

By: Representatives Dedeaux, Compretta,  
Bentz, Broomfield, Fredericks, Guice,  
Hamilton (109th), Ishee, Janus, Patterson,  
Peranich, Read, Simpson, Upshaw, Wells-Smith

To: County Affairs

## HOUSE BILL NO. 721

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 17-1-35, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 AUTHORIZE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSIONS TO ACQUIRE AND DISPOSE OF  
3 PROPERTY AS MAY BE NECESSARY OR DESIRABLE TO MAINTAIN OPERATIONS  
4 OF THE COMMISSION; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 17-1-35, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
7 amended as follows:

8 17-1-35. Any regional planning commission created hereunder  
9 shall be authorized and empowered as follows:

10 (a) To adopt rules or procedure for the regulations of  
11 its affairs, set forth policies and procedures for the conduct of  
12 its business, and to appoint, from among its members, a chairman  
13 and vice chairman, to serve annually, provided that such chairman  
14 may be subject to reelection.

15 (b) To adopt an official name, seal, and retain and  
16 keep minutes of its meeting in a firmly bound minute book, in  
17 which all actions taken by the commission about its business shall  
18 so be recorded.

19 (c) To \* \* \* meet at regular times on one day each and  
20 every month of the year.

21 (d) To acquire, hold, maintain, lease, assign and  
22 convey real property, personal and mixed, as may be necessary or  
23 desirable for the purpose of maintaining the operations of the  
24 commission.

25 (e) To employ and to compensate such personnel,  
26 consultants and technical and professional assistance as shall be  
27 necessary to exercise the powers and perform the duties set forth  
28 in Sections 17-1-31 through 17-1-35, inclusive.

29           (f) To make and enter into all contracts and agreements  
30 necessary or incidental to the performance of its duties and the  
31 execution of its powers under Sections 17-1-31 through 17-1-35,  
32 inclusive. The chairman of said regional commission shall be the  
33 duly authorized individual to execute contracts on behalf of said  
34 commission, upon duly and properly entered resolution of said  
35 commission so authorizing him to enter and execute said contract.

36           (g) To hold public hearings and sponsor public forums  
37 in any part of the regional area whenever the commission deems it  
38 necessary or useful in the execution of its functions.

39           (h) To accept and receive, in the furtherance of its  
40 functions, funds, grants and service from the federal government,  
41 or its agencies; from departments, agencies and instrumentalities  
42 of state, municipal or local government; or from private or civic  
43 sources.

44           (i) To receive and expend such sums of money as shall  
45 be from time to time appropriated for its use by any county, state  
46 or municipality, and to receive and expend federal funds.

47           (j) To cooperate in the exercise of its planning  
48 functions with federal and state agencies.

49           (k) To be a body corporate and as such, may sue and be  
50 sued, in any suit against the commission, service of process shall  
51 be had by service upon the chairman with such process.

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