

By: Senator(s) Canon, Dearing, Bryan, Hewes, Walls

To: County Affairs; Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2736

1 AN ACT TO CREATE A TASK FORCE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT INFORMATION
2 SYSTEMS; TO PROVIDE FOR THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE TASK FORCE AND TO
3 PRESCRIBE ITS DUTIES; TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION
4 TECHNOLOGY SERVICES TO REVIEW ALL RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TASK
5 FORCE AND TO PROPOSE LEGISLATION TO IMPLEMENT THESE
6 RECOMMENDATIONS; TO REQUIRE THAT CERTAIN STATE AGENCIES PROVIDE
7 STAFF SUPPORT TO 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 hereby created the statewide task
10 force on local government information systems. The task force
11 shall consist of the following members:

12 (a) The Executive Director of the Department of
13 Information Technology Services;

14 (b) The Executive Director of the Administrative Office
15 of Courts;

16 (c) The Executive Director of the Department of
17 Environmental Quality;

18 (d) The Secretary of State, or his designee;

19 (e) The Chairman of the State Tax Commission, or his
20 designee;

21 (f) The Executive Director of the Mississippi Automated
22 Resource Information System;

23 (g) The State Auditor, or his designee;

24 (h) The Commissioner of Public Safety;

25 (i) The Executive Director of the Emergency Management
26 Agency;

27 (j) One (1) member of the Mississippi Chancery Clerks'
28 Association, appointed by the president of the association;



29 (k) One (1) member of the Mississippi Circuit Clerks'
30 Association, appointed by the president of the association;

31 (l) One (1) member of the Mississippi Association of
32 Supervisors, appointed by the president of the association;

33 (m) One (1) member of the Tax Assessors' and
34 Collectors' Association, appointed by the president of the
35 association;

36 (n) One (1) member appointed by the Mississippi
37 Sheriffs' Association, appointed by the presiding officer of the
38 association;

39 (o) Two (2) citizen members, appointed by the Governor;

40 (p) One (1) member of the Mississippi House of
41 Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House of
42 Representatives;

43 (q) One (1) member of the Mississippi State Senate,
44 appointed by the Lieutenant Governor; and

45 (r) One (1) member appointed by the Mississippi
46 Association of Planning and Development Districts.

47 (2) The Executive Director of the Administrative Office of
48 Courts shall serve as the chairman of the task force. No
49 appointed member shall have a material financial interest in any
50 business that sells, distributes or manufactures computer
51 software, hardware or any telecommunications services.

52 (3) Nonlegislative members shall serve without salary or per
53 diem compensation; however, all members shall be entitled to
54 actual travel expenses as provided for in Section 25-3-41.

55 (4) Legislative members shall be entitled to per diem as
56 authorized in Section 25-3-69 and a mileage and expense allowance
57 as authorized in Section 5-1-47.

58 **SECTION 2.** (1) The task force shall develop a report to the
59 Department of Information Technology Services to be delivered no
60 later than October 1, 2003. This report shall address at minimum:



61 (a) A description of the current condition of
62 information technology services available to the public in the
63 offices of the chancery clerks, circuit clerks, tax assessors and
64 tax collectors of the State of Mississippi;

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

70 (c) Recommendations or comments regarding system
71 compatibility and economy of those systems being developed under
72 the Secretary of State's authority to develop and implement a
73 statewide voter registration system, as required by Congress in
74 PL-107-252;

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

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

81 (f) Recommendations for the use of world wide web-based
82 systems for accessing the public information systems recommended
83 in paragraph (b).

84 (2) To carry out the responsibilities for in this act, the
85 task force shall have the authority to cooperate and establish a
86 liaison with the Advisory Committee created to assist the
87 Secretary of State in development statewide voter registration
88 systems. The task force shall also have the authority to
89 cooperate and establish a liaison with any statewide task force
90 that may be established to devise or recommend standards for the
91 implementation of statewide Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

92 (3) Upon receipt of the task force's report, the Department
93 of Information Technology Services shall review the report and



94 make recommendations to the Legislature no later than December 15,
95 2003, regarding legislation that would be necessary to implement
96 the recommendations of the task force.

97 **SECTION 3.** The chairman shall have the authority to request
98 staff support from any state agency enumerated in Section 1 to
99 assist the task force in carrying out its responsibilities under
100 this act.

101 **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
102 and after its passage and shall stand repealed from and after June
103 30, 2004.

