

By: Representative Weathersby

To: Public Property

HOUSE BILL NO. 991  
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO CREATE A JOINT LEGISLATIVE STUDY COMMITTEE FOR THE  
2 PURPOSES OF STUDYING DEVELOPMENT POSSIBILITIES AND ALTERNATIVES  
3 FOR THE PROPERTY FORMERLY OCCUPIED BY THE MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL FOR  
4 THE BLIND AND TO CONSIDER THE DISPOSAL OF ANY STATE PROPERTY  
5 DEEMED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION TO BE  
6 SURPLUS PROPERTY; TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND  
7 ADMINISTRATION TO ASSIGN TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CERTAIN  
8 STATE-OWNED PROPERTY KNOWN AS THE "OLD VETERINARY DIAGNOSTICS  
9 BUILDING" LOCATED IN THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI; AND FOR  
10 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

12 **SECTION 1.** (1) There is created a joint committee of the  
13 Legislature for the purpose of studying development possibilities  
14 and alternatives for the real property owned by the State of  
15 Mississippi and formerly occupied by the Mississippi School for  
16 the Blind. The joint committee shall consider the best interests  
17 of nearby neighborhoods, the Mississippi School for the Blind and  
18 preservation thereof in making its report. The joint committee  
19 shall also study and consider the disposal of any state property  
20 determined by the Department of Finance and Administration to be  
21 surplus property. The joint committee shall be composed of five  
22 (5) members of the House of Representatives appointed by the  
23 Speaker of the House and five (5) members appointed by the  
24 Lieutenant Governor. The joint committee shall report to the  
25 House of Representatives and the Senate by January 5, 2007, as to  
26 its findings and upon presentation of such report the joint  
27 committee shall be dissolved.

28 Appointments shall be made within thirty (30) days after the  
29 enactment of this act; and, within fifteen (15) days thereafter on  
30 a day to be designated jointly by the President of the Senate and  
31 the Speaker of the House, the committee shall meet and organize by

32 selecting from its membership a chairman and a vice chairman. The  
33 vice chairman shall also serve as secretary and shall be  
34 responsible for keeping all records of the committee. A majority  
35 of the members of the committee shall constitute a quorum. In the  
36 selection of its officers and the adoption of rules, resolutions  
37 and reports, an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of  
38 the joint committee from each house shall be required. All  
39 members shall be notified in writing of all meetings, such notices  
40 to be mailed at least five (5) days prior to the date on which a  
41 meeting is to be held. Members of the committee shall be paid  
42 from the contingent expense funds of their respective houses in  
43 the same manner as provided for committee meetings when the  
44 Legislature is not in session.

45 (2) No action shall be taken with respect to any sale, lease  
46 or development of the real property described in subsection (1) of  
47 this section without specific legislative act.

48 **SECTION 2.** The Department of Finance and Administration is  
49 authorized to assign to the State Department of Health certain  
50 state-owned property known as the "Old Veterinary Diagnostics  
51 Building" located at 2531 North West Street in the City of  
52 Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi, until completion and occupancy  
53 of the new health facility.

54 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
55 and after its passage.