

By: Representative Fillingane

To: Public Utilities;
Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1088

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION SHALL
2 HAVE JURISDICTION OVER THE AMOUNT CHARGED FOR TELEPHONE SERVICE
3 FOR INMATES; TO AMEND SECTION 25-53-111, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
4 IN CONFORMITY THERETO; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** The Public Service Commission shall solely
7 regulate the amount charged for telephone service for inmates
8 under the jurisdiction of the Department of Corrections.

9 **SECTION 2.** Section 25-53-111, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
10 amended as follows:

11 25-53-111. The bureau shall have the following additional
12 duties:

13 (a) To establish and coordinate through either state
14 ownership or commercial leasing, all telecommunications systems
15 and services affecting the management and operations of the state.

16 (b) To act as the sole centralized customer for the
17 acquisition, billing and record keeping of all telecommunications
18 systems or services provided to state agencies whether obtained
19 through lease or purchase.

20 (c) To charge respective user agencies for their
21 proportionate cost of the installation, maintenance and operation
22 of the telecommunications systems and services, including the
23 operation of the bureau; however, the amount charged for telephone
24 services for inmates, who are under the jurisdiction of the
25 Department of Corrections, shall be regulated solely by the Public
26 Service Commission.

27 (d) To offer or provide transmission, switch and
28 network services on a reimbursable basis to agencies financed

29 entirely by federal funds, to governing authorities and to other
30 governmental agencies.

31 (e) To approve or provide state telephone services on a
32 reimbursable basis to full-time students at state institutions of
33 higher learning and junior colleges, including where such services
34 are provided by the state or the institution.

35 (f) To develop coordinated telecommunications systems
36 or services within and among all state agencies and require, where
37 appropriate, cooperative utilization of telecommunications
38 equipment and services by aggregating users. Where such
39 cooperative utilization of telecommunications system or service
40 would affect an agency authorized to receive information from the
41 National Crime Information Center of the Federal Bureau of
42 Investigation, such plans for cooperative utilization shall first
43 be approved by the National Crime Information Center before
44 implementation of such telecommunications systems or service can
45 proceed.

46 (g) To review, coordinate, approve or disapprove all
47 requests by state agencies for the procurement, through purchase
48 or contract for lease of telecommunications systems or services
49 including telecommunication proposals, studies and consultation
50 contracts and intra-LATA and inter-LATA transmission channels.

51 (h) To establish and define telecommunications systems
52 and services specifications and designs so as to assure
53 compatibility of telecommunications systems and services within
54 state government and governing authorities.

55 (i) To provide a continuous, comprehensive analysis and
56 inventory of telecommunications costs, facilities and systems
57 within state government.

58 (j) To promote, coordinate or assist in the design and
59 engineering of emergency telecommunications systems, including but
60 not limited to "911" service, emergency medical services and other
61 emergency telecommunications services.

62 (k) To advise and provide consultation to agencies and
63 governing authorities with respect to telecommunications
64 management planning and related matters and to provide training to
65 users within state government in telecommunications technology and
66 system use.

67 (1) To develop policies, procedures and long-range
68 plans, consistent with the protection of citizens' rights to
69 privacy and access to information, for the acquisition and use of
70 telecommunications systems, and to base such policies on current
71 information about state telecommunications activities in relation
72 to the full range of emerging technologies.

73 Any state agency requesting an increase in expenditure of
74 funds for new telecommunications equipment systems or services
75 shall submit to the Legislative Budget Office with its budget
76 request preceding the fiscal year for which funding is requested
77 detailed justification for such request. The justification shall
78 be provided on forms developed by the bureau in accordance with
79 the Administrative Procedure Act. In addition, all state agencies
80 shall submit to the bureau, when requested, a long-range plan for
81 use of telecommunications equipment, systems and services.

82 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
83 and after July 1, 2005.