

By: Representative Fleming

To: Transportation

HOUSE BILL NO. 98

1 AN ACT TO CREATE THE NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY TASK FORCE; TO
2 PROVIDE FOR THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE TASK FORCE; TO DESCRIBE THE
3 PURPOSE OF THE TASK FORCE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** (1) There is created the Natchez Trace Parkway
6 Task Force that will be responsible for studying the zoning
7 regulations, permit procedures and tourism development along the
8 Natchez Trace Parkway. The task force will serve as a consensus
9 group designed to study efforts to improve regulations and
10 development, and increase tourist interest for the Natchez Trace
11 Parkway.

12 (2) The task force will consist of fifteen (15) members.
13 Membership of the task force will include one (1) representative
14 from each of the following agencies or entities, as designated by
15 each respective agency or entity:

- 16 (a) Natchez Trace Parkway Commission;
- 17 (b) Mississippi Municipal League;
- 18 (c) Mississippi Department of Archives and History;
- 19 (d) Home Builder's Association of Mississippi;
- 20 (e) Mississippi Economic Council;
- 21 (f) Mississippi Department of Transportation;
- 22 (g) Mississippi Tourism Association;
- 23 (h) Natchez Trace Parkway Association;
- 24 (i) Mississippi Realtor's Association;
- 25 (j) Mississippi Appraiser's Association;
- 26 (k) Mississippi Association of Supervisors.

27 (3) In addition to the members designated in subsection (2)
28 of this section, membership of the task force will consist of the
29 following persons:

30 (a) The Chairperson of the Mississippi House of
31 Representatives Tourism Committee;

32 (b) One (1) senator appointed by the Lieutenant
33 Governor;

34 (c) Two (2) landowners from the Natchez Trace Parkway
35 area appointed by the Governor;

36 (4) At its first meeting, the task force shall elect a
37 chairman and other necessary officers from among its membership.
38 The chairman and other officers shall be elected annually by the
39 task force. The task force shall adopt bylaws and rules for its
40 efficient operation. The task force may establish committees that
41 will be responsible for conducting specific task force programs or
42 activities.

43 (5) All meetings of the task force and any committees of the
44 task force will be open to the public, with opportunities for
45 public comment provided on a regular basis. Notice of all
46 meetings shall be given as provided in the Open Meetings Act in
47 Section 25-41-1 et seq., and appropriate notice also shall be
48 given to all persons requesting the date, time and place of each
49 meeting. Eight (8) members of the task force will constitute a
50 quorum for the transaction of business.

51 (6) The task force is assigned to the Legislature for
52 administrative purposes only, and the Legislature shall designate
53 staff to assist the task force. Members of the task force may not
54 receive per diem.

55 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
56 and after July 1, 2006.