

By: Representative Eaton

To: Agriculture; Forestry

HOUSE BILL NO. 1106

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR A LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE
2 EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY OF COMBINING THE MISSISSIPPI
3 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE AND THE MISSISSIPPI
4 FORESTRY COMMISSION; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** (1) There is created a legislative committee to
7 study the effectiveness and efficiency of combining the
8 Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce and the
9 Mississippi Forestry Commission.

10 The committee shall make a report of its findings and
11 recommendations to the House and Senate Agriculture and Forestry
12 Committees by December 1, 2006, including any recommended
13 legislation.

14 (2) The committee shall be composed of the following twelve
15 (12) members:

16 (a) The chairman, vice chairman and one (1) at-large
17 member of the House Agriculture Committee;

18 (b) The chairman, vice chairman and one (1) at-large
19 member of the House Forestry Committee;

20 (c) The chairman, vice chairman and one (1) at-large
21 member of the Senate Agriculture Committee; and

22 (d) The chairman, vice chairman and one (1) at-large
23 member of the Senate Forestry Committee.

24 (3) The committee shall hold its first meeting within sixty
25 (60) days after the passage of this act.

26 (4) Members of the committee shall be paid from the
27 contingent expense funds of their respective houses in the same
28 manner as provided for committee meetings when the Legislature is

29 not in session. However, no per diem or expense for attending
30 meetings of the committee will be paid while the Legislature is in
31 session.

32 (5) To effectuate the purposes of this section, any
33 department, division, board, bureau, commission or agency of the
34 state or of any political subdivision thereof shall, at the
35 request of the chairperson of the committee, provide to the
36 committee such facilities, assistance and data as will enable the
37 committee to properly carry out its duties.

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