretion, to allow the
9 sheriff of such county to operate a facility or facilities to be
10 known as an inmate canteen facility or facilities, the purpose of
11 which is to make available certain goods and other items of value
12 for purchase by inmates confined in the county jail of such
13 county, employees of the county jail and persons visiting inmates
14 or employees. The sheriff of such county shall promulgate rules
15 and regulations for the operation of such a facility.

16 (b) If the board of supervisors of any county
17 authorizes the sheriff of such county to operate such a facility
18 or facilities as provided in subsection (1) of this section, any
19 funds which may be derived from the operation of an inmate canteen
20 facility or facilities shall be deposited into a special fund in
21 the county treasury to be designated as the "Inmate Canteen Fund."
22 Any monies in the special fund may be expended solely by the
23 sheriff of the county for any educational related expenses, to
24 purchase equipment and supplies and to provide for maintenance of
25 the equipment purchased for the benefit and welfare of the inmates
26 incarcerated in the county jail. The term "supplies" shall not
27 include supplies related to the personal hygiene of inmates.



28 (2) In lieu of the authority to operate an inmate canteen
29 facility under subsection (1) of this section, the board of
30 supervisors of any county, in its discretion, may authorize the
31 sheriff to contract with a private company for the provision of
32 commissary services to inmates of the county jail. Money
33 collected from or on behalf of an inmate for the purchase of
34 commissary items shall be deposited to the credit of the inmate
35 into a special fund in the county treasury to be designated as the
36 "Inmate Commissary Trust Fund." Money in the special fund may be
37 expended upon requisition by the sheriff for the purchase and
38 delivery of prepackaged items from the company with which the
39 sheriff has contracted. The sheriff shall adopt rules and
40 regulations for the letting of contracts for commissary services,
41 the collection and distribution of commissary items to inmates,
42 and the items that inmates may purchase through commissary
43 services contracts.

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

