

By: Senator(s) Thomas

To: Environment Prot, Cons
and Water Res; Public
Property

SENATE BILL NO. 2012

1 AN ACT TO PROMOTE THE USE OF THE LEADERSHIP IN ENERGY AND
2 ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN (LEED) GREEN BUILDING RATING SYSTEM STANDARDS
3 IN PUBLIC AND COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS; TO ENCOURAGE STATE AGENCIES
4 AND POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS TO SEEK LEED CERTIFICATION IN NEW AND
5 RENOVATION PROJECTS TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE; TO PROVIDE THAT THE
6 DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY DEVELOP AN EDUCATION AND
7 OUTREACH PROGRAM TO INCREASE THE UTILIZATION OF LEED STANDARDS;
8 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

10 **SECTION 1.** (1) As used in this section, the term "LEED
11 certification" means certification as complying with the
12 Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green
13 Building Rating System standards relevant to the type of building.

14 (2) When planning, altering, renovating, constructing and
15 maintaining buildings, state agencies and political subdivisions
16 are encouraged to consider conducting such activities in
17 compliance with Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design
18 (LEED) Green Building Rating System standards to the greatest
19 extent practicable. Each agency and political subdivision is
20 encouraged to seek LEED certification at the earliest stage of
21 activity and throughout the life of the building.

22 (3) Each agency and political subdivision is encouraged to
23 include a provision in all leases to emphasize LEED certification.

24 (4) Each agency and political subdivision is encouraged to
25 expeditiously assess its procurement policies and procedures to
26 ensure the promotion of environmentally sustainable building
27 practices incorporated in LEED standards.

28 (5) It is the duty of the Department of Environmental
29 Quality, if funds are available, to develop and promote a
30 coordinated outreach and education program to increase public

31 awareness and utilization of LEED certification and standards in
32 the design and construction of commercial buildings.

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